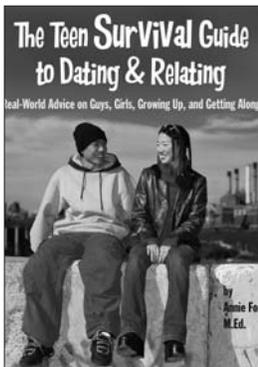


**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

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Wonder what your teen is wondering about?

THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING & RELATING

Real-World Advice for Teens On Guys, Girls, Growing Up, and Getting Along

“Hey Terra!” the Cyberspace “Dear Abby,” aka Annie Fox, mom, former teacher, and cyber pioneer doles out frank yet positive advice to teens searching for answers to questions about friends, family, and, like, life.

As seen in *Teen People*, *Jump*, *Teen*, and *CosmoGirl*.

“Appealing! Fox’s amiable, informal responses to concerns and problems encourage positive, yet realistic thinking” —*School Library Journal*

“Equal parts warmth, gravity, and pep . . . urges readers to express themselves calmly and honestly and rely on their ‘inner voice’ when facing tough decisions” —*Booklist*

“Intriguing. Fox is determined to treat teens in a respectful, friendly, yet stern manner. Adults who want to understand issues that teens face and gain insight into how naïve they might be about handling certain situations should read this book” —*VOYA*

“Help for the dazed and confused . . . Advice about dealing with peer pressure, starting and ending relationships, making decisions about sex, and getting along with parents and teachers . . . A step-by-step plan to navigating emotional minefields” —*Publishers Weekly*

Minneapolis, Minnesota—Fueled by raging hormones, and expected to make the giant leap from gawky kid to responsible adult in a mere six years, teens aren’t superheroes, but they face tricky situations and tough decisions every day.

“Would a popular girl ever like a chunky guy?”
“They want to keep picking on this girl, but I don’t.”
“I’m not ready for all this boy stuff.”
“I have a great girlfriend, but I cheat on her a lot.”
“He promised not to tell.”

Where can teens turn for clear-headed, nonjudgmental, and solid advice? From 1996 to 2000, millions of teens brought their questions to “Terra,” the popular online adviser to teens at TalkCity’s former teen area, InSite. Now Terra, aka Annie Fox, M.Ed., tells all—what teen boys and girls *really* think about parents, school pressures, *and* each other; what they hope for, want, are scared of, and need to know—in her book, **THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING** (\$15.95, Free Spirit Publishing). Annie’s heard it all, from peer pressure and dating dilemmas, to teacher troubles and parent problems. As a former teacher, the mother of two (one just out of and one just entering teendom), and an award-winning cyber pioneer, Annie dispenses frank, positive, and realistic advice on subjects of the utmost interest to teen boys and girls. Based on hundreds of actual emails from questioning teens from all over the world, **THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING** is a teenager’s guide to building strong, healthy relationships with friends and enemies; boyfriends, girlfriends, and wannabes; and everyone in-between—even parents.

The teen world is one of discovery—learning about yourself and your relationships with others—but it’s also a world of contradictions. Knowing *what* you want isn’t the same as knowing *why* you want it, especially if the person you want it from doesn’t feel the

same way you do. With issues of trust, intimacy, and future physical and emotional well-being on the line, it's essential that teens understand the breadth, depth, and responsibility of *any* relationship. “

Of course, one of the most alluring (and confusing) aspects of the teenage years is the pursuit of a romantic relationship. Some teens have it, others want it, and still others just don't “get” what it's all about. From “going with” and “going out” to “going all the way,” **THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING** explains the many facets of romantic relationships—from both boy and girl perspectives. With gentle certainty, Annie helps teens understand what healthy boyfriend/girlfriend relationships are, recognize what makes a “good” boyfriend or girlfriend, and discern if they are really ready for the responsibilities and consequences of further intimacy. Readers will learn how to be attractive to others while being true to themselves, as well as how to cope with crushes, breakups, and broken hearts. Best of all, teen readers will learn to appreciate what they have to offer, whether it's as “the other half of a great couple,” or as one of the millions of teens who haven't been “in love” or aren't searching for a boyfriend or girlfriend. **THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING** encourages teens to relax and discover who they are, not who others want them to be.

THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING encourages young people to fine-tune their “inner voice” to better make decisions that are honest and right for them. The book emphasizes the importance of developing good communication skills and includes a “conflict resolution tool kit” useful in peer and school situations, as well as a section on family meetings. With its irresistible positive explorations of all things teen, **THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING** is the right book to help young men and women through these tumultuous years—and a handy “insider's guide” for parents and caring adults.

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Excerpts and interviews are available through Free Spirit Publishing.
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THE TEEN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO DATING AND RELATING
REAL-WORLD ADVICE FOR TEENS ON GUYS, GIRLS, GROWING UP, AND GETTING ALONG
by Annie Fox, M.Ed.

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About the Author

Annie Fox, M.Ed., has combined her dedication to young people and passion for effective communication (she has an undergraduate degree in Human Development and a Master's in Education) with her pioneering computer skills to make the Internet teen-friendly, kid safe, and family informative. In 1977, Annie and her husband opened the Marin County Computer Center (the first public-access microcomputer center), introducing computers and programming to children and parents, and area teachers. Annie's authored and designed award-winning CD-ROMs including *Ellie's Enchanted Garden* (a *Time Magazine's* “It” game), and the Cannes Festival winner, *SFPD Homicide*. She understands that teens and the Internet are a potent match, and has developed several teen-centric online communities, including TalkCity's The InSite (www.talkcity.com/theinsite) and *Steponline* (www.steponline.com). Annie's alter-ego, cyber advisor “Hey Terra!” continues to be a fan-favorite known for her straight-talking advice. (She answers *every* email personally.) Annie Fox is married, has two children (one out of and one in teendom), and lives in the San Francisco Bay area.



About Free Spirit Publishing
www.freespirit.com

Headquartered in Minneapolis, MN, Free Spirit Publishing Inc. is an award-winning publisher specializing in SELF-HELP FOR KIDS® and SELF-HELP FOR TEENS®—including a variety of nonfiction materials for children and teens, parents, and teachers that inform, inspire, and engage. Free Spirit books are distributed to specialty bookstores in the United States and Canada and are available through major trade wholesalers. Books are also available directly from Free Spirit. For a catalog, call 612-338-2068 or visit our Web site.