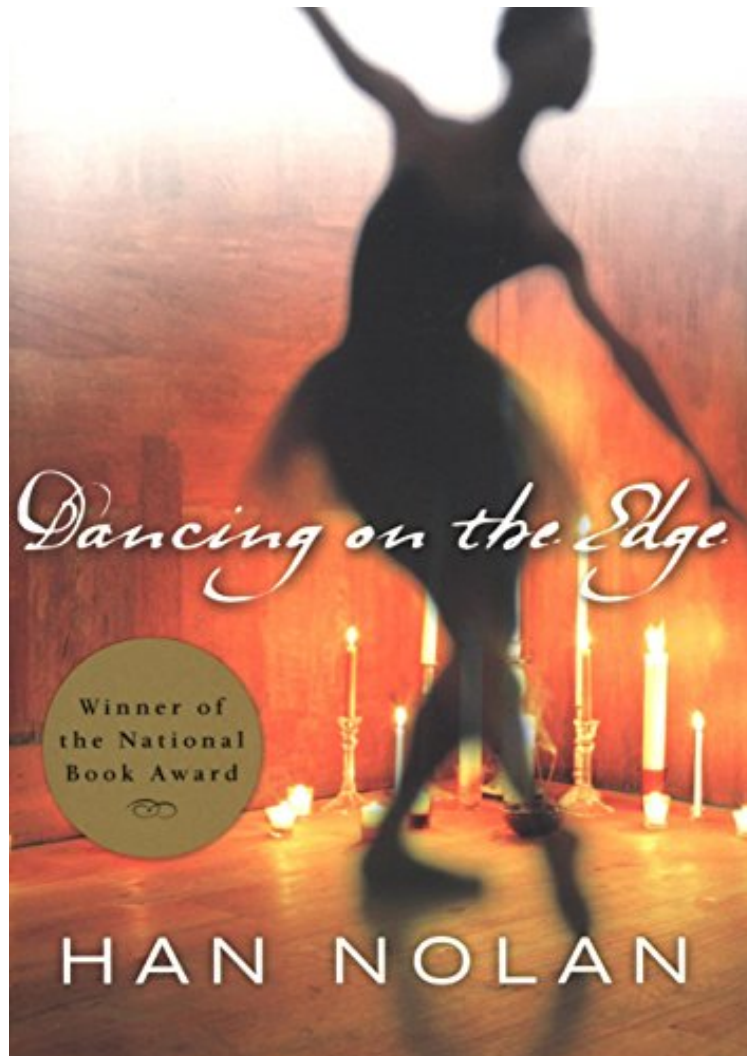


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## Dancing on the Edge (English Edition)

Von Han Nolan

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**Von Han Nolan : Dancing on the Edge (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dancing on the Edge (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A childs survival from emotional neglect and deceptionVon Ein KundeThrough a fog of empathetic tears and sympathetic outrage I was compelled to read on and on. Han Nolan creates these painfully real characters through the eyes of a psychologically knotted child who, being manipulated by family deception and emotional neglect, falls into an abyss of guilt, grief and fear fueled depression. Miracle's nameworthy birth, as well as her mysterious mother and tormented prodigy father are taboo subjects with her family. Raised in her grandmother's occult world of superstition and

surrounded by dysfunctional familial relationships, Miracle finally finds her first taste of nurturing from her estranged grandfather. Following a sequence of tragic events, Miracle is torn from her chance for self expression and escape (through dancing her grandfather encourages). Once again living without love and support she withdraws into "Nothing". In a confused attempt to go to where her father has disappeared, she once again resorts to self mutilation to feel something she can not understand. Nearly dying, Miracle is forced into psycho-therapy, She finally realizes her own story. The truth sets her free. This plausible weave of deception, psychic fanaticism and mental illness (at least mental dysfunction), is a frightening glimpse into what we believe to be our own reality. The plot and conflict grab the readers attention while the journey forces us to read on through anger and fear upon seeing our own insecurities laid before us. There was delicate foreshadowing to make the climax of this story believable (mystery behind mother's death, too long father's robe, Miracle's belief in her grandmother's explanation of her father's disappearance). We say children are resilient; are they? An adult, like Miracle's Aunt Casey, have acquired armor. When dealt a blow they may be cut, but a child, who has not yet found the protective shields, endures slashes which run deep and have lingering scars. Nolan, gives these children a compelling voice. He unveils Miracle's scars and sheds light on the many tiny lashes and the thrusting stabs she endures; survives. This is a wonderful tool to engage my student's in self reflection and encourage them to look within their own insecurities and explore private, even sublimated feelings and motivations for their own behavior.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Brilliant and moving  
 Von Ein Kunde  
 My grandparents gave me this book as an "unbirthday gift." I read it that night, staying up until 2 a.m. to finish. This book moved me to tears, with its tragic story of a teenage girl who has lost the identity that she feels she never had. Pulled living from the body of her dead mother, Miracle relies heavily on love from her grandmother, aunt, uncle, and most importantly, her father. After he disappears, her life is chewed up and spit back out at her feet. She is told, "If your mama was dead when you was born, then you was never born." She strongly questions her own existence. Miracle's grandfather signs her up for dance lessons, which she's always dreamed of. She throws herself so violently into her dancing that she ends up covered with bruises. For Miracle, a bruise is evidence that she exists. Later, she attempts to melt herself and seriously burns her legs. Peeling skin and pain are proof to her that she is real, that she was born. A struggle to cope with her history and her family force Miracle to grow up a lot in a very short period of time. Every teenager has to define her identity for herself. Miracle manages to do this, but her way is more violent and trying than most.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Every young girl ( any boy who knows one) should read this!  
 Von Ein Kunde  
 This book was one of the best books I've ever read - and I'm in my 40's! It is the story of Miracle, a young girl whose unusual birth - being pulled from the body of her mother, just killed in an accident - gives her an impossible legend to live up to. Later abandoned by her father, she is raised by her superstitious grandmother, who loves her but smothers Miracle's personality in her own eccentricities. When Miracle goes through therapy after setting herself on fire, she is forced to identify what is real and what is not. I have never read a book which so clearly describes the sense of going crazy which I felt as a young teenager, and which I know many other teens experience as well. It was painful to read but impossible to put down - like a mirror held in front of me to reveal my most miserable times. If I had had such a book when I was 13 or 14, I might not have felt so alone in my misery. I bought a copy for my newborn daughter to read in 13 years or so, when she will need it.

**Kurzbeschreibung**The National Book Award-winning novel of a young girl's coming of age, from the author of *Send Me Down a Miracle*. Twelve-year-old Miracle McCloy never liked the story of her remarkable birth, but her grandmother Gigi has always loved telling it. An expert in occult magic, Gigi insists that when Miracle was saved from her dead mother's womb, it was an omen of greatness to come. But how can Miracle become a prodigy like her father when sometimes she feels like she doesn't even exist? When her father suddenly vanishes without a trace, Miracle's life starts feeling less miraculous by the day. The only time she feels whole is when she's dancing an activity her grandmother strictly forbids. But shortly after her thirteenth birthday, a life-threatening incident puts her whole world in a harsh new light. And though she does not emerge unscathed, Miracle might finally see the truth about her past, her family, and herself. Extraordinary... Nolan does a masterful job of drawing readers into the girl's mind and of making them care deeply about her chances for the future. *School Library Journal* (starred review) Elaborately drawn characters that will surprise readers at every turn... Compelling. *Booklist* (starred review)