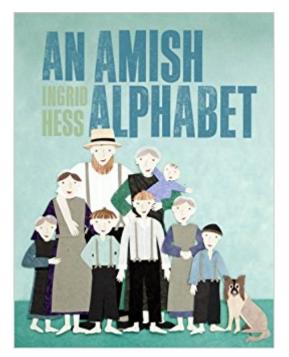


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An Amish Alphabet





Synopsis

A is for Amish; B is for barn raising; C is for church. What is it like to be Amish? In this delightful and whimsical full-color book, author and illustrator Ingrid Hess offers an entertaining yet informative introduction to Amish faith and life. In a style that will capture the imaginations of children and adults alike, Hess takes readers behind the scenes and invites them to think about living out faith in new ways.

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages Publisher: Herald Press (September 25, 2012) Language: English ISBN-10: 0836196457 ISBN-13: 978-0836196450 Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.3 x 11.1 inches Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) 4.0 out of 5 stars Average Customer Review: 3 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #2,273,546 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > People & Places #11980 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity #13164 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Children's & Teens Age Range: 4 - 8 years Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Ingrid Hess is an illustrator, graphic designer, and graphic design professor living in Rochester, New York. The simplicity in her work is heavily influenced by her Amish and Mennonite heritage; the bright colors and patterns are inspired by art from Costa Rica, where she lived for four years as a child.Ingrid holds an MFA in Graphic Design from Indiana University with an emphasis in the book arts and has worked in the publishing industry since 1996. Her dual passions of design and illustration work well together and help her tell stories through pictures. Her research focuses on economic justice as a way to bring peace to the world.Ingrid is author and illustrator of Herald Press titles Sleep in Peace (2008 Rodda Book Award winner) and Walk in Peace. She also wrote Think Fair Trade First in which she seeks to empower children to understand that they can make a difference in the world.

As per usual, I received this book because of a GoodReads giveaway. Despite this very kind consideration I give my candid opinion below. First off, it must be admitted that as alphabet books go this is pretty unique. At the same time it introduces those ubiquitous letters of the English alphabet it gives us some simple factoids about Amish life and culture. How better to let your kids know more about those quiet but industrious people in the buggies? It's a good thought. The book even introduces some relevant verses from the Bible in support of each aspect of Amish culture. The idea of the book is executed fairly well. The illustrations are colorful, appropriate and well done as paper cut-out art. For the most part the content is 4-6 year-old-appropriate though I do wonder about the inevitable questions that will arise from children when they reach S (Social Security) and X (XXXXXXX representing quilt stitching, also covered by Q). That said, it's far from a trivial matter to find child-appropriate topics for all 26 letters and also make them properly fit your topic so any slight misstep should be forgiven. In summary, a good introduction for children to the Amish culture. It'll take a bit of adult explanation in parts but a parent-child face-to-face interaction never hurt anyone so it's all to the good in the end.

As one who consumes dozens of ABC books (and I've come to have strong opinions about these things!), this one ranks near the very top for me (and my audience!). The words that illustrate an aspect of Amish culture are informative, appropriate for very young kids, and complemented by visuals that are simple, very much in keeping with the subject matter of the "plain folk". The approach of learning about an American sub-culture is both respectful and playful at the same time. Great balance. Highly recommended! Also check out "Walk in Peace" by the same author!

My grandson loved this book. He is 6 and has never seen or been around the Amish. This book was great for him, it let him see what we saw this summer.

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