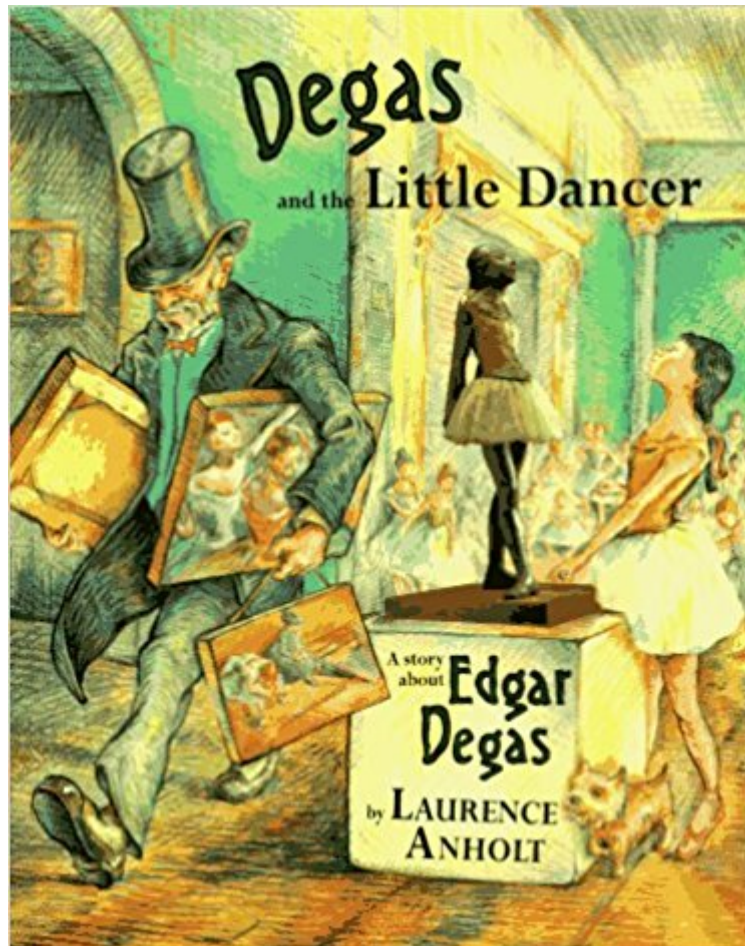




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# Degas And The Little Dancer



## Synopsis

Many years ago, Marie hoped to be a famous ballerina, but because her family had too little money for lessons she began modeling at the ballet school. The painter for whom she modeled was the artist, Edgar Degas. As Degas' figure of The Little Dancer took shape, Marie began to feel sympathy for the bad-tempered artist. When the sculpture was finished, thousands of art lovers came to see the statue, making Marie the most famous dancer of all. Here is an exquisite introduction to the life of a great nineteenth-century French artist, with beautiful impressionistic illustrations and reproductions of Degas' own work.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series; For the Us ed. edition (August 1, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0812065832

ISBN-13: 978-0812065831

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.3 x 10.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 47 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #508,976 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #220 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art #1262 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Laurence Anholt has created a gorgeous picture story book that explores the background of Marie and how she became Degas' model || Art comes to life ... The 'real' paintings mesh cleverly with Anholt's lively illustrations || If you believe in the power of picture books to hook children both on stories and on art, then Laurence Anholt's series on the great artists is for you. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Laurence Anholt is part of a husband-and-wife team who have worked together on more than 60 picture books, published all over the world in more than 17 different languages. Their picture books -

including the Chimp and Zee series - have won numerous awards and have been featured on television and radio. Laurence has been described by William Watt as one of the most versatile authors writing for children today. He was brought up mainly in Holland where he developed a lasting passion for art. He is a much sought after public speaker, appearing at conferences such as the European Council of International Schools Conference, the Northern Children's Book Festival and the Edinburgh Festival. To visit the Anholts' website [click here](#) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book serves more than one purpose. It is a short, but entertaining read for a child or for a parent to read to their children. The story is about Marie, a young girl in France who is loved by her poor, but hard-working parents. They work long hours to save money to send her to ballet school - as it is her dream to become the world's most famous ballerina. When her father becomes ill and can no longer afford to pay for her classes, the famous artist Edgar Degas offers to pay her for modeling for him. He is mean, short-tempered and impatient with Marie, making her hold poses for hours until her neck aches. One night, however, she finds out just a little of what is under the surface of Degas' rough exterior and feels sorry for him, giving him her long hair ribbon. Even her modeling pay cannot sustain the cost of her classes, so she must give up her dream. Later, she and her parents receive an invitation to a gallery showing of Degas' work - the center piece is the only sculpture of his ever displayed during his lifetime - it is of Marie - and unlike other statues, hers is wearing a tutu and the beautiful hair ribbon she gave him. The story is not only entertaining, but it tells children that while some people may act mean or rude, it may be because they are hurting on the inside - and extending friendship to someone who behaves in such a manner can truly make a difference in their life and in yours. The story is peppered with illustrations of Marie and her family, as well as photos of Degas' paintings and of course, his famous sculpture. Information about the names of the paintings and the museums where they are displayed is also cited at the end of the book. This doesn't have to be just a book for girls - even young boys will see a universal truth - we can always have dreams and even though they may not come true the way we envisioned them, we never know what wonderful surprises are around the corner.

Beautiful story with just the right message of doing what you love & enduring the tough times. You never know what blessing life will bring.

Bought it to accompany Degas ballerina bronze .Perfect gift!

Great book for my students.

This is the second book in this art series by Laurence Anholt, that I've purchased for my 5-year old grand daughter. I love the mixture of classic paintings of the featured Artist along with the illustrations of the book. I also enjoy how the author weaves the story of a fictional young child interacting within the artist's world. I'll be buying more of Mr Anholt 's books - a great way to introduce art appreciation to young children.

This is a great story, also includes a fantastic bio in the back. Beautifully colored pictures, this really opens up your children to learning more about the greatest impressionists.

Again part of my Preschool Art History lesson & the children really felt for the characters. What great non-fiction books!

My daughter loves art and museums. We bought her this book after reading about Degas in the Olivia book. It was a perfect prelude to going to the Metropolitan Museum in NYC. The MET has a version of the sculpture discussed in the book and several Degas ballerina paintings as well. We brought the book to the museum with us. One note, there are some sad themes in the story, which made our 3.5 yr old daughter a little sad, but in the end, they are good life lessons.

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