



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Press Release

Another Engrossing Trial Drama by the Best-selling Author of *Anatomy of a Murder*

[East Lansing, MI] – [May 25, 2011] A reprint of Robert Traver's, *Laughing Whitefish*, featuring a new foreword by the Director of the Indigenous Law and Policy Center at Michigan State University will be released on August 1, 2011 by Michigan State University Press and is available for sale through their website at www.msupress.msu.edu and through fine bookstores.

Laughing Whitefish is an engrossing trial drama of ethnic hostility and the legal defense of Indian treaties. Young lawyer William (Willy) Poe puts out a shingle in Marquette, Michigan, in 1873, hoping to meet a woman who will take him seriously. His first client, the alluring Charlotte Kawbawgam, known as Laughing Whitefish, offers an enticing challenge — a compelling case of injustice at the hands of powerful mining interests. Years earlier, Charlotte's father led the Jackson Mining Company to a lucrative iron ore strike, and he was then granted a small share in the mine, which the new owners refuse to honor. Willy is now Charlotte's sole recourse for justice. *Laughing Whitefish* is a gripping account of barriers between Indian people and their legal rights. These poignant conflicts are delicately wrought by the pre-eminent master of the trial thriller, the bestselling author of *Anatomy of a Murder*. This new edition includes a foreword by Matthew L. M. Fletcher, Director of the Indigenous Law and Policy Center at Michigan State University, that contextualizes the novel and actual decisions of the Michigan Supreme Court ruling in favor of Charlotte.

About the Author:

Robert Traver (John D. Voelker), a best-selling novelist and the District Attorney of Marquette County, Michigan, was appointed to the Supreme Court of Michigan in 1957. His novel *Anatomy of a Murder* was adapted into a motion picture that received seven Academy Award nominations, including best picture.

Title: Laughing Whitefish

Author: Robert Traver

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For more information about *Laughing Whitefish* or Robert Traver please contact:

Julie Reaume, Marketing Manager

Michigan State University Press

Phone: (517) 355-9543 x109

Email: reaumej@msu.edu

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