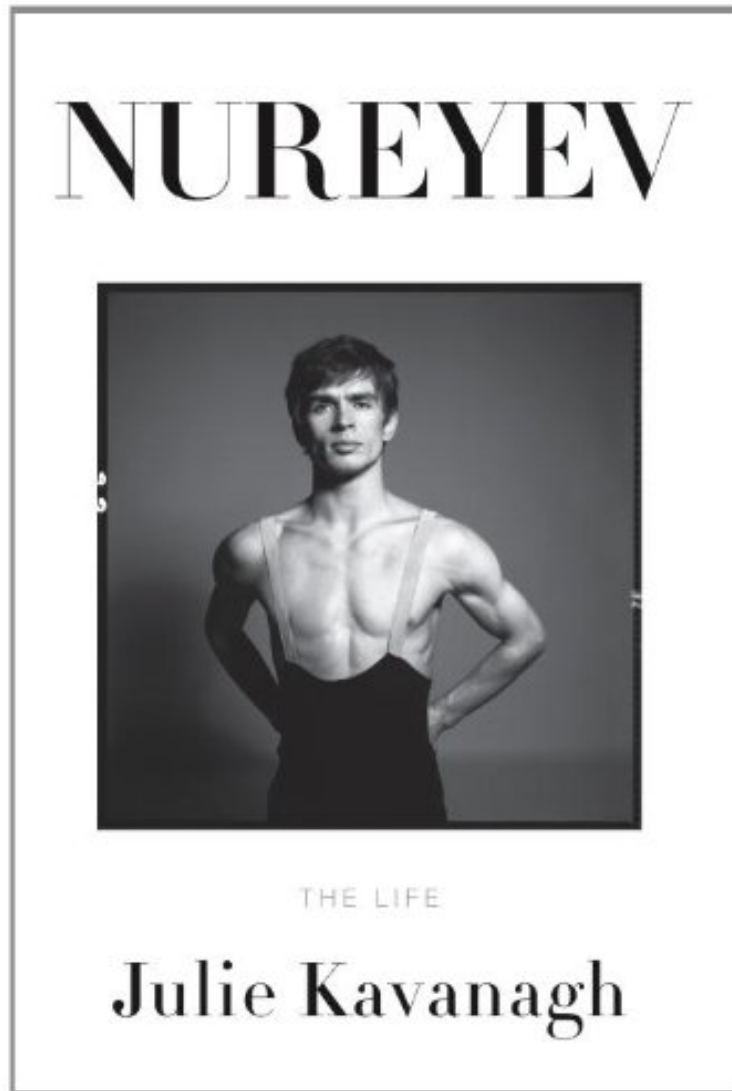


[Download free ebook] Nureyev: The Life

Nureyev: The Life

Julie Kavanagh

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#487619 in eBooks 2011-10-12 2011-10-12 File Name: B005O1BYXW | File size: 59.Mb

Julie Kavanagh : Nureyev: The Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nureyev: The Life:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive but difficult to followBy sharon_beth_longAlthough this biography does not add too much new to Solway's (I do not know why Solway's book is not listed in this book's bibliography) it is well researched and comprehensive and had a nice writing style. However for me the purpose in reading biography is to understand how a person developed. The middle of it, that is, the part about Nuureyev's working adulthood, is not linear but thematic. The author discusses events concerning topics like filming Nureyev's dancing or his dealings with a particular person that happened ten years apart in the same paragraph and sometimes

even in the same sentence. Dates when Nureyev was doing certain things or when certain things happened to him need to be made much clearer. We do not need a datebook of every tour but it is hard to follow how things developed in his life and work when the narrative is not linear and dates are not always stated. I agree with the others that there was not enough analysis of various aspects of Nureyev's life and his motivations in spite of the length of the book. A biography does not have to be a complete psychological analysis but Nureyev himself was pretty self analytic in spite of the fact that (as I read elsewhere) that he never did psychoanalysis because he believed that part of his strength lied in being impulsive and not second guessing himself. As a psychiatric nurse it seems to me that he had a very narcissistic personality and had some manic depressive tendencies. I would not have been surprised if he were also on amphetamines which in these days were not considered illegal substances and this would account for his mood swings as well as excess energy. In spite of the length of the book I believe that I actually got more insight of Nureyev's personality and motivations from Rudi Van Dantzig's memoir of him. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Incredible Nureyev By Wanda Garofalo As I already had a tattered paperback copy of this book, I purchased this one as a replacement. When I finished reading this book in 2008, I was astonished by this incredibly complicated man and the story of his (short) life's journey, but I was not sure that I liked him. I was fascinated by him, so I proceeded to read all (except those publications not translated into English) I could about him. I have also had the pleasure of meeting several people who knew him personally. While they do not dispute Ms. Kavanagh's narrative, they feel that her concentration on his questionable escapades obscures his great art, his talent, his enormous contribution to his discipline and many other positive sides to his personality. They loved him, as did many wonderful people. Apparently, he wasn't always a "bad" boy. The book is long and more of that length could have been devoted to his many triumphs. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great read due its truly describing the risk taking By Carol Davids A great read due its truly describing the risk taking, persistence, and absolute devotion of a genius and his love for ballet. His mission to restore the ballet in its many forms to all ages all over the world was herculean. Kavanagh allows the reader to feel well deserved empathy toward Nureyev and also respect for his dedication and passion without "glossing over" his humanity.

Rudolf Nureyev had it all: beauty, genius, charm, passion, and sex appeal. No other dancer of our time has generated the same excitement, for both men and women, on or off the stage. With *Nureyev: The Life*, Julie Kavanagh shows how his intense drive and passion for dance propelled him from a poor, Tatar-peasant background to the most sophisticated circles of London, Paris, and New York. His dramatic defection to the West in 1961 created a Cold War crisis and made him an instant celebrity, but this was just the beginning. Nureyev spent the rest of his life breaking barriers: reinventing male technique, "crashing the gates" of modern dance, iconoclastically updating the most hallowed classics, and making dance history by partnering England's prima ballerina assoluta, Margot Fonteyn--a woman twice his age. He danced for almost all the major choreographers--Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine, Kenneth MacMillan, Jerome Robbins, Maurice Beaudine, Roland Petit--his main motive, he claimed, for having left the Kirov. But Nureyev also made it his mission to stage Russia's full-length masterpieces in the West. His highly personal productions of *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, *Raymonda*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *La Bayadere* are the mainstays of the Paris Opera Ballet repertory to this day. An inspirational director and teacher, Nureyev was a Diaghilev-like mentor to young proteges across the globe--from Karen Kain and Monica Mason (now directors themselves), to Sylvie Guillem, Elisabeth Platel, Laurent Hilaire and Kenneth Greve. Sex, as much as dance, was a driving force for Nureyev. From his first secret liaison in Russia to his tempestuous relationship with the great Danish dancer Erik Bruhn, we see not only Nureyev's notorious homosexual history unfold, but also learn of his profound effect on women--whether a Sixties wild child or Jackie Kennedy and Lee Radziwill or the aging Marlene Dietrich. Among the first victims of AIDS, Nureyev was diagnosed HIV positive in 1984 but defied the disease for nearly a decade, dancing, directing the Paris Opera Ballet, choreographing, and even beginning a new career as a conductor. Still making plans for the future, Nureyev finally succumbed and died in January 1993. Drawing on previously undisclosed letters, diaries, home-movie footage, interviews with Nureyev's inner circle, and her own dance background, Julie Kavanagh gives the most intimate, revealing, and dramatic picture we have ever had of this dazzling, complex figure. NOTE: This edition does not include photos.