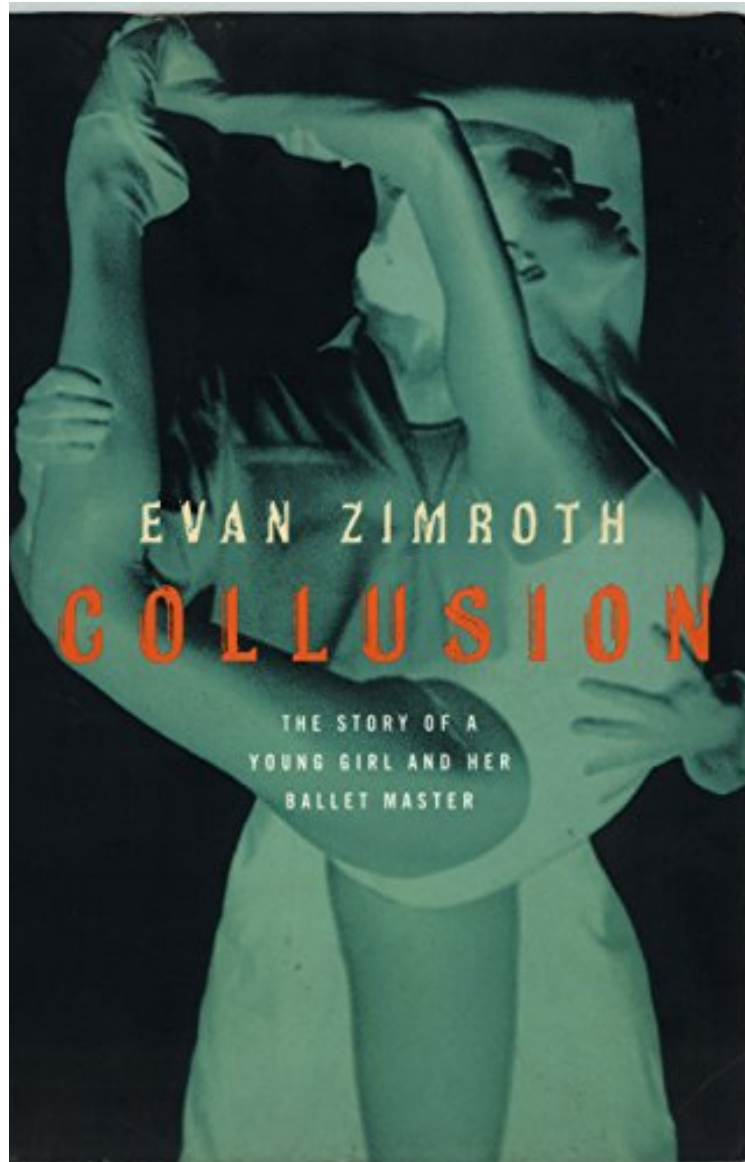


[Library ebook] Collusion: Young Girls Becomes a Dancer, A

## Collusion: Young Girls Becomes a Dancer, A

Von Evan Zimroth

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**Von Evan Zimroth : Collusion: Young Girls Becomes a Dancer, A** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Collusion: Young Girls Becomes a Dancer, A:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Politically Incorrect Masterpiece Von Ein Kunde Evan Zimroth's touching and insightful memoir left this reader stunned and enlightened. It is one of the most honest personal revelations I have read, boldly honest and unwilling to

cringe under or conform to what our sexually dysfunctional society says should be the "normal" response to what is told of in this book. Obviously, one should not read this book if one is afraid of hearing what a real girl thought about a very unusual and intimate relationship. It is not a story of prurient events; it is about the love this girl has for the discipline of ballet and for a dynamic and compelling man who initiated her into its world. Ms. Zimroth has unsparingly chronicled her growth of character during the two years of her tale, and tells a story that is at once tense, dramatic, frightening, exciting and uplifting. Her refusal to cast a sentimental pall over her childhood and these events certainly frightens those who cannot see the individual human being that is a child for all the treacle with which we sugar-coat the concept of childhood. This book is a template by which we can judge the ability of people to truly listen to other voices instead of running in fear from differing views. Despite the lip service paid to "inclusiveness" in liberal circles these days, some of the responses I have seen to this memoir indicate the degree to which that concept should include the label "but only to include that of which we approve." Finally, a note about hypocrisy. I couldn't help but think, while reading what is one of the most intense scenes in the book (when the young girl is punished by her mentor for smoking) that, was that punishment to be inflicted by a parent, most of us would not think twice. But from someone else? Horrors! Yet the dynamics of the event were no different than the countless physical punishments which parents inflict daily and unquestioningly (and, many times, rightly) on their own offspring. Children today exist only as slaves, owned by their parents and forced to obey the strictures of whatever -ism those around them feel they should be taught. We career from no discipline for children to subservience for them without ever thinking to teach them simple morals and ethics that respect them as individuals and take into account their need to grow through experience. (They certainly will not grow through coddling and protection from everything the world has to offer, only to thrust them out unready and frightened into harsh reality when they turn eighteen.) The horror some adults feel at the child who can think for and desire for herself is evident in the very parents who spend so much time praising children as pure, unsullied angels. Those of us who remember our childhoods well, as Ms. Zimroth does, know better. This book deserves huge success. Congratulations and thanks to Evan Zimroth for having the courage to tell us this remarkable story.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Do you really think you know everything about your child? Von msb Yes, well written. Yes, somewhat disturbing. Yes, obsession. But, as far as memories can be accurate the best description of what a child is able to do to please an adult, how much a child is able to deny what we would call normal needs to reach a goal itself has the urge to reach. First it is perfection in ballet, perfect posture, perfect body control - pleasing herself. Then, with a strike of his cane her ballet master claims her, and so there comes a shift - he becomes the center of her universe, starting an emotional bonding which excludes the rest of the world, also her family. Emotional needs can be as strong as hunger and thirst, and in fulfilling or denying an adult can do as much good and damage as with starving or overfeeding. Read and decide for yourself if this relationship was good or evil - or both.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating, yet Disturbing Von Ein Kunde It's fascinating to be allowed a glimpse into the hidden world of advanced ballet study. It's disturbing to see a child getting an erotic thrill from being dominated, both mentally and physically, by an older man. Provided this is wholly autobiographical, I believe that the author's memory of her thoughts on the matter are accurately portrayed, but it's disturbing nonetheless. In the book, she wonders if (and hopes that) F. found their interaction to be erotic. Maybe he didn't. Maybe he was employing dominance as a tactic that he knew would motivate her to perform to the best of her ability. Maybe he had her fooled. But he created a monster - an arrogant girl who would stop at nothing to provoke him and turn his wrath/dominance upon her, at the expense of her career and relationships with others.

**Kurzbeschreibung** From the vantage point of "real life" (as dancers say), *Collusion* tells the story of a young girl's initiation into the disciplined, exalting world of classical ballet and into a secret love relationship with F., the ballet master whom she adored. "Do you want to be a great dancer?" F. had asked her when she was twelve. She did. And so *Collusion* tells of how she gave up ordinary life--family, boyfriends, hamburgers, homework, and pop music--for a life dedicated to the promise of artistry. At the center of that new life was always the figure of F.--ironic, moody, demanding, quixotically generous or withholding--who could control her with a sarcastic comment or the flash of his cane across her thigh, but also with the lyrical beauty of his classes and the vision of herself in a perfect arabesque. F. was the first man to partner her, and the first to teach her that love can come in strange forms: in the airborne lifts of *Les Sylphides*, in brilliant pirouettes, and in measured violence. *Collusion* describes the secret life of ballet. It is a life in which "normal" values are reversed. Brutality is seen as a gift, fear as devotion, sadism (rightly, in this case) as love. Free of conventional moral judgments, *Collusion* tells of possession and surrender, of power and submission, of the bond between a young girl and an older man. In spare, emotionally resonant prose, award-winning poet and novelist Evan Zimroth unfolds a mesmerizing story of artistic ambition, power, and love in an unforgettable memoir of adolescence. *Collusion* portrays a real relationship, one that society dares not speak of, and it does so with admirable honesty and sensitivity.

.de While her peers "went out on dates, talked to one another on the phone at night, listened to Greatest Hits," the prize-winning author of this refreshingly honest memoir was "listening to Chopin, Czerny,

Scriabin, and Tchaikovsky surging through the humid, resin-filled air of the ballet studio." At the age of 12, Evan Zimroth submitted to the punishing regime of a latter-day Svengali who pushed her into a life of self-denial and physical torture. This demanding and temperamental Russian, a legendary dance master, also took a psychological hold over her, and a disturbing erotic bond was forged between tutor and pupil. The bruising affair dominated Zimroth's teenage years, but she writes about it without rancor. It was only after "F" (as she calls the man throughout the book) died that she felt able to write the story; it is imbued with the wisdom of hindsight and told in wonderfully supple prose. Zimroth writes of the punishment meted out to her on a regular basis--"F" would lash her with a cane--and the rewards--slices of blood-stained cheese that he would feed into her mouth--that she would endure without ever losing her poise. Her psychological acuity is astounding, and anyone who reads this--balletomane or not--will be gripped by Zimroth's lucid exploration of obsession. --Lilian Pizzichini, .co.uk

*Kurzbeschreibung* From the vantage point of "real life" (as dancers say), *Collusion* tells the story of a young girl's initiation into the disciplined, exalting world of classical ballet and into a secret love relationship with F., the ballet master whom she adored. "Do you want to be a great dancer?" F. had asked her when she was twelve. She did. And so *Collusion* tells of how she gave up ordinary life--family, boyfriends, hamburgers, homework, and pop music--for a life dedicated to the promise of artistry. At the center of that new life was always the figure of F.--ironic, moody, demanding, quixotically generous or withholding--who could control her with a sarcastic comment or the flash of his cane across her thigh, but also with the lyrical beauty of his classes and the vision of herself in a perfect arabesque. F. was the first man to partner her, and the first to teach her that love can come in strange forms: in the airborne lifts of *Les Sylphides*, in brilliant pirouettes, and in measured violence. *Collusion* describes the secret life of ballet. It is a life in which "normal" values are reversed. Brutality is seen as a gift, fear as devotion, sadism (rightly, in this case) as love. Free of conventional moral judgments, *Collusion* tells of possession and surrender, of power and submission, of the bond between a young girl and an older man. In spare, emotionally resonant prose, award-winning poet and novelist Evan Zimroth unfolds a mesmerizing story of artistic ambition, power, and love in an unforgettable memoir of adolescence. *Collusion* portrays a real relationship, one that society dares not speak of, and it does so with admirable honesty and sensitivity.