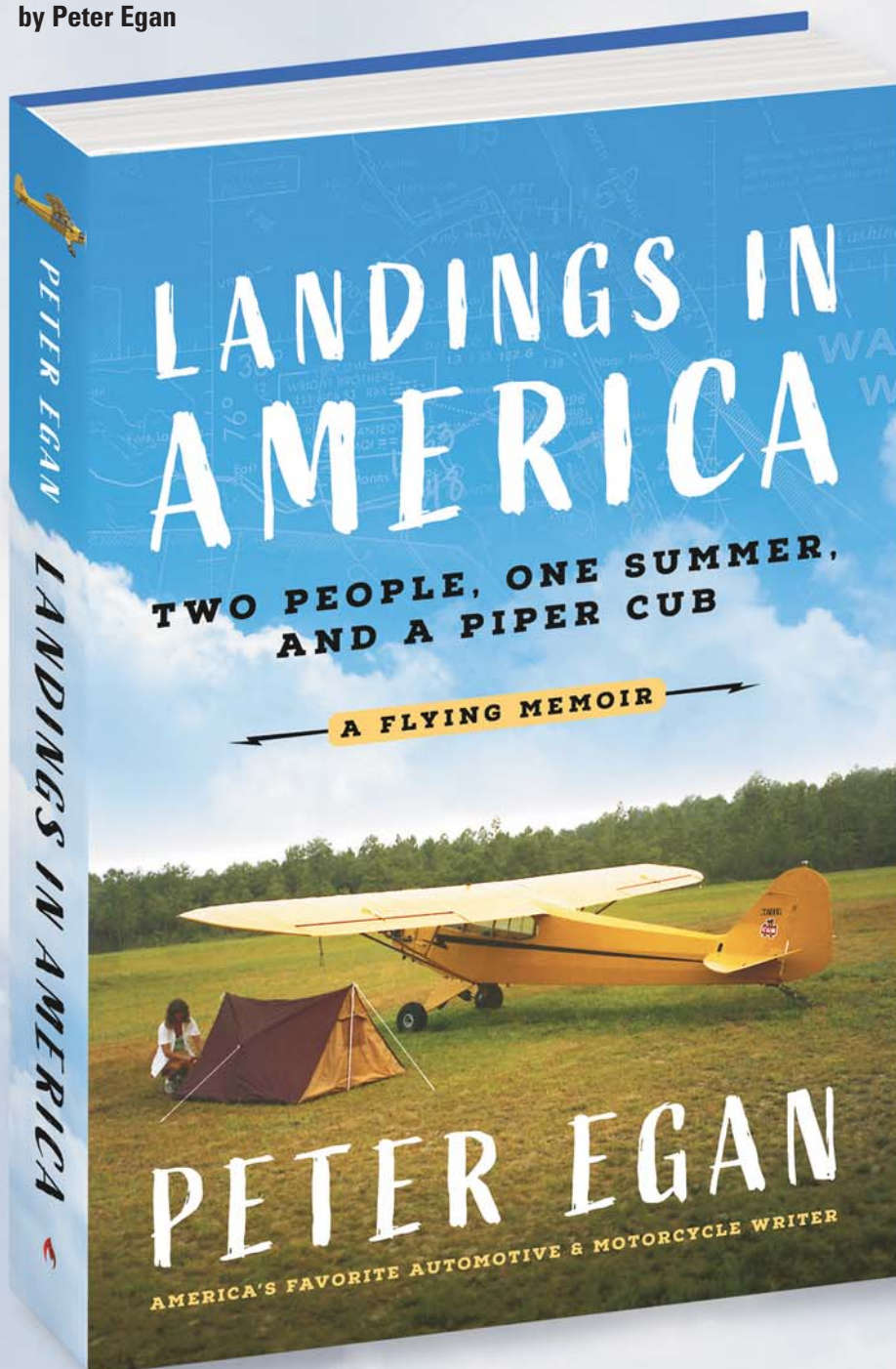


Landings in America

Two People, One Summer, and a Piper Cub—a Flying Memoir

by Peter Egan



New from Octane Press

Best known for his many years of columns and feature stories about cars and motorcycles in *Road & Track* and *Cycle World* magazines, in 1987, Peter Egan gave in to his lifelong fascination with classic airplanes and pursued a third branch of romantic modes of travel—namely, flying. *Landings in America* continues the enduring spirit of exploration that has defined his work.

Carrying only the barest essentials—a pup tent, a wad of cash and a change of clothing—Peter and Barbara Egan took off on a six-week, 7,000-mile trip around the US in their yellow 1945 J-3 Piper Cub, with no radio, no GPS and no hotel reservations. The story is part travel adventure, part memoir of post-Vietnam era America, part trek into personal reflections triggered by places and names encountered along the way. And always in the background of their trip was the unspoken search for a new place to live, far away from urban sprawl and crowded freeways, a place to someday fly home.

A travelogue-meets-time-machine for lovers classic machines and Egan's unmistakable voice, this "road" trip—floating several hundred feet off the ground—is a slow-motion journey through America's forgotten corners, capturing the rhythms of a country in a time that was on the verge of change.

Landings in America also delves into the machinery of exploration—the feel of a stick in your hand, the drone of a reliable engine, the thrill of trusting a map and a compass to show you the way. It's filled with the same mechanical empathy Egan has brought to stories about British sports cars, roadside repairs and the perfect drive. The journey is airborne, but the spirit is grounded in the same passion that drives every enthusiast who has ever loved the hum of a motor or the joy of getting lost.

Landings in America proves that even when Peter Egan's feet leave the ground, he never loses touch with what makes travel—and life—worth it.

PETER EGAN is synonymous with *Road & Track*, *Cycle World* and the golden age of gearhead storytelling. Born in Wisconsin and shaped by the US Army, rural life and a deep affection for mechanics and machines, Egan turned his journeyman's experience into a journalist's voice that's both wise and unpretentious. Today, Peter lives near Stoughton, Wisconsin, surrounded by old cars, guitars and his same sense of curiosity.

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