

### ***Dual Biography for R.W. Alley and Zoë B. Alley:***

**R.W. Alley** has illustrated over one hundred books for children. His books have received many awards and have appeared on numerous best-seller lists. For the past twenty years he's illustrated Michael Bond's Paddington Bear books in all their formats. Mr. Alley also writes his picture books, most recently four books about the fantastical adventures of four siblings, Gretchen, Clark, Mitchell and Annabelle. For many years he has illustrated both the adult and the kids Elf-Help series of self-help books that are available world-wide.

In his own words, "My parents saved everything, so I know that I began drawing sometime around age two. I have gotten slightly better at hands, but horses remain a problem. For an only child, growing up in New York, Texas, South Carolina and finally for most of the time in Annapolis, Maryland, drawing was fine self-entertainment. Then, as now, I have always enjoyed most making pictures that illustrate a story rather than might hang on a wall. I make my pictures in a studio that has a rolling ladder, more books than I can count and many tubes of half-used, rock-hard paint. I started illustrating books right out of college in 1979. I didn't go to art school, but received a BA in Art History from Haverford College and then spent four years as a staff artist at several greeting card companies."

**Zoë B. Alley** is the author of two multi-starred books of re-invented fairy tales, *There's a Wolf at the Door*, a Washington Post Best Book of the Year and its companion book *There's a Princess in the Palace*, both presented in an over-sized graphic panel format and illustrated by R.W. Alley.

In her own words, "Having grown-up in a family of "literary grammarians", I have always been interested in words, recited and written. From an early age in Natick, Massachusetts, I participated in both theatre and music-related events, finishing up a whirlwind career in my early teens as a perpetual chorus member! I have, however, learned to deal with this fateful blow. I rallied, and am at long last thrilled to call myself an "Author" and see my words in print with the publication of "There's a Wolf at the Door"! I enjoy writing for being, among other things, a career that allows me to sit on the couch – my office! -- in my pajamas and play with a pen and paper! Before writing full-time, I worked in the health care industry. School-wise, I received my B.A. from the University of New Hampshire, and my Ed.M. from Boston University."

Recently, both R.W and Zoë have worked with novelist Garth Stein to bring his *The Art of Racing in the Rain* dog Enzo to the picture book audience in a series of four books.

**R.W. Alley** and **Zoë B. Alley** live in Barrington, Rhode Island. They are the proud parents of two wonderful children -- Cassandra and Max. You'll find more info at [rwalley.com](http://rwalley.com) and [zoeballey.com](http://zoeballey.com).