

A Dancer's Tale: The Story of Phyllis Spira



English

Non Fiction

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Once upon a time, in Joburg's Orange Grove, a little girl called Phyllis was born into the world.

Two people in love, hugged their sweet little babe. No one knew then, what a dancer they'd made.

By the time she was four,
she had learned very quick.
She impressed all her teachers,
with her ducky feet flicks!

Before school and after,
she danced everyday.
Nothing pleased Phyllis,
more than ballet.





When the world was ready
for Phyllis at fifteen,
She arrived in big, old London,
ready to live her dream.

She said goodbye to all her friends.
She was ready to start fresh.
Watch out Royal Ballet School!
Phyllis is here to impress.

When Phyllis danced Swan Lake,
it was fit to show the Queen!
After years of pirouetting,
she was ready to be seen.



Dancing for the audience,
she turned and twirled about.
Look! Everyone is smiling!
See how they clap and shout!



From Mexico to Canada.
From the USA to France.
Phyllis travelled far and wide,
so the world could see her dance.

With the Royal Ballet Company,
and her ballerina friends,
she spread her love for ballet.
She never wanted it to end.

Phyllis always knew,
that dance was in her heart.
But she longed to return home
again, and make a fresh new start.

So she leaped and bounded,
back to her beautiful land.
Her ballerina roots were regrown.
She was once more South African.



Dancing wasn't just for fun,
as Phyllis always knew.
She'd work at dancing day and night,
and with hard work she grew.



Always smiling, always trying,
through good times and through
tough,
Phyllis always did her best.
She couldn't get enough.

Romeo and Juliet,
Swan Lake and Giselle.
Phyllis danced these for the people:
graceful, tireless, well.



With partners Gary Burne
and Eduard Greyling too,
her magnificence inspired the
audience.
To her, flowers they threw.

Reward comes easily,
when you put yourself to the test.
Phyllis came to realise this,
once she was called ‘The Best.’

She was awarded ‘Prima Ballerina
Assoluta.’

The greatest dancer of them all!
Phyllis would be forever known.
She wanted nothing more.



Goodness! What a catch!
Phyllis met her loving partner.
His name was Phillip Boyd.
He was another dancer.



Together they were married.
And together they would dance.
No one could be better matched,
given half the chance!

Though they had no children,
Phyllis and Phillip were never sad.
The two of them found another way
to help other Mums and Dads.



They started Dance For All,
a special school for dance.
So that children with no money,
could also learn to prance!



She left a legacy of dance,
and incredible success.
Her magic was passed on to others
to help them become their best.

Her students spread across the
world,
inspired by her ducky feet.
They dance on while we watch,
dreaming from our seats.

