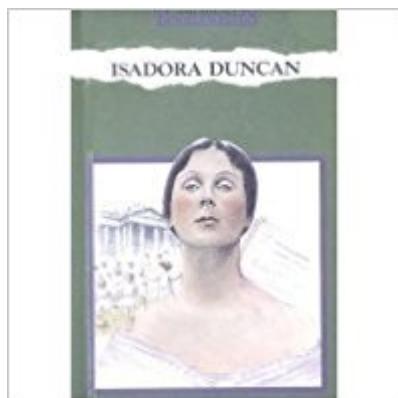


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Isadora Duncan (American Troublemakers)



Synopsis

Book by Larry Sandomir

Book Information

Age Range: 12 and up

Series: American Troublemakers

Library Binding: 128 pages

Publisher: Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers (September 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0811423808

ISBN-13: 978-0811423809

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6.5 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

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Customer Reviews

Grade 7 Up?An adequate but somewhat dry biography of one of the pioneers of modern dance.

Very little information is given about the society in which Duncan lived or why her behavior (fairly tame by present-day standards) was considered shocking by the Victorians and Edwardians.

Readers are also given few details about dance at that time. Sandomir reinforces the fact that Duncan objected to dancing on pointe and that she liked to dance barefoot and wear loose, flowing robes, but does not explain how this or her other innovations changed the art or influenced those who came after her. Not only are readers never given a feel for time or place, but the subject herself never emerges as a fleshed-out, interesting personality. The book is illustrated with small, dark, black-and-white photographs and has a dense, crowded format. Barbara O'Connor's Barefoot Dancer (Carolrhoda, 1994) is a superior choice. ?Kay McPherson, Central Atlanta-Fulton Public Library, GA

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