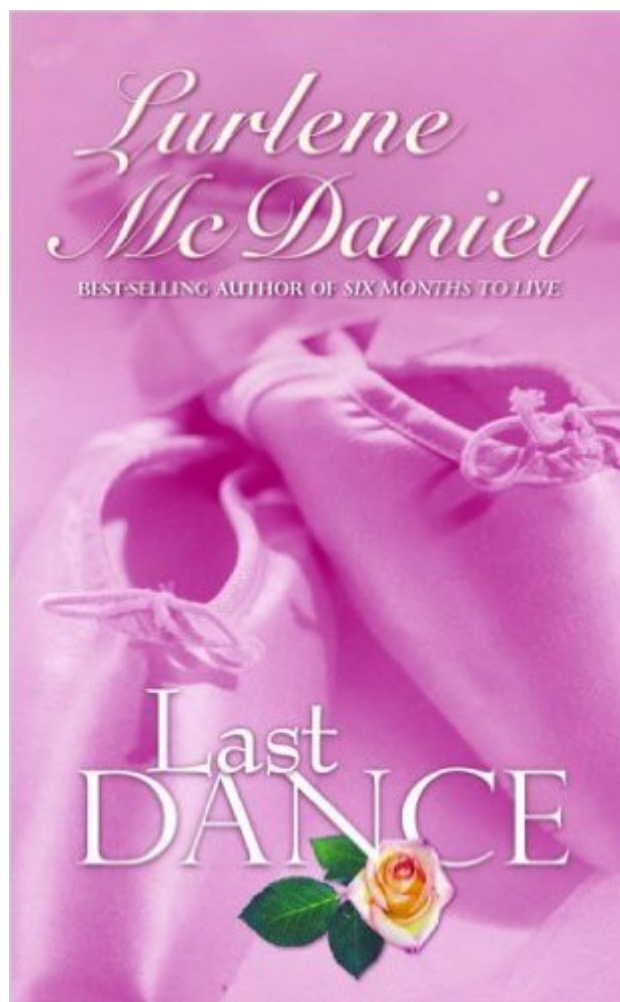


The book was found

Last Dance



Synopsis

Rachel Deering has her eyes on her toes: she wants to become a world-class ballerina. As a 14-year-old, she is already one of the best dancers in the country. Just as she prepares for an audition for an opening with a prestigious dance troupe, Rachel starts having some very disturbing symptoms. After collapsing at school, she has many tests and her doctor tells her the news: She has diabetes. Now her world consists of blood tests, insulin shots, a controlled diet, and constant fear that she will have a reaction and end up unable to dance—or worse.

Book Information

Paperback: 143 pages

Publisher: Darby Creek Publishing (February 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 158196031X

ISBN-13: 978-1581960310

Product Dimensions: 4.3 x 0.4 x 6.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #700,970 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Performing Arts > Dance](#)

Customer Reviews

Have you ever wanted something so bad but watched it fade away from your fingertips? Rachel Deering has. In the book *The Last Dance* by Lurlene McDaniel, Rachel Deering is a teenage girl who wants to become a professional dancer and with the help of Madame Pershoff she just might. When there is an audition to tryout for a company scholarship to the School of American Ballet of the New York City Ballet she really feels that she has a good chance of winning. When she finds out that she has a life long illness she feels as if her life long dream has been shattered. With the help of her family members and friends, will she still be able to live her dream of becoming a professional dancer? Will she get through the illness? You will never know unless you read this beautifully written, page turning book.

Originally, this book was entitled "When Dreams Shatter", and was released in the mid-80s. After going out of print for awhile, I'm glad to see that it's made a comeback! Something is wrong with Rachael Deering. She's constantly thirsty, can't stop going to the bathroom, and she's losing weight.

Then after passing out in ballet class and being rushed to the hospital, the doctor delivers a devastating diagnosis, Type I diabetes. Her pancreas has quit producing insulin and as a result, she has to give up sugar, count every calorie, and give herself two shots a day just to survive. Before her diagnosis, Rachael had dreams of becoming a famous ballerina. Now she and her parents aren't sure whether or not she should pursue her dream. When she meets Sean, a fellow teenage diabetic and a soccer player, Rachael might just realize her dream after all...Knowing that Ms. McDaniel has a son who has been diabetic since the age of three, I believe that the majority of this story is based upon her experiences as a parent. I think she did an excellent job of dealing with such a tough subject, especially tough for a young person to deal with. I have been reading her books since I was eleven and I still continue to enjoy them now, as an adult.

I've read all of the fiction books that have type 1 diabetic main characters, which is why I bought this one. I used to read Lurlene McDaniel when I was in grade school, and I think that's who this is intended for. It's a decent story. "Last Dance" was written several years ago, copyrighted in 1982. This story was written 30 years ago. Knowing this book was written so long ago from the beginning of reading this story, I expected to find a lot of out-dated information in there regarding diabetes treatment. And I did. But, I was expecting that, so I didn't mind reading the old beliefs. That's the incredible thing about science and technology- we are always finding better ways to treat sicknesses. What I was surprised to read about, however, were the facts about diabetes which I've NEVER seen included in a fiction book before. I've read at least 10 books with diabetic storylines, and they have not once mentioned a few things "Last Dance" mentioned. Which actually made me appreciate McDaniel's research. She either has personal experience, or she is very thorough. Extremely short book. I think it's the smallest size I've ever seen, with large font, and 148 pages. I was shocked. The storyline was cute. A bit predictable. It was a decent book for young readers.

Rachel Deering loves to dance. She lives in Miami, Florida. Rachel went to school like a normal teenage girl does, she does her homework, hangs out with friends, and most of all loved to dance. Someday Rachel hoped to become a professional ballet dancer. When her ballet teacher tells her that the Christmas Ballet performance was coming up she got so excited she started rehearsing right away. One day when Rachel was at dance she passed out, then she was transported to the local hospital. When Rachel gets there she finds out that she has been diagnosed with diabetes, and thinks that her life has to come to an end until she meets Shawn when she meets Shawn he

changes everything. Shawn was so nice to her that he showed her that even though she has diabetes she can still follow her dreams. To find out the rest of the story you should read the book. I really like this book I thought it was a great book.

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