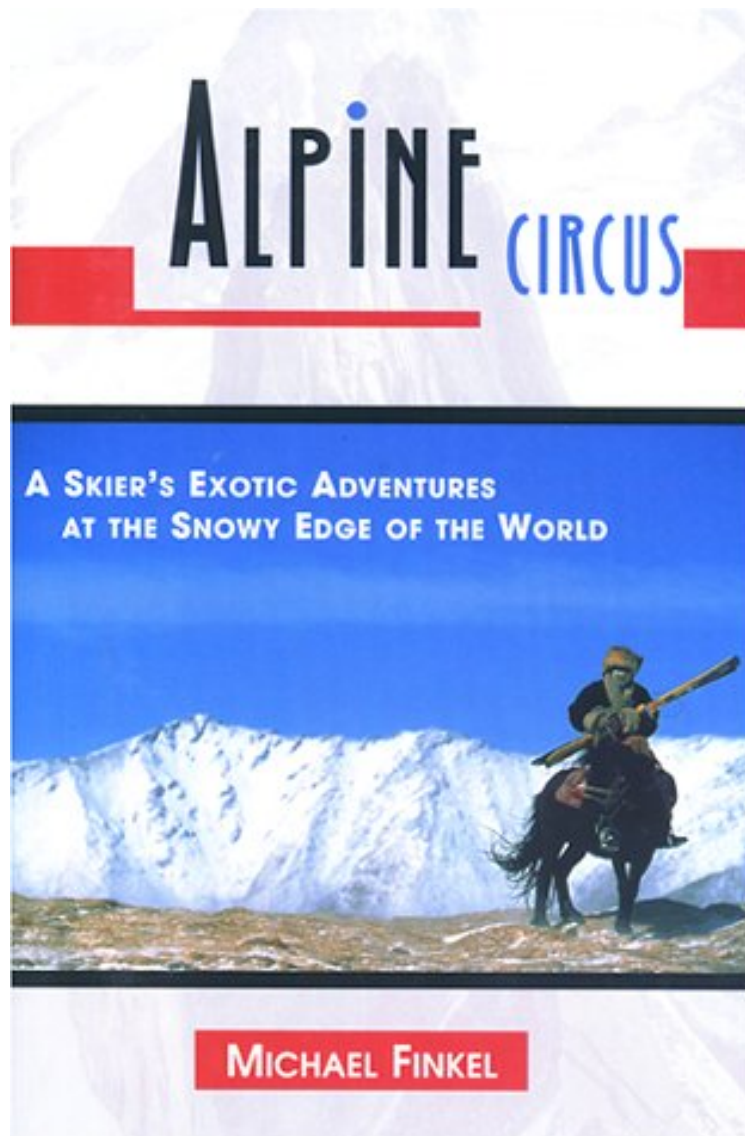


# Alpine Circus: A Skier's Exotic Adventures at the Snowy Edge of the World

*Michael Finkel*

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#2796432 in Books 1999-10-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 .94 x 6.19 x 9.331, #File Name: 1558219242224 pages | File size: 21.Mb

**Michael Finkel : Alpine Circus: A Skier's Exotic Adventures at the Snowy Edge of the World** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alpine Circus: A Skier's Exotic Adventures at the Snowy Edge of the World:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Book. Great Author By Donald B Rhodes There are probably many people like me that read Michael Finkel's Stranger In The Woods and that's how we became acquainted with

him. I liked the book and I liked his style of writing. So when I went to see what else he's written I was excited to learn he wrote a book about skiing many places. You see, skiing is a major passion of mine. This book is not only about skiing but it is an education about geography. Who knew there was skiing in Iran? I didn't begin skiing at a young age and I am convinced the best skiers as Michael did, begin at a very young age. The fact is, after reading and enjoying every story if I could ski with anyone for a day it would be Michael Finkel. Five stars are warranted!6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Great read for anyone who loves mountains.By the\_global\_village\_idiotMost ski writers are middle-aged-plus travel hacks more interested in the hotel than the hill. Not Finkel. Almost uniquely among widely-published ski journalists, he's more interested in descents than dinner, and it's fun to travel vicariously through his work.Alpine Circus is essentially a compendium of columns originally published in SKIING magazine. All are interesting. Most are funny. One -- the piece on Sarajevo -- is intensely moving.Four stars out of five. While very enjoyable, the book doesn't fully display Finkel's remarkable talent as a writer. Hopefully, future collections will. You'll see a lot more of his work... he's still a mere sprat.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A skier's book.By Jeffrey R. SnyderIf you enjoy skiing, this is a must read. I love to ski, and this is the best book about skiing out there. It's been a while since I read this book, but it's still on my shelves. An essay I particularly liked was the story about a visit to an Iranian ski area where the religious police segregate the slopes into his and her sides of the mountain. Another great story was of a hike up Kilimanjaro and the ski back down. Great stuff.

From the underside of an avalanche to the summit of Kilimanjaro, this collection of seventeen mesmerizing, often uproarious tales capture the wonders of the world's snowy regions.

From School Library JournalYA-"Skiing ruined my life." This simple, forthright statement will hook readers. This book is a collection of 17 of Finkel's skiing adventures, many of which were previously published in Skiing magazine. The author skied on the slopes of Iran where women ski on separate slopes and only if they wear a black skirt over their ski pants and not a wisp of hair is visible. He skied with Mongolian herdsmen who taught themselves the sport when the government sent them used equipment. He jumped out of helicopters to snowboard on Alaska's Chugach Mountain. He even skied "The Toothbrush," a plastic surface of white PVC bristles, when he entered the British Dry Ski Slopes Championship. He finds adventure, humor, and insight at every turn. Give this book to any ski buff or armchair traveler. They'll get a great lesson in geography, world cultures, and human nature.Jane S. Drabkin, Potomac Community Library, Woodbridge, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalFinkel has been a contributing editor to Skiing magazine (as well as other sports and general publications) for the last ten years and an avid skier since the age of five. For this book, he has compiled stories about his adventures. Ranging from humorous to exciting to death-defying, these stories span five continents and 12 winters. Finkel takes the reader places not normally associated with skiing, like Iran (where even women ski), Bosnia-Herzegovina, China, Mount Kilimanjaro, Greenland, New York City, and even an interstate truck ramp. His stories are filled with the varied, fascinating people he meets along the way; and he shows insight into the different cultures, histories, geologies, and geographies of the places he visits. Lots of fun for the armchair traveler and world adventurer alike.AMelinda Stivers Leach, Precision Editorial Svcs., Wondervu, CO Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Michael Finkel is hilarious, insightful and honest...a first-rate travel writer."--Randy Wayne White