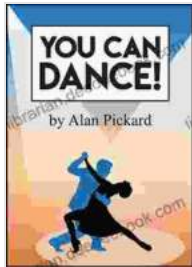


You Can Dance: A Personal Journey with Alan Pickard



You Can Dance! by Alan Pickard

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 408 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Print length	: 71 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported



Alan Pickard is a world-renowned dancer, teacher, and choreographer whose work has had a profound impact on the dance world. His unique blend of technical virtuosity, artistic sensitivity, and pedagogical brilliance has inspired generations of dancers and choreographers alike. In this article, we will delve into Pickard's personal journey, exploring his life, work, and the legacy he has left behind.

Early Life and Training

Alan Pickard was born in London, England, in 1952. From an early age, he displayed an exceptional talent for dance and began taking ballet lessons at the age of six. At the age of 16, he was accepted into the prestigious Royal Ballet School, where he studied under the tutelage of Dame Ninette de Valois and Sir Frederick Ashton. During his time at the Royal Ballet

School, Pickard received a rigorous training in classical ballet, which laid the foundation for his future success.

Professional Career as a Dancer

After graduating from the Royal Ballet School, Pickard joined the Royal Ballet Company, where he quickly rose through the ranks. He was known for his exceptional technical abilities, particularly his soaring jumps and lightning-fast turns. In 1976, Pickard was promoted to principal dancer, becoming one of the youngest dancers to ever achieve this rank in the company's history. During his time with the Royal Ballet, Pickard danced a wide range of roles, including leading parts in classics such as "Swan Lake," "Don Quixote," and "The Nutcracker." He also worked with renowned choreographers such as Kenneth MacMillan, Glen Tetley, and Rudolf Nureyev.

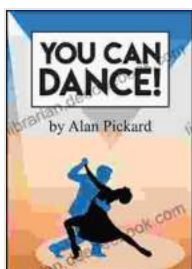
Transition to Teaching and Choreography

In 1982, Pickard decided to retire from dancing to focus on teaching and choreography. He began teaching at the Royal Ballet School and the London Contemporary Dance School. His teaching method was characterized by a strong emphasis on technical excellence, combined with an encouragement for his students to explore their own creativity and artistic expression. Pickard's choreography was often experimental and innovative, blending classical ballet with modern dance techniques. He created works for companies such as the Royal Ballet, the New York City Ballet, and the Netherlands Dance Theater.

Legacy and Impact

Alan Pickard's legacy as a dancer, teacher, and choreographer is vast and enduring. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential figures in contemporary dance. His technical brilliance and artistic sensitivity have inspired countless dancers and choreographers, and his teaching has helped to shape generations of dance artists. Pickard's work has also had a significant impact on the development of dance education and pedagogy. He has developed a unique approach to teaching that emphasizes the importance of creativity, personal expression, and technical excellence.

Alan Pickard is a true legend in the world of dance. His journey from a young boy with a passion for dance to one of the most acclaimed dancers, teachers, and choreographers of his time is an inspiration to us all. His work has had a profound impact on the dance world, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come. You Can Dance, indeed!



You Can Dance! by Alan Pickard

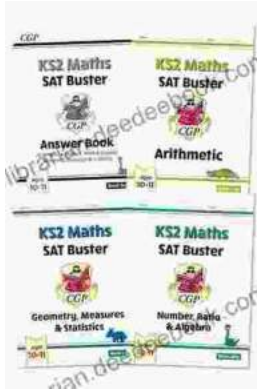
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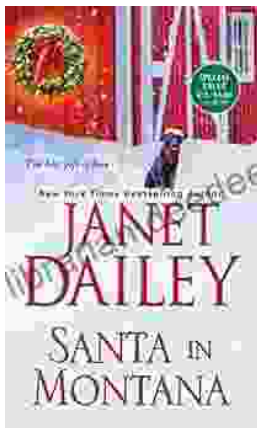
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