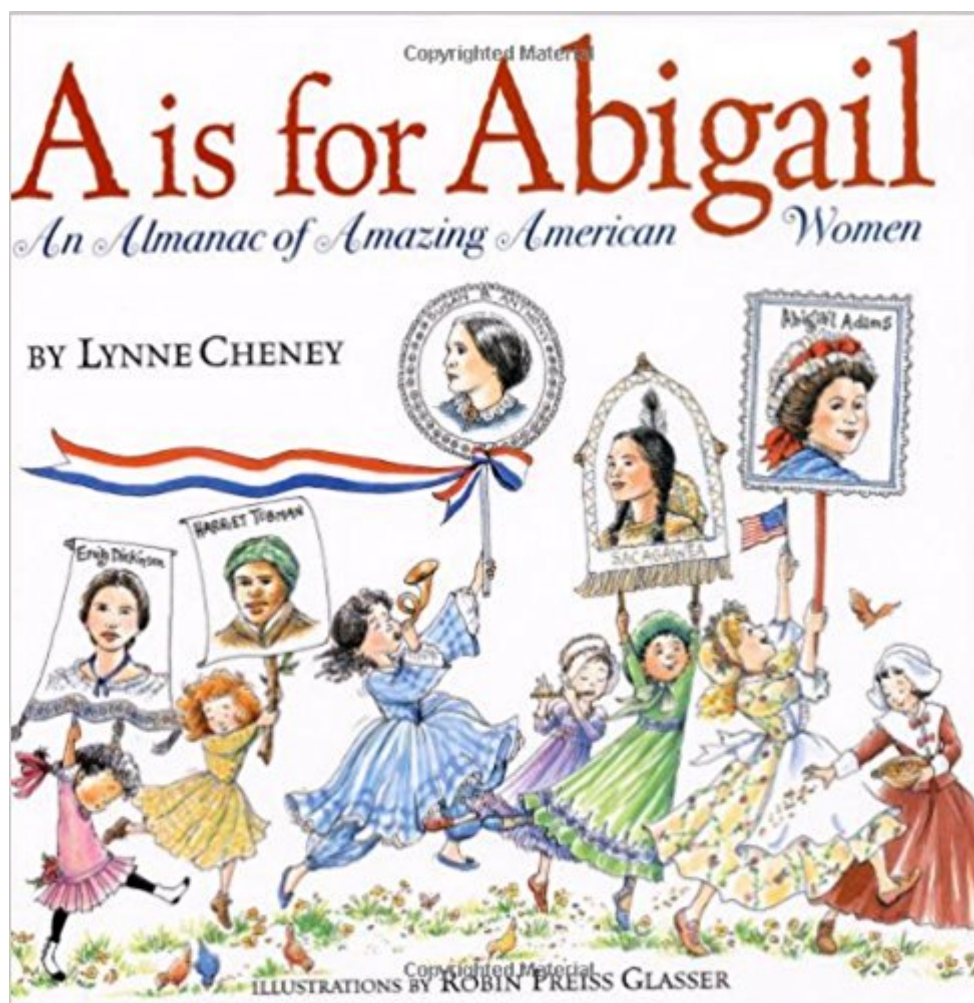


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# A Is For Abigail: An Almanac Of Amazing American Women



## Synopsis

Lynne Cheney and Robin Preiss Glasser collaborated on *America: A Patriotic Primer*, which captured the imagination of American children and became a national best-seller. Now they turn their hands to *A is for Abigail: An Almanac of Amazing American Women* and bring the great women of American history to life. Filled to the brim with words and pictures that celebrate the remarkable (although often unmarked) achievements of American women, this is a book to relish and to read again and again. Mothers, daughters, schoolchildren, generations of families -- everyone -- will take Abigail Adams's words to heart and "remember the ladies" once they read the stories of these astonishing, astounding, amazing American women.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1030L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 82 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #244,322 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #115 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Europe](#) #428 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical](#) #823 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States](#)

Age Range: 6 - 12 years

Grade Level: 2 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Soldiers, scientists, performers, writers, entrepreneurs, politicians, quilt makers, pilots... as author Lynne Cheney writes, "America's amazing women have much to teach our children--and much inspiration to offer us, as well." Coming on the heels of *America: A Patriotic Primer* (Cheney's previous collaboration with illustrator Robin Preiss Glasser), *A Is for Abigail* celebrates the achievements of women in American history, with a special emphasis on the individuals who helped win equal rights for women. As with *America*, Cheney uses an alphabet

book format to introduce hundreds of remarkable real women: "O is for SANDRA DAY O&#x92;CONNOR and others who were first." In addition to the first woman Supreme Court Justice, the "O" page includes Wilma Mankiller, first woman chief of the Cherokee Nation; Jeannette Rankin, first female member of Congress; and Nellie Tayloe Ross, first woman governor. Glasser&#x92;s playful illustrations are lively and busy, inviting readers to explore Abigail Adams's farm or the crowded city block that houses "V is for VARIETY," with its DNA lab, dance studio, dentist office, and "PERSONS at WORK" sign. Snippets of information about each featured woman give a taste; ideally, readers will seek more in-depth biographies about the historical figures who pique their interests. (Ages 6 to 9) --Emilie Coulter

Grade 2-4-Similar in design and concept to *America* (S & S, 2002), this alphabet book is attractive and fun to read. Through it, Cheney hopes to educate children about a number of strong individuals who contributed to American society, and, in many cases, helped women to gain their civil rights. With rare exceptions, the profiled women were born before 1950. For each letter, a page features a person or a concept. The "E" page, for example, discusses six educators. The letter "J" is associated with Anna Jarvis, advocate of the Mother's Day holiday. Information about each figure is given in a phrase or one-sentence reference to her major achievement. The colorful, cartoonlike illustrations make this book particularly engaging, and the detail and varied design of the pages are additional enhancements. Some of the pages have borders containing the names of the women who fit the letter category, such as the authors listed in the borders on the "W" page, which cameos Edith Wharton and lauds women as writers. All of the people are shown in active postures. A double gatefold producing the effect of an opening theater curtain reveals an array of performers ranging from Mary Martin as a flying Peter Pan to Mahalia Jackson singing. While the information is limited, the overall effect creates an awareness of the totality of American women's achievements. Lynda Ritterman, Atco Elementary School, Waterford, NJ Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

When I bought this book, I don't remember having/using the "look inside" feature. I just wanted it based on the fact that I'm a mom to 2 girls, I liked the description and cover art, and I was excited to see a book about American female role-models. Upon first read, I was overwhelmed with information and a bit confused by the text layout choices (appreciate the skillful artwork, bright colors, and effort to "keep it interesting," but I was challenged/ distracted by the diagonal, vertical, and upside down words). Strongly suggest you "look inside" so you're not surprised by the formatting. My only other critique is that I wish it included more women born after 1950. My girls are

3 and 6, and I agree with the age recommendation of grades 2-7. However, if you want to read it to younger children, I think it's possible to explain that there have been many amazing women who've done great things then just read the headings "A is for Abigail Adams, who knew that women should be heard. B is for Elizabeth Blackwell and others who wanted to heal," enjoy the pictures, and use it as a springboard to explain anything you want (eg. did you know your grandma was a nurse?) It is also helpful to me to have the list of women and use it to learn more myself. I especially appreciated the "notes on the text" at the back that gave more detail on some of the names under each alphabet letter. This book has inspired me to look up many names and dig deeper. Fabulous. If you include those on the cover page, there are more than 300 names in this book, and the letter Y is devoted to women in science and math. As with any list, I'm sure it's easy for individuals to criticize who was chosen/ left out, but I am grateful this effort was made and glad to have this book in my collection.

This is one of my daughter's favorite books. She received it as a birthday present and she's constantly asking us to read it to her.

We buy this as baby gifts for girls! It was given years ago to my daughter who loves history, and we love it so much, we buy it for others!

Amazing book great for young women to inspire and teach them that there is more to being a girl than hair, nails, and friends. That they can be anything, that the future is bright and helps parents to remember they are capable of doing amazing things....if we only let them try!

"A is for Abigail" is a beautifully written and illustrated book. It makes a wonderful gift or addition to one's own library. The well-told story of American women informs, as well as inspires, young readers. It fits the bill for some pleasant laptime; the adult reader will be charmed as much as the young listener.

book is amazing, I never knew there were so many fascinating women in history, who had such an influence on our lives. I plan to give copies to my granddaughter and daughter in laws----all women should be aware of these ladies.

Great story. Buy this for your little one. Educational.

I love using this book in my classroom! It helps make my students aware of the things they can accomplish while living in a man's world.

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