



## Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova

By Laurel Snyder

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**Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova** By Laurel Snyder

**"Spare, poetic words sit as lightly as snowflakes."--Wall Street Journal**

**"An enchanting glimpse of a dancer whose name has come to be synonymous with her most famous role."--School Library Journal, starred review**

One night, young Anna's mother takes her to the ballet, and everything is changed. So begins the journey of a girl who will one day grow up to be the most famous prima ballerina of all time, inspiring legions of dancers after her: the brave, the generous, the transcendently gifted Anna Pavlova. *Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova* is a heartbreakingly beautiful picture book biography perfect for aspiring ballerinas of all ages.

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### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 1–4—This tall, graceful picture book captures the artistic spirit, if not the entire biography, of one of the world's prima ballerinas. Pavlova's humble beginnings and early life in 19th-century tsarist Russia are merely hinted at, though spelled out more fully in an appended author's note. The spare, lyrical text instead offers imagery that is more poetic than concrete. For example, when the curtain rises on Pavlova: "She steps onto the stage alone.../and sprouts white wings, a swan./She weaves the notes, the very air/into a story.../Anna is a bird in flight,/a whim of wind and water./Quiet feathers in a big loud world./Anna is the swan." Morstad's artwork—done in ink, gouache, graphite, pencil, and crayon—is stylized and understated, with backdrops that suggest stage sets more than landscapes or domestic scenes. On nearly every page, the lithe and lovely figure of Pavlova appears, usually in motion, always the embodiment of beauty and grace. Even her illness and death are presented in a dramatic, theatrical manner—fitting somehow for someone who lived and breathed the stage. **VERDICT** An enchanting glimpse of a dancer whose name has come to be synonymous with her most famous role.—Luann Toth, School Library Journal

Review

"In her day, Pavlova traveled the world to bring ballet to new audiences, and today this inspiring entry point brings her to new, even aspiring fans." -San Francisco Chronicle

"With beautiful, graceful illustrations and poetic text, this book captures the spirit and charm of one of history's prima ballerinas."--Parents Press

Cool Mom Picks' 10 Most Empowering Books for Girls

"Young ballet lovers will be smitten with the story."--Kirkus Reviews

"The words feel like a poem, and the artwork is outstanding. It is a seriously beautiful book."--Design Mom

"Exquisite."-The Horn Book Magazine

"Elegantly captures the meaning of Anna Pavlova's extraordinary life...inspiring."--The San Francisco Chronicle

"Captures Pavlova's essence beautifully."-Booklist

"As graceful in both visual and written line as the dancer it portrays, it is unrelenting in its depiction of work, inspiration and generosity."--Esme Codell, The Planet Esme Plan

"An enchanting glimpse of a dancer whose name has come to be synonymous with her most famous role."--School Library Journal, starred review

"A tender, delicate recounting."-Publishers Weekly

"A masterpiece."--How Does She?

About the Author

Laurel Snyder is the author of picture books, novels, and several collections of poetry. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, she grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where she studied ballet at the Peabody Preparatory, Caryl Maxwell Ballet, and the Cultural Arts Institute. She now lives in Atlanta, Georgia, where she continues to dance, but mostly in her kitchen.

Julie Morstad is an award-winning artist who divides her creative energy between drawing, illustration, animation, and design. She lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **George Hardy:**

As people who live in the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era and that is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to you is you don't know which one you should start with. This Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and want in this era.

#### **Tara Carlson:**

Now a day those who Living in the era just where everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not demand people to be aware of each information they get. How individuals to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Studying a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information particularly this Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova book as this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the information in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

#### **Lyle Morales:**

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a guide then become one type conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get previous to. The Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova giving you an additional experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful facts for your better life in this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

#### **Robert Bowser:**

That publication can make you to feel relax. This particular book Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova was multi-colored and of course has pictures around. As we know that book Swan: The Life and

Dance of Anna Pavlova has many kinds or style. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and think that you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book are make you bored, any it offers up you feel happy, fun and loosen up. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading this.

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