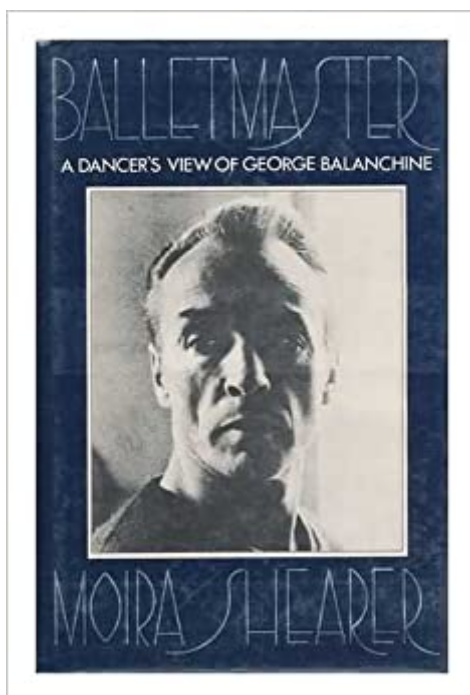


The book was found

Balletmaster



Synopsis

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Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Sidgwick & Jackson Ltd; illustrated edition edition (October 23, 1986)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0283993340

ISBN-13: 978-0283993343

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 1.2 x 11.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,270,966 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Choreography #6059 in Books > Arts & Photography
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Customer Reviews

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I love anything I can find to read or see about this ballerina. However, this book was good, but was more about Mr. Balanchine than Ms. Shearer. Just be prepared for more of George than Moira if you purchase this book.

Have to admit that I wondered if this was ghost-written, that is, whether Ms. Shearer's name was used to sell the book because it wasn't clear to me that she herself had much of a foundation of personal knowledge of Balanchine. Most of the book's discussion was based on research or interviews of people. One wonders why she was motivated to write the book. I think she had a crush on him to some degree. I thought her perceptions about Balanchine seemed quite on the mark and quite balanced. Shearer saw the positives and negatives of Balanchine (personally and professionally), and various contradictions in his personality and behavior. What came across was that he was an energetic creative genius but not a people person. He could be charming when he chose to be, but also was abrasive and controlling. She described his obsessions with his muses as detached, almost non-sexual. This enabled him to remain friends with all of them after the relationships were over. Shearer stated that Zorina was his great love, yet she was the least

"ballerina" of all. According to Shearer, their relationship was the only personality-driven one rather than dance-driven. The book was an enjoyable read that covered a wide time range in an efficient manner. It consolidated what is presented in another of other sources.

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