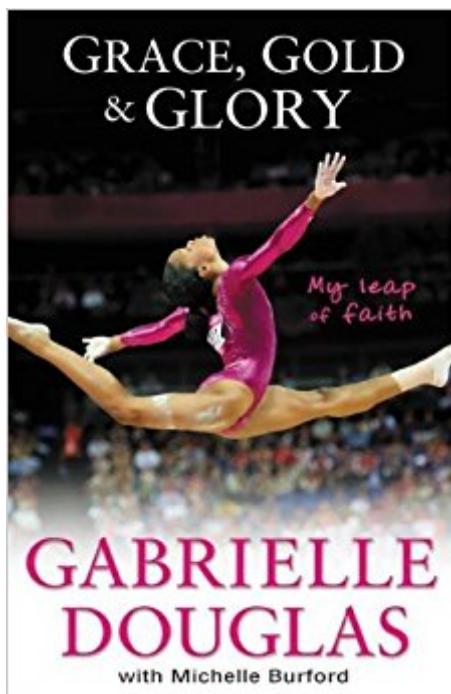


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Grace, Gold, And Glory My Leap Of Faith



Gabrielle Douglas is a two-time Olympic gold medalist. At the 2012 Summer Olympics, she made history, becoming the first US gymnast to take home a team and an individual gold medal in the same Olympics. Gabrielle began her training at age six, and became the Virginia State Champion only two years later. When she was fourteen, she left her family in Virginia Beach to train with coach Liang Chow in Des Moines, Iowa. Under Chow's guidance, and with tremendous faith in God's plan for her, Gabrielle competed in the Olympic Trials and walked away with the only guaranteed spot on the team. Since her Olympic triumph, Gabrielle has used her platform to inspire millions with a powerful message: With hard work and persistence, any dream is possible. Visit her online at www.gabrielledouglas.com Michelle Burford is a #1 New York Times bestselling collaborative writer and a founding editor of O, The Oprah Magazine. She is a Harvard-trained journalist whose work has taken her to more than 35 countries on six continents. A native of Phoenix, Michelle now resides in New York City. Visit her online at www.MichelleBurford.com

As an older woman, Gabrielle Douglas story inspires and deeply touches me. I remember watching her with such rapt attention and admiration during the summer Olympics and reminiscing how nearly 20 years earlier, I watched Dominique Dawes with the same feelings. Amazing! Nearly two years later, I tune in to watch the Lifetime biopic and my eyes start to tear up as before the opening. Teary-eyed and proud, I made it through the biopic. And now, with her memoir, I am awarded the opportunity to dive deeper into her story. Fortunately, I read her memoir on my Kindle so my tears did not cause any damage. This is an truly inspirational story. It saddens me that young minority women have to endure any form of racism but as I think about it the Civil Rights Movement occurred in 1960s after 200 years of slavery and a systemized form of oppression. A lot of prejudice and racial bias is still buried deep. Alas, what does not kill you makes you stronger. I am glad that Gabrielle is receiving all the accolades as it is well deserved. I hope her story continues to inspire minority girls to enroll in gymnastics and I hope they pay special attention on the backlash Gabby receives and how well she handles it.

One is struck by how young Gabrielle was when this book was written! Certainly 4 years and life's ups and down have matured her since that time. Almost everyone knows Gabrielle Douglas did not do as well at the 2016 Olympic games as she did in 2012. But the story is a very worthwhile read, as it charts the early life and challenges of an extremely talented young lady. I learned a great deal about the natural talent, training, and dedication needed to get where this athlete did. And not only on her part, but it took a lot of dedication for her family as well. It is blatantly obvious faith in God's

faithfulness was huge in the entire process. Like anyone else, Gabrielle has weaknesses and has had disappointments. But she is a true champion. And her story isn't over yet.

My husband bought this book for our daughter for Christmas. Our daughter has done competitive gymnastics since age 6 and is now 11 years old. A lot of hours, intense training and effort goes into this sport and the fact that our daughter misses out on a lot of things that other kids her age gets to do comes up sometimes. This book is a great read and realization for anyone considering the sport or currently in gymnastics that will open the eyes to the fact that the road to success is not always easy, but as the great Napoleon Hill said, "Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve."

Lovely story of faith, hope, love, and achievement. If you did not believe in God, you should now! I highly recommend for everyone, especially little girls who have big dreams and aspirations.

Gabrielle Douglas is truly an inspiration.

Are you a teen athlete or the parent supporting the dream of one? Gabby Douglas unlocks her story, and in doing so, she inspires the young athletes and their parents who follow a similar path. Giving the glory to God, Gabby is living proof that faith and family sustain when the physical body and mind fall short. When I read the end of chapter 18, my eyes filled with tears. Gabby knows my daughter's conflict! It isn't just me as a mom and my daughter as a Junior Olympic athlete (a diver, not a gymnast, but it all rings true, regardless of the sport). Even the best, most talented, and most successful like Gabby Douglas are torn between being a top-performing athlete and being a normal teenager. Her writing sings to the heart of a teen, phrased in a way that lets your mind imagine the exact words coming from a little personal text message from Gabby to you. She empowers her decisions with Biblical truth, and in doing so, she helps us believe that God's plan is perfect, no matter how the world may convince you otherwise. This is a must-read, and I can hardly wait until Christmas day, when my daughter can devour Gabby's inspiring words.

I absolutely love this story!!!! I purchased it on audio/CD format so I can listen to it over and over again. I am not a gymnast but I am inspired to pursue my dreams all the more with an unwavering faith thanks to this story!!!! So grateful to have this story of hope, faith, love, and triumph over adversity!!!! Another one added to my arsenal of daily motivation. Thank you to Gabrielle and your wonderful Mother and Siblings :-) for letting your light shine so

bright that you inspire the world to do the same

I think she is a great leader to the next generation of gymnasts. It's not an easy sport. Having people to look up to is a big deal. Gymnastics hold some of my BEST childhood memories and a few of the most crazy ones too. It's more of a mentally-tough spiritual path than just a sport. She has put a little of the meaningfulness inside the secret-planet sort-of world of a tumbler into words anyone can journey there with.

Gabby Douglas was recently named Associated Press's Female Athlete of the Year. In this novel, Douglas reveals her story of discovering gymnastics and eventually training for the Olympics. Aside from them, readers also get a look into her family life. As a single mother, Douglas's mother works hard to support her daughter's dream, financially and mentally. Also included is a brief look at Gabby's father, who has been absent for much of her life. This is an inspirational novel. Everyone saw Gabby's performance at the Olympics, but in this novel, readers get a glimpse of the real Gabby Douglas: an American teenager who happens to enjoy gymnastics. One thing that I enjoyed about this novel was that it sounds like a teenager wrote it. Normally, this would usually be a bad thing, but in this case, it's not. After all, Gabby Douglas is a teenager, and it made the novel much more personal. I recommend this novel to anyone who enjoys the Olympics, gymnastics, or just loves a great story!

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