

Name: _____

Diary of a Dancer

By Kelly Hashway



Alicia carried the box to the attic and placed it next to all the other moving boxes. She couldn't believe how much stuff her grandparents had accumulated over the years. And they insisted on bringing it all to their new house.

Name: _____



Alicia walked to the window and peered down at the street below. The town was very quiet. Alicia's grandparents had a pool at their last house. This house was much smaller and the yard couldn't fit a pool. But the attic was interesting. It was a full room with a low ceiling. Alicia figured she could ask her grandparents if she could put a chair up here and maybe a table, too. It wouldn't be a bad place to hang out.

She saw a trunk in the corner and a book resting on the floor in front of it. Alicia picked up the book. The cover was blank, so she flipped through the pages.

"A diary!" Alicia said. She sat down and started to read. The girl in the diary was amazing. She was a dancer. Alicia had always wanted to take dance classes, but she wasn't the most graceful person. She worried she'd embarrass herself.

Alicia read the diary for a long time, until her grandmother walked into the attic room.

"What do you have there?"

Grandma Maggie asked.

Alicia held up the diary. "I found this diary on top of the trunk. I think it belonged to the girl who used to live here."

Grandma Maggie shook her head. "No, sweetie. That's my old diary, from when I was about your age."

Alicia's eyes widened. "You're the girl in the diary? But she was a dancer."

Grandma Maggie twirled across the attic. "Yes, I was. Looks like I still remember a few things, too."

Alicia smiled. "I wish I knew how to dance."

Grandma Maggie looked around the attic. "I think there will be enough room for a dance studio up here after we go through all these boxes. What do you say you help me sort through all this stuff, and then I'll teach you a few things about dance?"

"That would be great!" Alicia said, opening the box closest to her.

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1. What was Alicia doing at the beginning of this story?

2. When Alicia began reading the diary, to whom did she think it belonged?

- a. her mother
- b. her aunt
- c. her grandmother
- d. a girl she'd never met

3. Where does this story take place?

- a. in the attic of the home her grandparents are moving away from
- b. in the attic of the home her grandparents are moving into
- c. in the attic of Alicia's new home
- d. in the studio where Alicia had learned to dance

4. List the correct order of these events. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th on the lines.

_____ Alicia discovers that the book was written by a dancer.

_____ Grandma Maggie offers to teach Alicia about dance.

_____ Alicia sees a book on the floor.

_____ Grandma Maggie notices Alicia reading the book.

_____ Alicia realizes the book is a diary.

5. What type of story is this?

- a. nonfiction
- b. folk tale
- c. realistic fiction
- d. science fiction

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Diary of a Dancer



The following terms are vocabulary words from the story. Find a word from the story to match each definition.

1. **Meaning:** collected over a long period of time

Clues: 11 letters - second letter is **c** - past tense verb

Answer: _____

2. **Meaning:** looked

Clues: 6 letters - contains 3 of the same vowel - past tense verb

Answer: _____

3. **Meaning:** wouldn't take no for an answer

Clues: 8 letters - begins with a *short i* sound - past tense verb

Answer: _____

4. **Meaning:** spun around and around

Clues: 7 letters - contains a letter **w** - past tense verb

Answer: _____

5. **Meaning:** place where an artist or dancer works or learns

Clues: 6 letters - last two letters are vowels - noun

Answer: _____

ANSWER KEY

Diary of a Dancer

By Kelly Hashway



1. What was Alicia doing at the beginning of this story?

helping her grandparents move into a new home

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c. her grandmother

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Diary of a Dancer



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1. **Meaning:** collected over a long period of time

Clues: 11 letters - second letter is **c** - past tense verb

Answer: accumulated

2. **Meaning:** looked

Clues: 6 letters - contains 3 of the same vowel - past tense verb

Answer: peered

3. **Meaning:** wouldn't take no for an answer

Clues: 8 letters - begins with a *short i* sound - past tense verb

Answer: insisted

4. **Meaning:** spun around and around

Clues: 7 letters - contains a letter **w** - past tense verb

Answer: twirled

5. **Meaning:** place where an artist or dancer works or learns

Clues: 6 letters - last two letters are vowels - noun

Answer: studio