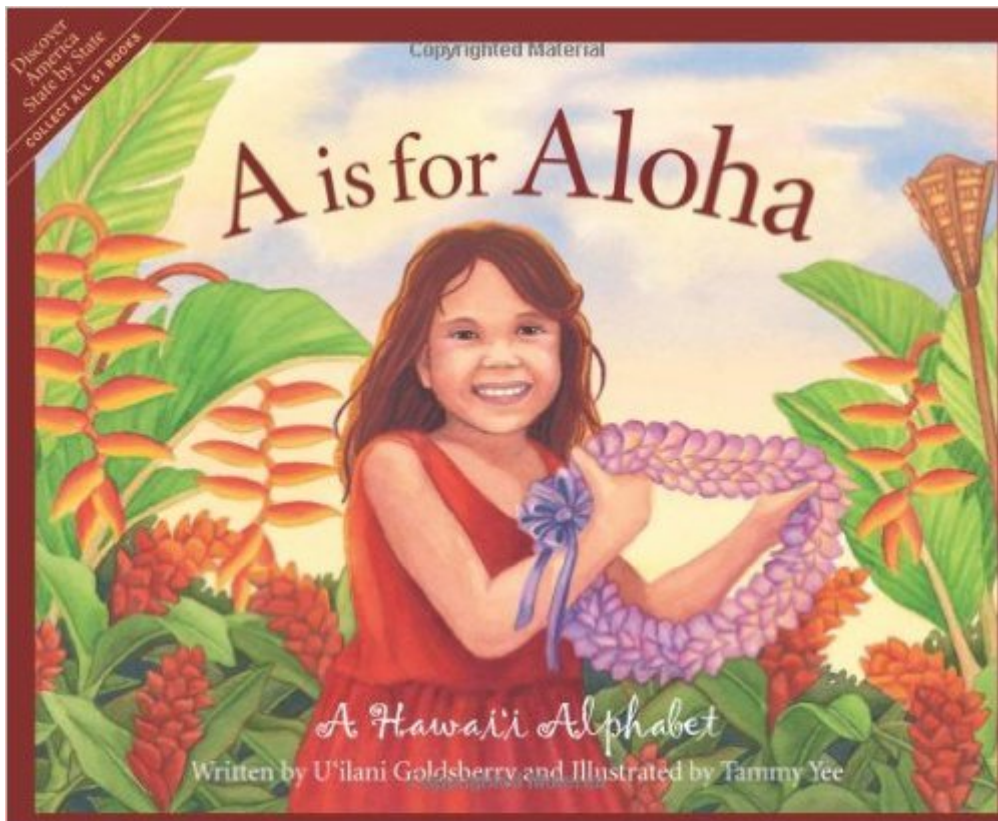


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# A Is For Aloha: A Hawai'i Alphabet



## Synopsis

Completing Sleeping Bear Press's acclaimed Discover America State by State series is *A is for Aloha: A Hawaii Alphabet*. The landscape of Hawaii is as exotic as its history and people. Written and illustrated by native Hawaiians, U'ilani Goldsberry and Tammy Yee, *A is for Aloha* is a lovingly created introduction to one of the most-visited places on Earth. From the meaning of the word aloha to the plight of the state bird author U'ilani Goldsberry answers questions that most Malihinis have about this lush multi-island paradise. Author U'ilani Goldsberry was born on the island of Maui, in the small town of Pu'unene. She now lives in La'ie on the northeastern coast of O'ahu. She has written a variety of books including three Auntie U'i books. Illustrator Tammy Yee grew up in Honolulu, Hawaii. She currently lives in Windward O'ahu. **AWARDS:** 2006 Hawaii Center for the Book selection to represent Hawai'i at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 3

## Customer Reviews

What a great book! This one, written by U'ilani Goldsberry and illustrated by Tammy Yee, is a nice addition to the Discover America State By State series. The alphabet is focused on Hawaiiana, of course. There are details of the alphabetized words ("A is for aloha") that make it appropriate for all ages, and I found them quite interesting. There were a few things that irritated me. "Leis" is a weird word, since there is no "s" in the Hawaiian alphabet to mix with the Hawaiian word "lei". And

"Zoning" for "z"... what's this about? Nevertheless, Goldsberry's text, and of course Tammy Yee's exquisite watercolors, make this a wonderful gift for that special person who is a kid at heart.

This book oddly reads like a child's Chamber of Commerce guide, first admiring the "jewel so bright" lights of Honolulu, and a mention of the State Bird next as the B word. (Why not N for Nene?) It goes on to talk positively of the (eyesore) windmills that have been cropping up on once pristine lands. From there are more the politics of Hawaii rather than the culture and beauty there: King Kamehameha, Princess Ka'iulani, I'olani Palace, Lili'uokalani, (although I appreciated the "lost her throne to businessmen" line on that one), followed by the State song which "calls upon Hawaii's sons to promise loyalty", (a loyalty oath for children?) and concluding with a picture of Captain Cook. It's a fact filled guide, alright, but for the haole Hawaii, not the one we need to preserve.

This book is an amazing and filled with dozens and dozens of hawaiian words to learn and how to say them along with great stories explaining Hawaiian traditions and the true meaning of the Aloha Spirit. It is a must own even if you do not have kids. My husband and I got married in Hawaii and have a Hawaiian themed home and purchased several very special hawaiian children books to have in the house for nieces and nephews.

Bought this book to be given from my children to their grandparents who live in Hawaii. Illustrations are BEAUTIFUL! Also love that it can be read different ways - each letter has both a short rhyme as well as a longer informational section. My kids loved hearing the book read with the rhymes for each letter, "A is for..." The grandparents loved (in addition to reading the book to their grandkids) learning new and interesting facts about their state and commented often, "I didn't know that!" Overall very pleased with this book and this series in general!

this book has great facts about Hawaii . You can read if you are going or plan to go for a visit.It shows a lot of what you will see.I gave for a gift but like to read it as I dream o f going there.

I bought this for my 18 month old who loves books after our trip to Hawaii this summer. It's rich in details about Hawaii and I learned quite a bit from reading it! It's a little too long for her to sit through right now, but we almost always get to the letter B for Bird, which is Nene, their state bird. Yall she sounds SO CUTE when she says NENE! :) It's the little things the littles do : )

We are "white folk" outsiders to Hawaii, trying to learn about this part of our country through our homeschooling efforts. I loved it as an overview to the state's many unique things and people. I thought the leading critical comment was quite eye-opening and "enthusiasm damping." Too true. This book shows Hawaii through the eyes of folks like us, not through the eyes of native Hawaiians. There is value in this lens, but ... it's not everything....Just so you know!

We ordered this book for our grandson to give as a gift on our return trip from Hawaii. We had vacationed on two of the islands for 2 weeks. The book was such a delight. It was fun for us to review the things that we saw and be able to share it with our boys through the book. The book was very factual, colorful and our grandsons loved it.

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