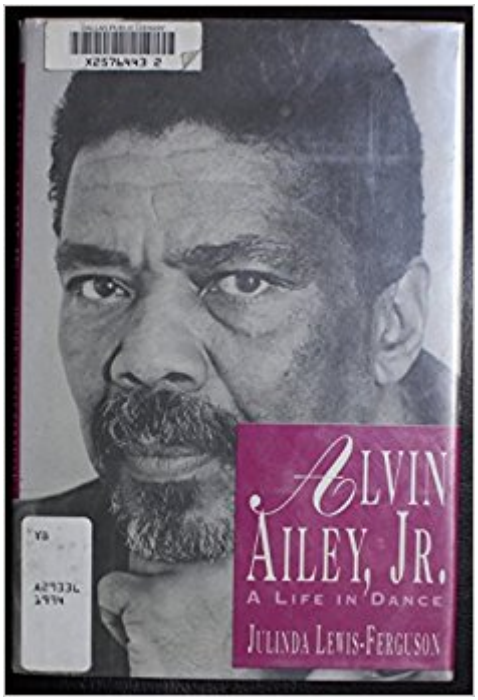
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Publisher: Walker & Company (February 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802782396

ISBN-13: 978-0802782397

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 5.7 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.4 ounces

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up-This title is not so much a biography of the great African-American choreographer as it is a chronicle of his company and his works. A wonderful book for readers deeply interested in modern dance, it should prove to be interesting to others as well. The many influences on Ailey are discussed, including Lester Horton, Maya Angelou, Katherine Dunham, the black Baptist church, and African-American tradition and culture. Lewis-Ferguson spends a great deal of time discussing Ailey's creations, from his first to his last. Included, of course, are "Cry" and "Blues Suite," as well as "Hermit Songs," "Masekela Language," and "Love Songs," which are less well known. Readers learn when and where each piece was first performed, who the original dancers were, and who composed the music. Excerpts from reviews are included. In a sense, readers are introduced to the life of each composition; particular steps and the sweep of the dancers' movements are vividly described. Small black-and-white photographs appear throughout. A valuable addition to any library's performing-arts collection.Carol Jones Collins, Montclair Kimberley Academy, NJCopyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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