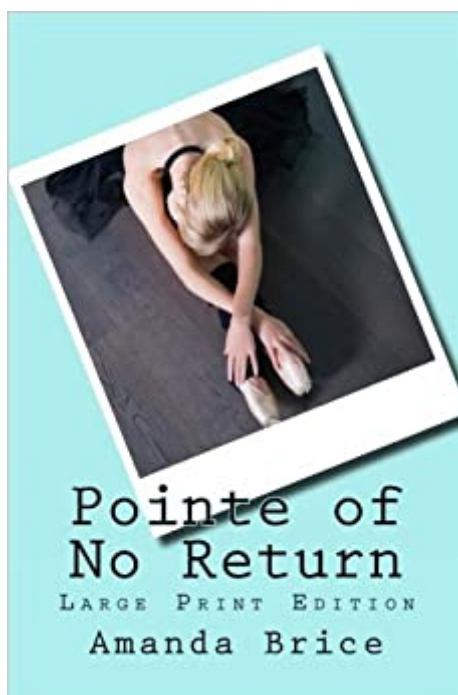


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Pointe Of No Return (Large Print Edition): A Dani Spevak Mystery



Synopsis

LARGE PRINT EDITION It's the most wonderful time of the year... Aspiring ballerina Dani Spevak's visions of sugar plums are dashed when she's assigned to understudy her nemesis, Hadley Taylor, in the Nutcracker. Pretty, popular, and rich, that girl has all the luck. Or so she thought. When Hadley mysteriously disappears with opening night just around the corner, Dani can't sit idly by, even if it means losing the part. Now she's running all over Phoenix in a race against the clock. From reality TV trophy wives to sleazy real estate developers to a possible drug ring, the cast of suspects begins to add up. Will she find Hadley before the curtain rises? Book 2 in the Dani Spevak Mystery Series.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I enjoyed this book, although it was written for teens or maybe even preteens. Yes, it was pretty obvious "who dun it", but it was still a fun read. Dani acts with typical 14 year old impulsiveness as she strives to solve the mystery of WHO might want to disrupt a TV series filmed on her Arts high school campus. Her reactions to various handsome boys are handled in a purely non-sexual way, making Dani a great role model for younger readers! The other characters range from the BFF's to the campus snob, and are well-drawn. It's not often a book can have such a wide appeal to all ages, but this book does this remarkably well. There is a side bit about eating disorders which I found to be a good touch, again mostly for the younger readers who might be experiencing them and who need education and encouragement to seek counseling. I am looking forward to more in this series.

I wasn't sure how I'd like reading a young adult book with a 14 year old protagonist who goes to an elite arts school to practice dance (ballet specifically) and solves mysteries. But hey, I did have fond memories of Nancy Drew, so I took the plunge. I'm glad I did. Dani Spevak is a typical young teen (extraordinary dance skills aside). She's a freshman at a nationally recognized dance school in Arizona, a boarding school where the kids have a grueling academic, as well as arts schedule. Tryouts are on for the Nutcracker production, and although good, Dani realizes that this first year, she'll probably be assigned a snowflake role. Imagine her surprise when she discovers she's an understudy to the Sugar Plum Fairy role, and the dreaded diva Hadley Turner. It's a great honor to be an understudy to the lead, especially as a Freshman, but since she's been given no other role, Dani will work hard for the production and never make it on stage. Unless, that is, something happens to Hadley. Hadley vanishes, and Dani enthusiastically begins investigating her disappearance, as much because she loves amateur detective work as to clear her name as a suspect. The plot is nicely put together, and everything moves along at a steady pace. There is a bit of a love interest, and a whole host of friends and frenemies. This book is written from the point of view of a 14 year old, and not an adult stuck into a young body. The language, the tone, the thought process is absolutely true to the age of the heroine. That's a skilled bit of writing on Brice's part. I've got a 15 year old son, teen nieces, and since I horseback ride, I hang out at the stable with a lot of teenage girls. Teens are desperately trying to find themselves, and their place in a competitive and fast moving society. Dani Spevak is no different. The one complaint I have about the book is something that I've found typical with teens, especially girls. Dani meets Hadley's mom and can't see anything past the designer clothes, the bumpit hair, the botox and fake boobs. Kristen Taylor comes across as vapid, shallow as a saucer. There's got to be something deeper, something about Hadley's mom that we can connect with, but we just can't see it through a 14 year old lens. Later in the book we see Kristen Taylor a wreck, crying over the disappearance of her daughter, but even that seems flat. Yes, I know, the protagonist is 14, and I should give her a break, but I wanted Dani to be more sleuth-like in her assessment of others. I wanted her to shrewdly see beyond the surface. That made it difficult for me as an adult to give it a five star, but I did love it, and I think it will absolutely appeal to teens and to those adults that love young adult fiction. Rating it within the genre and as a book suitable for ages ten to fourteen,

Begin an ex Ballet Dancer I had to see what this book was about. Truly delightful! A great read very interesting!

I loved the ballet parts. I am a bit too old for some of this book, and I didn't like the snarky comments about the sheriff, they were completely unnecessary, and, in my opinion, not completely based in truth.

great book!! really liked it and would totally recommend if you love dance or mystery! I enjoyed it a lot

This book is very suspenseful and is an amazing book for dancers that are into mysteries. Also this book the main character Dani is easy to relate to.

I really liked how it used younger girls. It wasn't predictable, and that is good. I enjoyed this Dani Spevak mystery.

I think that the book was good had good things I hope that you think that the book is good

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