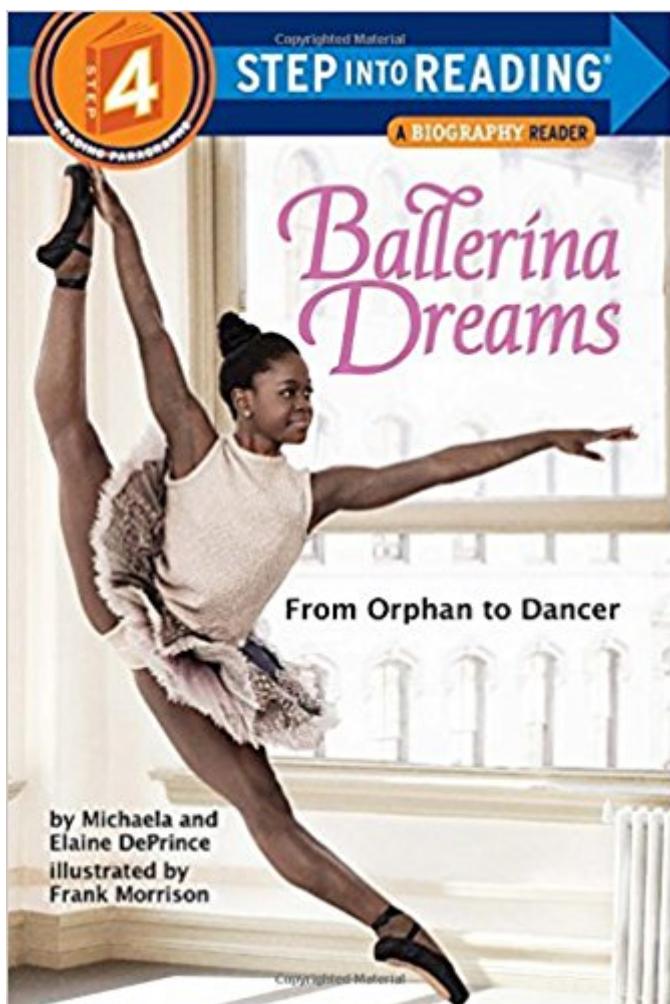


The book was found

# Ballerina Dreams: From Orphan To Dancer (Step Into Reading, Step 4)



## Synopsis

Perfect for newly independent readers— the amazing true story of Michaela DePrince, one of America's top ballerinas. At the age of three, Michaela DePrince found a photo of a ballerina that changed her life. She was living in an orphanage in Sierra Leone at the time, but was soon adopted by a family and brought to America. Michaela never forgot the photo of the dancer she once saw, and quickly decided to make her dream of becoming a ballerina come true. She has been dancing ever since and is now a principal dancer in New York City and has been featured in the ballet documentary First Position, as well as Dancing with the Stars, Good Morning America, and Oprah magazine. Young readers will love learning about this inspiring ballerina in this uplifting and informative leveled reader. This Step 4 Step into Reading book is for newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 660L (What's this?)

Series: Step into Reading

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (October 14, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385755155

ISBN-13: 978-0385755153

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 54 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #33,695 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Performing Arts #27 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance #63 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 7 - 9 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Gr 1-3 •This series excels at giving advancing readers challenges while building on the vocabulary learned earlier, and this title about a young orphan from war-torn Sierra Leone who follows her dream of becoming a ballerina is no exception. Michaela dePrince describes how she was sent to an orphanage after her parents died. Later, she and the other girls at her

orphanage left the country for the United States, where an American couple adopted both Michaela and her best friend, Mia. Michaela's adoptive mother (Elaine dePrince, the coauthor) arranged for the girl to take ballet lessons, and she was an eager student. After years of training, her dream came true, and she became a professional ballerina. This exciting, accessible tale includes large text, with a pronunciation guide for the ballet terms, such as barre or port de bras, and simple drawings to depict dance positions. A good balance between text and the painterly illustrations will draw readers in. Actual photos of Michaela and her family were included as well. An engaging story of triumph, ideal for novice readers. —Janene Corbin, Rosebank Elementary School, Nashville, TN

"An engaging story of triumph, ideal for novice readers." —School Library Journal "A title sure to attract ballet aficionados, with added appeal for its depiction of an adoptive family and a ballerina who just happens to be black." —Kirkus Reviews

I purchased this book for a 6 year old biracial dancer who attends ballet classes. I was already familiar with Michaela's story, but this retelling quite simply moved me to tears. It really is beautifully written, and very appropriate for its intended audience. Told with honesty and grace, but not overwhelming. We very much enjoyed this book, and recommend it highly.

Beautifully written! Great story of hope, dreams fulfilled and the love and support of a mother! Adoption is such a gift!

Such an inspirational story. Every girl should have this book! —

This was a GREAT book! It covered so many lessons for young people! From Africa to orphanages, adoption and vitiligo, sisterhood and adoption. I just LOVED this book. The girls learned a lot. Even lessons about hard work and dedication!!

Very nice addition to our dancer collection. I like the format it is nice and easy to follow and explain.

Finally! An amazing true story by an African ballerina to inspire my African daughter/future ballerina! This is what we have been waiting for my whole life! Thank you for sharing your phenomenal journey!

This is such an inspirational story. I bought this for my daughter who wants to be a ballerina. Although it is for older children, young children can benefit from the story as well. Michaela was determined to become a ballerina despite her rough beginning and she did it! Praises to her adoptive mother for helping her pursue her dreams. Great book!

good

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