



To the Stars, Isabelle

Laurence Yep , Anna Kmet (Illustrations)

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Isabelle is doing great at the Anna Hart School of the Arts--her dancing idol Jackie Sanchez even invites her to go on tour! Isabelle jumps on board, but she quickly finds that the traveling show has its challenges, not the least of which is bossy Renata who was invited to come, too. When the dance show suddenly starts falling apart, Isabelle tries to help Jackie pull it back together--and begins to learn more about a mentor who encouraged Jackie to dance as a young girl. As Isabelle taps into her talents to try to save the show, she not only discovers who inspired Jackie, but also how she, herself, can inspire those around her.

To the Stars, Isabelle Details

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Author : Laurence Yep , Anna Kmet (Illustrations)

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Balletprincess says

This one gets five stars the relationship between Isabelle and Jade is realistic and stays real throughout the book. Jackie is an amazing character and has a big heart. I love how Isabelle and her rival understand each other at the end and how they dance at hospitals for the kids. With difficulty to the stars is a great motto and to the stars is the perfect title for this book. It made me want to do what I love, playing piano, more and hopefully I can perform for kids :)

noelle says

This was a good book, but the portrayal of Isabelle as nine years old and Jade as twelve years old was very unrealistic when, in fact! Isabelle was displayed closer to twelve years old, and Jade seems to be nearer to sixteen. This is especially noticeable in the movie made from the book, where the actress playing Isabelle is fifteen.

Avery McClure says

Best Book Ever!!!!!!

This is an AMAZING book!! It is very encouraging and fun even if you aren't a dancer!! I wholeheartedly recommend the whole series but ESPECIALLY this one.

Sierra says

Isabelle gets to do a tour with her idol Jackie Sanchez They will preform in front of hospitals and rest homes. Isabelle and her best friend are going to their pirate rutine with solos and the solos are made by Jackie. Jackie loves Isabelle and keeps giving her attion when she tells these things to her sister she gets jealous.

Jennifer says

True rating: 4.5 stars.

Easily the best of the trilogy, especially in terms of plot. Several touching moments, and Isabelle's natural and welcome emotional growth, top off a satisfying read. The series should make a good movie if American Girl decides to market one as they did for Saige and McKenna.

Lexi says

A "meh" end to the series. Every conflict in Isabelle's life was wrapped up neatly in a bow, including the mean girl who bullied her through the entire series, who now suddenly thinks she's wonderful. I'm not sure how much of that was Mr. Yep's decision and how much was American Girl's, but boo to whoever it was for giving girls unrealistic expectations.

Julie G Snow says

Dance

Dance

Isabelle was just so inspiring. Jade helped too she was the one who helped Isabelle on the way of her mistakes.

Emily says

I liked reading about their tours and how they overcame obstacles and how mature and talented of a person Isabelle seems to be for someone her age. She'll probably go on to do great things!

Hope Edwards says

I paid 35 cents for this book... I feel ripped off ?Honestly though, even though this book was very short it was incredibly boring and I found it difficult to get through. I almost DNFED it multiple times. Probably my least favorite American Girl book ever.

Xyra says

This one was a true four star read. I really liked it and even had a few tears in my eyes at one point.

The story point that contributed to really liking this book is that of jealousy and learning about others. It is in the this book where the jealousy theme between jade and Isabelle comes to a head. That being said, please note that the intensity is more like The Brady Bunch's Jan and Marcia; and I believe the "Marcia, Marcia, Marcia" episode has more drama to it. If you have children then you know that sibling rivalry is not nearly as neatly contained or resolved.

Of the three books, I feel this was the best. In it Isabelle pulls from lessons she learned in the previous two books to use deductive reasoning, rise above, and excel. She grows from student to leader helping others to do their very best.

As noted in my review of book two, the secondary and tertiary characters are really flat. Luisa, in particular,

could have had much more definition in her role as best friend.

However, there was great detail in describing some scenes and emotions. Isabelle's enthusiasm working directly with Jackie became a true presence as I read. I was as fan struck as she was - can you imagine working with your favorite person one-on-one? That scenario was presented really well.

Overall, this was a touching conclusion to Isabelle's story. The character struggled and learned from her mistakes and rose above a few (very few) obstacles to become a stronger performer, individual, and sister.

Marian says

Not the target audience for the book, but I enjoy a good kid's book all the same. Thing is, Isabelle is one of those characters who waffles between incredibly likable and "if I knew you in reality, I would probably dislike you immensely" which, I admit, sounds crazy. But for all she messes up in her dancing, she's pretty spectacular all around the board. She gets to hang out with her idol and earns said idol's respect (and first pair of dance shoes), she becomes the leader of her little group, she dances well enough to impress her idol and others when she manages to stop overthinking things, and oh yeah, she's also a design ~star~.

So fun to read about until someone (in this book, it's usually Jade) points out that it's all a little too much, a little too over the top.

I enjoyed the books and think they were written well, but I do wonder why she had to be so very, very good at everything?

Laura says

Fun story

Toryn says

Amazing book!

storystereo says

I don't think this is the strongest of the series. I think that some parts were too far-fetched, not plausible enough for me. A younger read would like it better, though.

Still, I thought it was good. I liked it better than I thought I would. I also love the end, how it was done and all. Very moving, and I have to say I like the note it ended on.

PWRL says

SM
