



***"When I was twelve years old I went away to summer camp in the High Sierra. My mother was fond of saying I never came back."***

## Peter Stekel

**Author, *Final Flight: The Mystery of a WWII Plane Crash and the Frozen Airmen of the High Sierra***

Peter Stekel is an award-winning writer specializing in feature articles and photography of the Sierra Nevada. Stekel grew up in Southern California and has been hiking and backpacking in the Sierra since he was twelve years old.

Peter Stekel's first trip to the Sierra Nevada was at summer camp with his Boy Scout troop in Sequoia National Park. Under the weight of a heavy backpack and his own inexperience in the wilderness, Stekel believed he might actually die from exhaustion. Upon reaching their destination—amidst the beauty of an alpine lake, granite cliffs, and wildflower fields—Stekel changed his opinion, and believed he *had* died—and gone to heaven. Since that time he has hiked all over the Sierra Nevada, returning again each year.

Peter Stekel is also the author of *Best Hikes Near Seattle*, and the novel *The Flower Lover*. Stekel has appeared as an authority on the Sierra Nevada in various national and international media outlets including National Geographic, BBC 4, and many other print, radio, and television media. He holds a B.A. in Botany from the University of California at Davis, and a teaching credential from Humboldt State University. He makes his home in Seattle with his wife, their tropical fish, and a menagerie of stuffed animals.

Stekel is available for interviews and appearances.

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