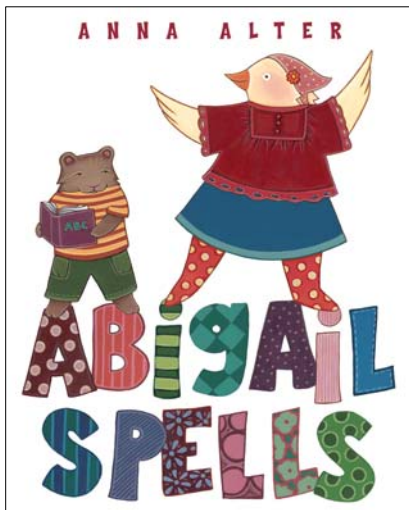


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
On sale April 24, 2009

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**Abigail Will Spell Her Way into Your H-E-A-R-T in**  
**ABIGAIL SPELLS**  
By Anna Alter



Readers of all ages will fall in L-O-V-E with **ABIGAIL SPELLS** (Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers / on sale April 24, 2009 / \$16.99), a sincere and warmhearted picture book about spelling, friendship, and the mistakes anyone can make.

Abigail is good at many things. She can dance the cha-cha-cha; make up stories to tell her best friend, George; and strike the most fabulous pose you've ever seen. But there is one thing Abigail loves to do most of all: she loves to S-P-E-L-L. When her school announces the annual spelling bee, Abigail can hardly wait to start practicing with the help of George. But when things don't go according to her plan, can George convince her that winning isn't everything?

Kids and teachers will be spellbound by Anna Alter's charming illustrations, and young readers (and spellers) will have fun spelling out words with Abigail and George in the lively text. Alter tells a story about dealing with disappointment that children will relate to, even if they don't have Abigail's particular knack for spelling. It's a nice reminder that we all need a good friend to help pick us up when we are down.

**Anna Alter** grew up in a house full of artists. After graduating from the Rhode Island School of Design with a BFA in illustration, she worked as an art director at a children's book publisher. Throughout her career in publishing, Alter has spent much of her time working with children. She was also a preschool teacher for five years, and has taught art workshops to kids in the Boston area. Alter now writes and illustrates full-time. She has written and illustrated a number of children's books, including *What Can You Do with an Old Red Shoe?* and *Francine's Day*. Originally from Charlottesville, Virginia, Alter now lives in Massachusetts with her fiancé and their two cats, George and Wilbur.

**ABIGAIL SPELLS**

By Anna Alter

An Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers hardcover / on sale April 28, 2009  
978-0-375-85617-4 / \$16.99 / \$18.99 Can. / 40 pages / Ages 5-8

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