



When I Grow Up: Misty Copeland (Scholastic Reader, Level 3)

Lexi Ryals, Erwin Madrid (Illustrations)

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Misty Copeland is one of the most famous dancers in the world. But before she was dancing for millions of fans, Misty was just a young girl who loved ballet, even though she didn't look like the typical ballerina. Learn how she made it all the way to the top in this exciting level 3 biography!

When I Grow Up: Misty Copeland (Scholastic Reader, Level 3) Details

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From Reader Review When I Grow Up: Misty Copeland (Scholastic Reader, Level 3) for online ebook

Samantha says

A biography of ballerina Misty Copeland that reads as though each page were an excerpt from a conversation or a page from her diary. Throughout the book, Copeland takes readers through her introduction to ballet, her many achievements, and the toll it took on her family for her to achieve so much success.

Emphasis is placed on her achievements as a woman of color in her field and she does much work to encourage young people to explore the world of ballet. A timeline and glossary are included in the back matter.

This would be a great book for young readers in need of an inspiring subject for a biography report or for young people interested in dance.

Highly recommended for grades 2-4.

Riko says

In America I did ballet and my ballet studio name is on this book

PWRL says

A

Alison Clark says

I think the book is a really good book.Because it helps people believe in their self.And Misty was the first african american ballet dancer in the the world.

Jessica McDaniel says

This book is about the life of Misty Copeland and how she became a world-renowned ballerina and the first African American to named a principal in the American Ballet Theater. This book relates to my topic because it is just another representation of how African American women can overcome obstacles and be great. This book is a biography of Misty Copeland's life.

Ms. Yingling says

Copy provided by Young Adult Books Central

Young Misty loved to sing and dance, and started studying gymnastic at the age of seven, after seeing a movie about Nadia Comaneci. She didn't start taking ballet lessons until the age of 13, but clearly excelled. Her family supported her studying, even though they experienced financial difficulties. With the help of a teacher, she was able to continue. After attending the San Francisco Ballet School she was offered a position there full time, but had to deal with more upheaval in her family situation. Eventually, she graduated from high school and was offered a position with the American Ballet Theatre's Studio Company, eventually becoming the first black soloist in over twenty years.

Many early reading books have only illustrations, but this also included photographs, which were a welcome edition. The cartoon style illustrations make this more attractive, but even young readers want to see photographs of people about whom biographies are written.

I appreciated that this gave just enough information -- Copeland has written autobiographies for adult readers, and I'm sure her family situation had a lot more drama, but this skimmed over the details while giving us the idea that there were difficulties. There's just enough information about each portion of her life-- growing up and family, school and ballet, professional career, and general overview of her life today.

This is a fantastic book to give to young ballerinas, and since there is very little fiction about them, I was glad to see this one. Perhaps readers of Angelina Ballerina will be able to compare and contrast a real dancer's life with that of a fictional mouse!
