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## **Newest Charlie Parker Mystery by Connie Shelton Visits Alaska's Tantalizing Gold Rush Era**

*One cave. Two sets of human remains. Someone who would kill to keep a secret.*

Albuquerque, NM, November 10, 2014 -- Albuquerque investigator/pilot Charlotte "Charlie" Parker heads north to Alaska, to the Gold Rush town of Skagway, where she and her husband will spend a summer flying tourists by helicopter to remote cabins in the wilderness. The idea is for city folks to discover a more primitive lifestyle and to enjoy a chance at panning for gold. From the start, Charlie observes that not all of them will be cut out for life without television or internet or smartphones. But that's just the start—no one could have predicted the discovery of a decades-old skeleton near one of the cabins.

Police Chief Sam Branson has a small force and too many cases to devote a lot of time to solving the mystery of how someone managed to die in that remote cave over forty years ago, so he gives Charlie and her new friend, reporter Mina Gengler, the go-ahead to investigate on their own. When a second set of remains is found farther back in the same cave, Charlie starts to question whether the two deaths could somehow be related. And even though the two murders happened more than eighty years apart, someone in present-day Skagway will do nearly anything to stop Charlie and Mina from finding the truth.

"The first time I visited Skagway, I was bowled over by the surrounding natural beauty and the fascinating history of this small town on the Taiya Inlet of Alaska's inside passage," said author Connie Shelton. "I began to look for a way for my characters to become involved in those aspects of this place. Since Charlie and Drake are helicopter pilots and since Alaska is one of the foremost places for aviation activity, it seemed a natural to send them. History met modern-day for me in *Legends Can Be Murder*." (Secret Staircase Books, 2014, 978-1501071805, \$12.95 paper, \$4.99 e-book, <http://connieshelton.com>)

Experience in her husband's helicopter business provided the many aspects of aviation Shelton includes in her Charlie Parker mysteries, beginning with the second book in the series, *Vacations Can Be Murder*, in which Charlie meets her own future husband. A lifelong interest in history led Shelton to research the

Alaska Gold Rush and the vital role the town of Skagway played. As in all of her books, the author looks beyond the facts and procedures surrounding a murder and the capture of the killer(s), delving deeper into the human psyche in a search for understanding of the motives and reactions that drive some people to take such drastic actions.

“I write mysteries from many levels,” says Shelton. “Yes, there’s a crime (or two or three) and, yes, my protagonists are out to solve that crime. But I also want to include a look at the people behind the actions, and I want to do it with a touch of humor and often a lot of food! Fans often comment on those aspects of my stories, and how they feel that although she leaps into a lot of adventures most of us would never consider, Charlie feels like a friend, as if she could be the girl next door. Knowing that people relate to Charlie and the extended cast of characters on such a personal level is what makes this so much fun for me.”

Meet Connie Shelton and all of her characters at [connieshelton.com](http://connieshelton.com), and be sure to check out the Food page which includes recipes from New Mexico, Charlie’s home state, a sampling of the great dishes which have been featured in this series. Subscribe to Connie Shelton’s email newsletter to receive the latest news and have a chance to win prizes each month.

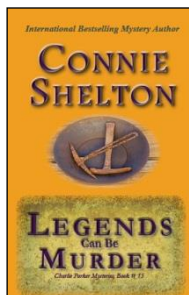
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#### About the Author:



Connie Shelton is the author of two mystery series set in her home state, New Mexico. She read her first non-picture book at age seven and has not stopped reading since. She has been involved with books as an editor, publisher, teacher, bookseller, reader and writer. She has taught writing courses and was a contributor to *Chicken Soup For the Writer’s Soul*. Many of her previous books have achieved mystery bestseller status on Amazon and Kobo. She and her husband reside in New Mexico. Contact her through her website: [connieshelton.com](http://connieshelton.com)

#### About the Book:



Charlie Parker and her husband Drake accept a job with Gold Trail Adventures in Skagway, Alaska, flying visitors by helicopter to remote cabin sites to experience the outdoor lifestyle and seek their fortunes. It isn't long before one of the guests finds a set of bones in an old mine, remains that date back decades. His hands full with present-day cases, police chief Sam Branson tells Charlie and her new reporter friend, Mina Gengler, that they are free to investigate. A second body is found, bringing up a lot of questions. Meanwhile, Charlie gets a peek into the lives and times of Gold Rush-era Alaskans when she discovers a box of old letters written by one of the stampeder. Is it possible that the two bodies are connected? And why does it seem that someone in Skagway today doesn't want the women to dig for the truth?

Secret Staircase Books, November 15, 2014, 978-1501071805, \$12.95 paper; \$4.99 e-book; more info: <http://connieshelton.com> Available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Kobo, iBooks

#### **Review Copies and Media Interviews:**

For a review copy of *Legends Can Be Murder* or an interview with Connie Shelton, please contact Connie Shelton by email: [connie@connieshelton.com](mailto:connie@connieshelton.com)

When requesting a review copy, please provide name of publication and mailing address. If you would like to receive this information as a Word document, please let us know.