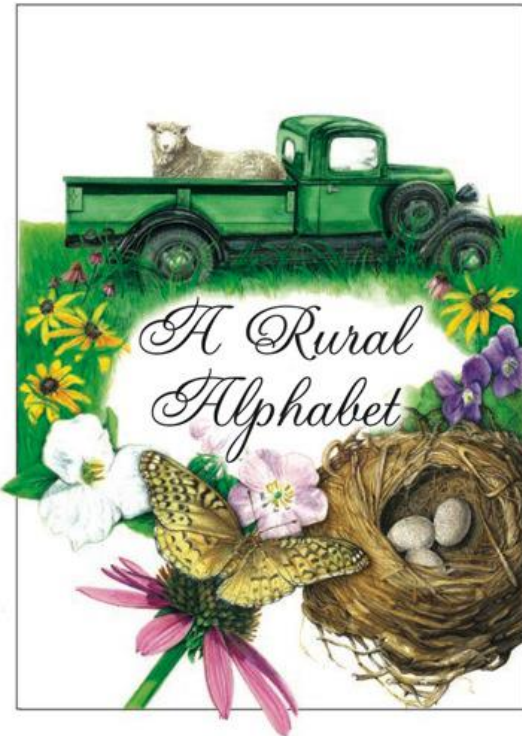


## Book Signing at the Left Bank Shop & Gallery



MONICA T. JAGEL ~ ARTWORK  
JOANNE ADRAGNA SHIRD ~ POETRY

On Sunday, October 15, from 1:00 – 4:00 P.M., Monica T. Jagel of Ontario, WI will be signing copies of *A Rural Alphabet*, a collection of 26 illustrations and poems from A – Z. The book is a collaborative effort with Monica creating the artwork and Joanne Adragna Shird writing the poetry. Every letter of the alphabet is represented in its own unique way and reflects the soul of rural life.

### ABOUT THE ARTIST...

Monica is a trained Botanical Illustrator, and her interest keeps expanding to include more of nature. If her artwork encourages someone to pause and consider the importance of protecting our natural environment or the rural countryside, she has succeeded. Monica works in her home studio in rural Wisconsin, a 2-hour drive from McGregor, Iowa. Her original artwork comes from her own observations and imagination, and she finds inspiration every day all around her!

### ABOUT THE POET...

Joanne Adragna Shird's poetry truly enriches the *Rural Alphabet* images, and her words may conjure a pleasant smell or evoke a memory.

Joanne is solid in her love and understanding of rural life and primarily writes poetry but also writes fiction and creative non-fiction. She lives with her husband in what she considers to be one of the most beautiful parts of the world – rural Wisconsin.

### ABOUT THE COLLABORATION...

Monica and Joanne met and became friends through a local art group. Upon completing her *Rural Alphabet* artwork, Monica invited Joanne to consider writing some poetry to enhance the drawings, which Joanne enthusiastically accepted. Joanne's poetry truly enriches the *Rural Alphabet* images. The collaboration between Monica and Joanne on *A Rural Alphabet* has been an organic experience, one which grew naturally from their kindred hearts and souls. They share deeply not only the love of nature but the earth's preservation as well.

*A Rural Alphabet* is a wonderful gift for kids of all ages!

Don't miss this opportunity to meet the artist and get your own signed copy of *A Rural Alphabet*.