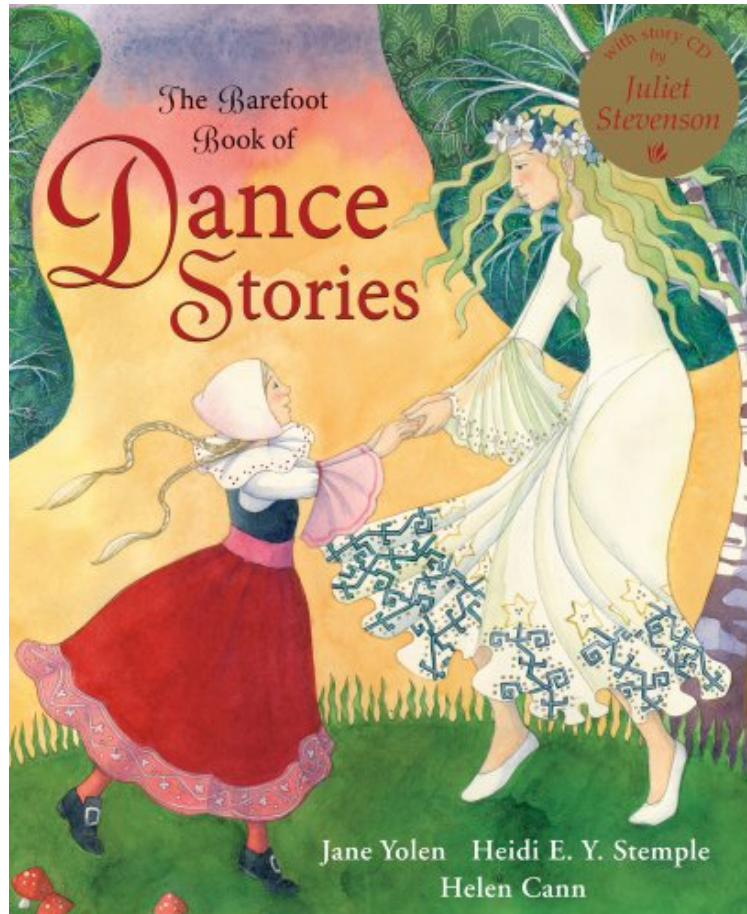


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The Barefoot Book of Dance Stories (Barefoot Books)

Jane Yolen, Heidi E Y Stemple
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#857158 in Books Barefoot Books 2010-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 .56 x 9.14 x 11.08l, 1.63
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Jane Yolen, Heidi E Y Stemple : The Barefoot Book of Dance Stories (Barefoot Books) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Barefoot Book of Dance Stories (Barefoot Books):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. My daughter has been reading this book for few years and still loves it By Sophie Huang My daughter has been reading this book for few years and still loves it! Story reader in the CD is one of the best, but her English accent is a bit hard for kids to get at the beginning. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Like Stories By Susan A. Berg I think dance teachers would enjoy using this book but I wish it had more ballet, jazz or modern dance concepts. It is a good book about ethnic dance. Good stories about culture. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Dance Stories That Don't Focus on Ballet By Heidi Anne Heiner This title should be a hit with dance lovers, especially since it offers introductory materials to other dance styles not usually found in children's books and ties them to stories from their respective cultures. The book essentially offers four different areas of information for readers. First, the table of contents is explained with short introductions to the tales

and the dances. Here's the table of contents without the glosses. 1. Waltz / Germany / Twelve Dancing Princesses 2. Noh Dancing / Japan / Robe of Feathers 3. Limbo / St. Vincent, West Indies / Making the Stone Smoke 4. Flamenco / Spain / The Shepherd's Flute 5. Polka / Czech Republic / Dancing with the Birch Fairy 6. Belly Dancing / Egypt / When the Goddess Danced 7. Scottish Reels / Scotland / Tam O'Shanter 8. Malian Dance / Mali / The Little Bird Who Went Dancing

Then the tales are presented with beautiful illustrations, all retold by Yolen and Stemple. Next there are Notes on the Dances with brief information about the dance, the usual costumes and the dance steps. There are no dancing diagrams (such as footwork patterns) just descriptions of the movement. Finally, a bibliography is offered with a minimum of eight sources for each tale and accompanying dance. (Full disclosure: SurLaLune is listed as a resource for Twelve Dancing Princesses.) In addition to the book, there is the CD of the tales read by Juliet Stevenson, which is a nice bonus for anyone, but especially nice for young dance lovers not quite up to the 8 and up reading level of the book. Overall, highly recommended for dance and folklore lovers, young or old. Jane and her daughter Heidi always retell the stories beautifully, presenting them to a modern audience. The illustrations are lovely and the bonus CD provides additional ways to enjoy the content. A great companion book is, of course, *The Barefoot Book of Ballet Stories* also by Yolen and Stemple.

Say it with dance! This gorgeous collection of stories from eight cultures will enchant young dancers. These eight stories each have a different dance as their central theme. End-notes explain the steps for each of the dances. Stunningly narrated by Juliet Stevenson.

From School Library Journal Gr 1-5 Anansi, witches, gods, goddesses, and fairies inhabit these adventurous, mysterious, and fanciful stories that capture the magical power of dance. In the lighthearted story of *The Shepherd's Flute*, even the sheep and the herding dog execute a joyful flamenco that is caught in charmingly humorous illustrations. From 12 waltzing princesses to the belly dancing Isis, the broad spectrum of the moods and movements of dance is highlighted. Malian dance, the polka, Japanese Noh dancing, and Scottish Reels are also spotlighted. The bright watercolor and mixed-media illustrations with stylized backgrounds feature sweeping curves and patterns that swirl as if dancing across the page, as dynamic and graceful characters engage in their activities. Additional information about the various dances is available in the endnotes. With all of the recent popularity of dance, these ageless tales may get readers moving to the beat.

Carol Schene, formerly at Taunton Public Schools, MA. (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From Booklist Magic intermingles with movement in nearly every story here, as Yolen and Stemple celebrate the powerful and often mystical charms of dance. Drawing on folklore from all over the world, from the well known (Germany's *The Twelve Dancing Princesses*) to the lesser so (Egypt's *When the Goddess Danced*), each story spotlights a different dancing style. Themes vary, but the tales feature some recurrent characters. And though the stories end on happy notes, there are some menacing figures along the way, especially the bright-red, horned-and-hoofed creature from *Tam O'Shanter*. Cann's watercolor-and-mixed-media illustrations pay vibrant tribute to each setting and culture, opening with the same landscape outline but distinguishing each via rich colors, fine details, and the joy of movement. Along with a story CD read beguilingly by Juliet Stevenson, the book contains a bibliography and brief endnotes about the style and steps of each dance. Grades 1-4.

--Abby Nolan

Once again authors Jane Yolen and Heidi E. Y. Stemple don't simply present charming prose (this time folktales from around the world), they offer educational tidbits about the actual dances prominent in each narrative... At the end of the book, a full page is dedicated to providing further information on the costumes, movement qualities, and an introduction to learning or watching each cultural dance. Like the *Ballet Collection*, a useful Bibliography is included for those who want explore further. Helen Cann's illustrations are as colorful as the stories they accompany and once again Juliet Stevenson narrates the story CD with sophistication. Aside from *The Twelve Dancing Princesses*, these folktales were not familiar to me and I learned something new about each dance form represented. Again, a wonderful gift for any young dancer or dance teacher, or a superb choice for your dance or school library. This book is useful and unique in its wider representation of dance throughout our world and exemplary samples of both the quality and mission of Barefoot Books.

--Dance Advantage