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# From "Three Translations from the Mohawk": Canoe Song

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*James Thomas Stevens*

FROM THREE TRANSLATIONS FROM THE MOHAWK

CANOE SONG

Teiohonwa:ka ne'ni akhonwe:ia. Kon'tatieshon iohnekotatie. Wakkawehatie,  
wakkawehatie.

The canoe is very fast. It is mine. All day I hit the water. I paddle along, I  
paddle along.

I am the hull – rapid against your stream.  
Birch beneath the ribs  
circumnavigating your body.

Endless propeller of my arm  
as it circles to find the flow.

I move this way against you.  
I move this way.