WANDA GAG (1893-1946) was born in New Ulm, Minnesota. As a child she was surrounded by an almost European atmosphere of old world customs and legends, of Bavarian and Bohemian folk songs.

The daughter of a Bohemian artist and the eldest of the seven Gag children, Wanda was part of a family that sparkled with creativity. Drawing and story-telling were as much a part of her life as eating and sleeping, and she was surprised to grow up and find that there were some people who did not draw at all.

Wanda Gag created THE ABC BUNNY in 1933 for Gary, her small nephew. And, as part of a talented family’s work, the “ABC Song” which appears with the text was composed by Flavia Gag, Wanda’s sister. The text was hand-lettered by Howard Gag, her brother.

In recognition of Wanda Gag’s artistry, she was posthumously awarded the 1958 Lewis Carroll Shelf Award for her 1928 picture book, MILLIONS OF CATS, and the 1977 Kerlan Award for the body of her work, which includes THE FUNNY THING, GONE IS GONE, NOTHING AT ALL, SNIPPY AND SNAPPY, SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS, TALES FROM GRIMM, and MORE TALES FROM GRIMM.

A for Apple, big and red
B for Bunny snug a-bed

C for Crash!

D for Dash!
E for Elsewhere in a flash

F for Frog – he’s fat and funny
“Looks like rain,” says he to Bunny

G for Gale!
H for Hail!
Hippy-hop goes Bunny’s tail

I for Insects here and there
J for the Jay with jaunty air

K for Kitten, catnip-crazy
L for Lizard – look how lazy

M for Mealtime – munch, munch, munch!
M-m-m! these greens are good for lunch!

N for Napping in a Nook
O for Owl with bookish look

P for prickly Porcupine
Pins and needles on his spine

Q for Quail
R for Rail
S for Squirrel S wishy-tail

T for Tripping back to Town
U for Up and Up-side-down

V for View
Valley too
W – “We welcome you!”

X for eXit – off, away!
That’s enough for us today

Y for You, take one last look
Z for Zero – close the book!

END