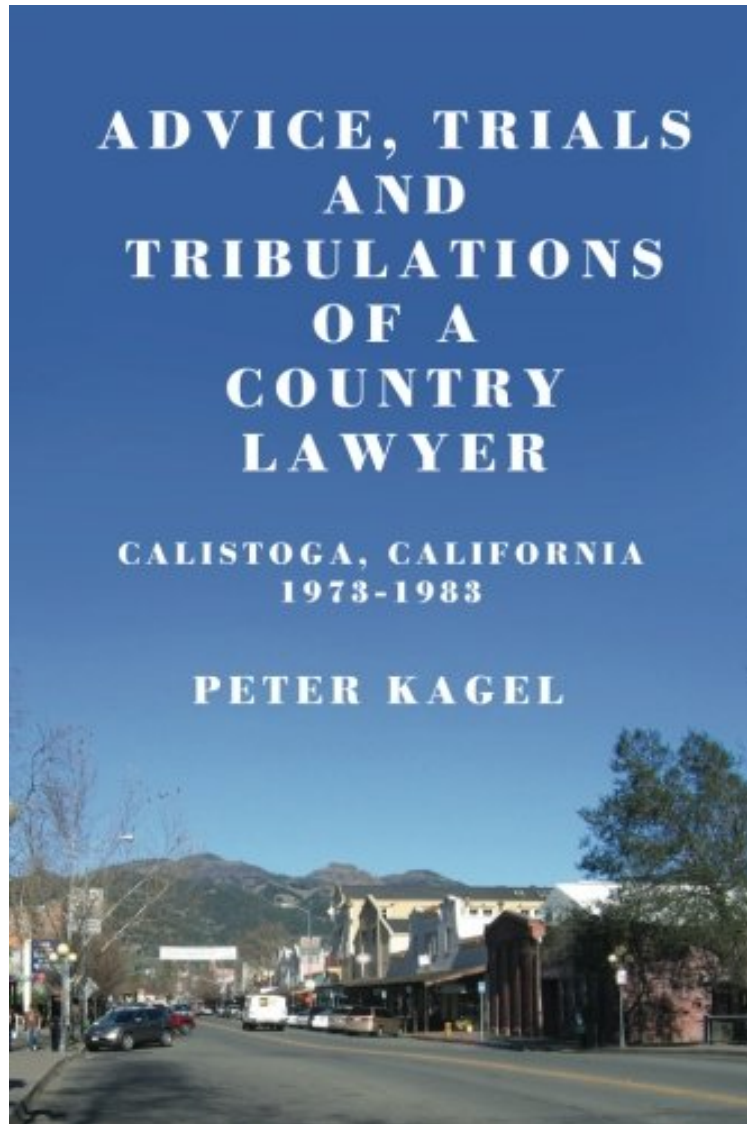


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## Advice, Trials, and Tribulations of a Country Lawyer: Calistoga California 1973-1983

*Peter Kagel*

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**Peter Kagel : Advice, Trials, and Tribulations of a Country Lawyer: Calistoga California 1973-1983** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Advice, Trials, and Tribulations of a Country Lawyer: Calistoga California 1973-1983:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Title Says It AllBy William H. DolanAs a life long small town country lawyer in Minnesota, I found Peter's book right on point. His experiences, although a bit extreme (fist fight at

the annual Bar meeting and the fire at his office) the cases he handled while in Calistoga sounded like they could have occurred in Litchfield, MN. It's a light read, not filled with "legalese" so if you are interested in hearing some good stories of a country lawyer or have the slightest interest in becoming a lawyer, I highly recommend Peter's book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Insider's View from a Big Fish in a Small Pond By Liz Behan As the daughter of a City Manager, I found this book insightful and entertaining. Mr. Kagel has captured life in a small town with a keen eye and ear and a generous helping of Twain and Menkin-like acerbic humor. A fun and illuminating ride along back road America! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic! By Lucy Canada What a thoroughly enjoyable book that I could not put down! I was sorry when I was finished reading it. Trials and tribulations do not begin to explain everything this author has experienced. I am hoping he writes another as I know I would be thrilled.

"Advice, Trials and Tribulations of a Country Lawyer: Calistoga, California 1973-1983," by Peter Kagel, follows an ill-prepared, newly-minted lawyer starting a law practice from scratch in Napa Valley, in the heart of California's wine country, who ropes himself into nasty small-town politics and gets elected mayor, which provides the context for his many tribulations. The book was written to help the general public understand and handle every day legal problems which are dissected and illustrated by his trial experiences. Although he came to the Napa Valley for peace and quiet, author Kagel had a number of startling experiences including the connections between the other lawyer in town, who was his main antagonist, and the famed Zodiac Killer," a life-threatening, middle-of-the-night encounter with a knife-bearing intruder and a black widow spider dropped through his mail slot in an open test tube. Kagel overcomes a number of other antagonists and situations, including a sadistic local newspaper publisher, a bullying deputy district attorney, an obese psychiatrist without a clue, how two of his clients were shot to death, and a lying double-crosser Kagel mistakenly helped elect to the city council. He also survives a failed recall effort the stuff of a crime novel. Adding to the drama, his law-associate-employee gets convicted for selling cocaine (without his knowledge), and a friend commits suicide by flying a glider straight into the ground, taking pictures throughout the entire descent. Through these and many other entertaining ordeals and circumstances which would probably ring a few bells with small-town-America-dwellers, Kagel, for the most part, maintains his cool along with his mischievous sense of humor. The book is an entertaining ride through the eyes of a young lawyer who became the mayor and went through several scandals as a result of holding his ground, says Kagel. It is also a very good education about the legal system. It's a helpful guide to getting through everyday legal problems without realizing you're getting a very practical legal education. Intended to entertain and inform, the book combines anecdotes and wonderful small town memories with advice on what to expect, along with guidance in handling the most common legal situations. This book is a fun, educational, an easy and entertaining read.

About the Author Peter Kagel is a trial lawyer in San Francisco. He's an avid walker, reader, laugher, traveler, fly fisherman, cook, eater, football fan, underdog advocate, defender of the Constitution, American and a testosterone victim.