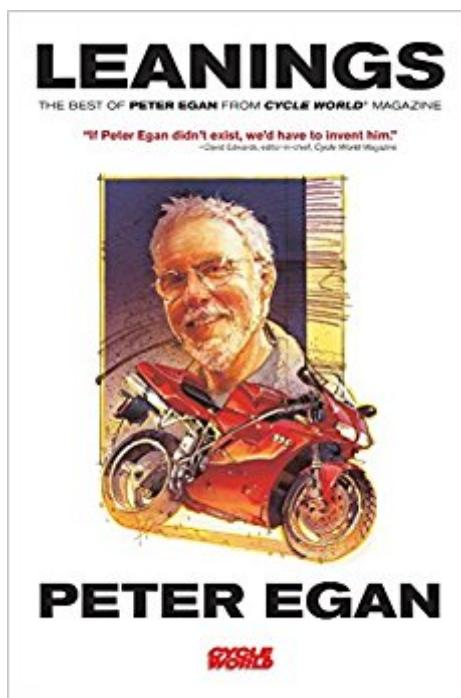


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# Leanings: The Best Of Peter Egan From Cycle World Magazine



## **Synopsis**

Since his work first graced the pages of Cycle World magazine in 1977, Peter Egan has taken his readers on one unforgettable adventure after another. Whether riding along the Mississippi River to New Orleans for a tin of chicory coffee, or flying to Japan to test-ride new Yamahas, Eganâ™s insight and gift with words makes every journey a unique and fascinating experience. Available in paperback for the first time, *Leanings* is a collection of Eganâ™s favorite feature articles and columns from Cycle World magazine. Included among the 21 feature articles are Eganâ™s first feature for the magazine, a story about he and his wifeâ™s cross-country trip on a British twin, his journey on abandoned Route 66, a history of the motorcycle jacket, and his visit to the fabled Tourist Trophy race on the Isle of Man. A selection of 27 columns are also reproduced here, covering a wide range of subjects, from the nearly lost art of the kick start, how to survive not being able to ride for an entire Wisconsin winter, and a look back at the motorcycle crash that nearly killed the great Bob Dylan. For added perspective, each feature article is preceded by commentary from the author. This is an unforgettable collection of the works of a master writer, whose simple adventures of life remind us all why we love to ride.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Motorbooks; First edition (May 5, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0760336571

ISBN-13: 978-0760336571

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 90 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #123,117 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #36 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Motor Sports #40 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > Motorcycles #586 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Adventure

## **Customer Reviews**

Since his work first graced the pages of Cycle World magazine in 1977, Peter Egan has taken his readers on one unforgettable adventure after another. Whether riding along the Mississippi River to New Orleans for a tin of chicory coffee or flying to Japan to test-ride new Yamahas, Eganâ™s insight and gift with words makes every journey a unique and fascinating experience.

Available in paperback for the first time, *Leanings* is a collection of Egan's favorite feature articles and columns from *Cycle World* magazine. Included among the twenty-one feature articles are Egan's first feature for the magazine, a story about his and his wife's cross-country trip on a British twin, his journey on abandoned Route 66, a history of the motorcycle jacket, and his visit to the fabled Tourist Trophy race on the Isle of Man. A selection of twenty-seven columns are also reproduced here, covering a wide range of subjects, from the nearly lost art of the kick-start, how to survive not being able to ride for an entire Wisconsin winter, and a look back at the motorcycle crash that nearly killed the great Bob Dylan. For added perspective, each feature article is preceded by commentary from the author. This is an unforgettable collection of the works of a master writer whose simple adventures of life remind us all why we love to ride.

Peter Egan is one of the most readable writers in the motorcycle enthusiast world. His work first appeared in *Cycle World* magazine in 1977, and he has been a regular fixture there ever since. Peter lives near Madison, Wisconsin, with his wife, Barb, a houseful of dogs and cats, and a garage filled with motorcycles, cars, and the sound set for his garage blues band.

Just awesome stories that radiate universal motorcycling experiences, nostalgia, and satire. A truly gifted writer. I am about 1/4 of the way through this book and came back to check to see if there were any more by him (YES there are several!!!) before I became too addicted to his tales and reflections and would have to start seeing the end of greatness at the moment of its discovery. But it looks as though I won't have that problem and will be able to enjoy his literary gift for some time to come.

i was poking around the house looking for something to read. i keep something going all of the time. i found this in a drawer & realized i had never finished it. shameful!!! first, i am a confirmed harley rider; have been for over 30 years. i used to read his columns in cycle world & enjoyed them very much, especially his early years of riding. my folks wouldn't let me have one. not to give away my age, but it would have been cushman, mustang [remember them?], vespa or a moped. even for non riders the stories stand on their own as good writing. i've already ordered *leanings* 2 to have it ready when i fish this one. highly recommend.

As I have stated repeatedly about Egan, I like anything written by him, and find myself laughing uncontrollably over some of his accounts, while enjoying all. He takes mundane, everyday events

involving MCs or cars (an a Piper Cub) and weaves an enjoyable and true story of a few short pages. He weaves in interactions with his friends and his supportive (she must be) wife, Barb, to provide the reader with very human and humorous accounts, which we can easily imagine being a part of. I highly recommend any of his books, which are compilations of his columns.

This book is a great read but a little like eating Chinese food - an hour later you're hungry again. Egan is a wonderful story teller with an easy writing style. His love of motorcycles and travels is evident in every page as well as his willingness to succumb to his addictions on an ongoing basis. His wife should be sainted!

Peter is the best. He makes it look simple.....humbly but vividly recounting some extraordinary riding days, that early Sunday morning ride in the Spring, the rides in Baja, the Dolomites, the jaunt to the dealer for, ah, something, ok, a 5th can of chain lube, but really to talk about cycles new and old. Oh what a feeling it is. The second reading is even better, and so is Leanings2. I want Leanings3, which he hasn't provided us yet (a real slouch), but, until then, I'll keep reading this book over and over, just before my daily perusal of Craigslist and a little ride over to the bmw and kawasaki dealers for, ah, something, another filter for my KLR or to look at covers for my beemer, or maybe to read the free magazines, drink the coffee, and thank my lucky stars that they are still there. Thank you, Peter!

Peter Egan is among a very small and very distinguished group of writers who have the ability to invite the reader along on their adventures. He is to motorcycling what Gene Hill, Peter Capstick, and Gordon MacQuarie were to hunting - and that is very fine company to be in. When you read his stories, you're with him, riding alongside, enjoying the adventure with him, and sometimes his Wife. His eloquent, descriptive turn of phrase combined with his ability to create unique and thought-provoking analogies makes for smooth, sophisticated, and absorbing reading. To Egan, a motorcycle is far more than the sum of its mechanical parts. It's freedom, dreams - both old and new, exploring, learning about yourself, your country and culture. Through Egan's words, motorcycles bring out the best in the human spirit. Reading his writing makes you glad that you're a part of the motorcycling fraternity, and reminds you why you love motorcycles so much. Enjoy this book, and then get a copy of "Leanings II" and relive the enjoyment all over again. These are books that you will reread, perhaps in part, over and over, and enjoy just as much each time you read them.

Anything Peter Egan writes is great! I love this guy...

As the intro to the book by Egan's former editor so accurately stated, Peter is "a natural" writer. A great read for anyone who loves motorcycles, their history, and the motorcycle lifestyle. Egan has enjoyed and/or survived a range of experiences and travels that are the envy of this reader, and chronicles them with great humor and insight. I carried the book around with me to enjoy whenever I had a free minute, and ordered Leanings 2 before I finished it. "Nuff said!

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