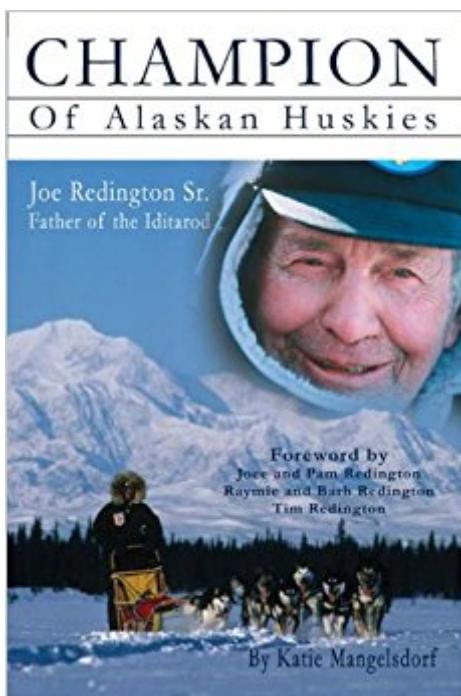


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# Champion Of Alaskan Huskie - Joe Redington Sr. Father Of The Iditarod



## **Synopsis**

Joe Redington Sr. was an ordinary man with extraordinary dreams and buckets of determination! His vision was as vast as the majestic Alaska landscape he loved to explore. This firsthand account is of the man whose love for the Alaskan husky and the Iditarod Trail evolved into the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Joe's adventurous spirit, fierce perseverance, and creative heart burned strong within his character and enabled the impossible to become a reality. His spell-binding stories and genuine love of Alaska drew people into his dreams. This is the story of those unique feats that defined Joe's life, and built the foundation for the most demanding and famous sled dog race in the world.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

As a young boy growing up around dogs, Joe Sr. was a part of my life. Reading Champion of Alaskan Huskies was like reliving a part of my upbringing. Joe would be pleased with his story being told. --Lance Mackey, Iditarod Champion 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010Champion of Alaskan Huskies is an enjoyable insight into the lives of inspirational homesteaders and adventurers, Joe and Vi Redington, that brings their legendary can do spirit into the hearts of readers of all ages. --Rick Swenson, Iditarod Champion 1977, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1991Joe was a true Alaskan Sourdough. His word was his bond and he was of resolute character. When he made a promise you could bank on it. --Frank Murkowski, Former US Senator and former Governor of Alaska

Katie Mangelsdorf grew up in Alaska watching sled dog races, skiing, and hiking. The family ski trail

behind her home followed part of the deeply worn Iditarod Trail. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I would be writing about the man who rediscovered it. Katie's love for learning and discovery started with books. At twelve Katie was substitute teaching at Eagle River School. After college she taught in Bush Alaska, was a librarian, and taught the upper elementary grades, sixth grade being her favorite. She saw a need for an adventure/biography that would capture a sixth grader's interest. The life of Joe Redington Sr. would be a perfect fit.

great book about a true Alaskan.

Just received this so haven't read it yet, but looking at it I am sure it will be as good as the other Iditarod books I have read. Good for anyone who likes true reading instead of fiction and anyone whether interested in the race and animals or not. Inspiring for anyone needing encouragement when handed lemons in life.

I'm a big Iditarod fan as it relates to many publications and the annual race but I had no idea how the race was founded and this book about Joe Reddington answers that question. Good book!

Book arrived in a timely manner and in very good condition. The book itself was very entertaining and was a great read. Well written about a great man and his life and legacy. This was our book club selection and received an 8 out of ten.

A great book about a great man, Joe Redington Sr.. A man with a dream that was determined to see it through. His wife Vi who STOOD WITH him to see his dreams come true. A lot of the true bush life and history of the Great State of Alaska. A must read.

Great story about a forward thinking, proactive sled dog lover... Insightful & interesting ~ so glad I found this book. If you like the Iditarod, you'll love to read about the Father of it all....

When I picked up CHAMPION of Alaskan Huskies----Joe Redington, Sr., Father of the Iditarod by Katie Mangelsdorf, I misread the title and vaguely expected to read about a Joe Redington champion husky. It did not take long for me to realize that the book's focus is the life of Joe Redington, who championed Alaskan huskies, a fact I already knew. I knew about Redington and the Iditarod since I live within an easy drive of the Iditarod Headquarters and have taken countless

friends and relative visitors to the place. At least I thought I knew about Redington. CHAMPION of Alaskan Huskies educated me with the fascinating story of the life of Joe Redington. CHAMPION of Alaskan Huskies showed me the life of a cheechako who became a sourdough. For non-Alaskans that means Joe Redington came to Alaska from outside the state and with many life lessons in the merciless wilds of this amazing place, he not only survived but also thrived. He was someone who kept his cool in the face of life threatening situations and came up with solutions that made survival possible. That survival is part of the sourdough label. Only once did he do something so outrageous that I could not put the book down until I knew how it turned out---that was his trip with Susan Butcher and the sled dog team of four Alaskan huskies (Buster, Lucas, Candy, Tekla) to summit Denali (Mt. McKinley to those of you outside Alaska). Apparently people had thought that since huskies blood does not change as human blood does at great elevations, huskies could not travel at significant heights. Redington made his point that the belief was nonsense. Overcoming difficulty after difficulty Joe Redington saw to it that the Iditarod and huskies became part of Alaskan culture. The Iditarod is an international event. What made me realize the extent to which this book not only taught me but also made me care about Joe Redington was at the end of the book. A form of a memorial occurs at the Iditarod Committee meetings that caused my throat to clench for a good minute and my eyes misted. I was totally unprepared for that response but it was appropriate having read the book. Beautifully written, this is a fantastic read designed for young people but not limited to them. It is equally enjoyable and informative for adults as well.

Champion of Alaskan Huskie is the glimpse into a world that both fascinates and inspires the modern reader. Mangelsdorf writes from a uniquely personal perspective about one of Alaska's most genuine characters, drawing largely on her own memories as well as the memories of those closest to Redington to give a complete narration of all the spirit, adventure and triumph that mark each page of Joe's life. Thoroughly researched and patiently written, I highly recommend Champion of Alaskan Huskie as a honest account of an incredible story.

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