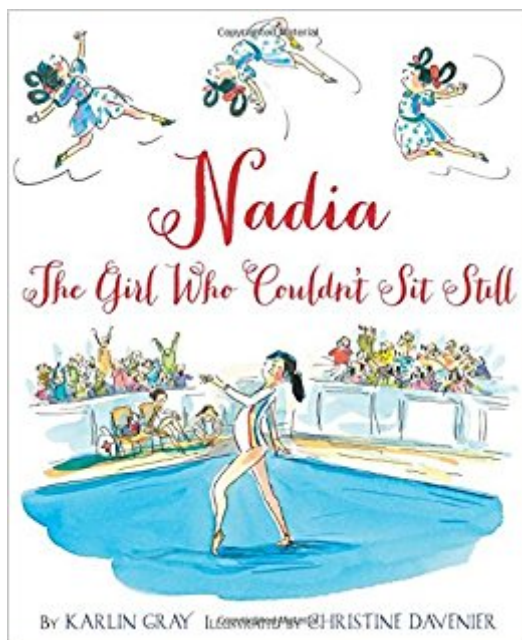


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# Nadia: The Girl Who Couldn't Sit Still



## Synopsis

Nadia Comaneci was a feisty and fearless little girl who went from climbing trees in the forests of Romania to swinging into history at the 1976 Olympic Games, where she received an unprecedented seven perfect scores in gymnastics. But as readers will see in this first-ever illustrated picture book about Nadia's journey to Olympic gold, the road from small-town girl to world-class athlete was full of many imperfect moments. Expert illustrations that capture the energy and fluidity of Nadia's exuberant gymnastic routines and referential back matter round out this inspirational story of determination and overcoming adversity. A perfect 10.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 900 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (June 7, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0544319605

ISBN-13: 978-0544319608

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #11,625 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Gymnastics #2 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Olympics #6 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Sports & Recreation

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 3 • This picture book biography of Olympic gold medalist Nadia Comaneci draws information from accounts written by Comaneci and her coach Bela Karolyi, as well as other sources, to present a somewhat idealized story of a lively little girl who became a champion. Climbing trees, roller skating, biking • Nadia is in constant movement until her mother lands upon the idea of signing her up for gymnastics lessons. Her ability at age six catches the attention of Karolyi, who, with his wife Marta, runs a gymnastics school. The text describes the dedication and years of practice that were required of Nadia, including even difficult moments, such as her

13th-place ranking at her first Romanian Junior National Championships competition. But the cheerful illustrations, rendered in ecoline and colored ink, with colored pencil accents, maintain a buoyant tone throughout. The pictures include a lot of energy, showing Nadia as upbeat and determined. If Comaneci suffered along her road to the Olympics, those details are left out. Several pages are devoted to her record-breaking performances at the 1976 Olympics. A brief afterword fills in later parts of her life, such as winning more medals at the 1980 Olympics and defecting from Romania in 1989. VERDICT Based on the popularity of gymnastics in the United States and this year's upcoming summer Olympics, this book will find a ready audience. —Lucinda Snyder Whitehurst, St. Christopher's School, Richmond, VA

2017 ILA-CBC Children's Choice List "Karlin Gray did an amazing job with this book." —Nadia Comaneci "Sprightly watercolor illustrations are both strong and springy, capturing Nadia's literal and metaphorical ups and downs as she works hard, fails, and picks herself up." —Booklist "As a sports biography, and a story of a positive female role model, this book is a perfect 10 for any library!" —School Library Connection "Based on the popularity of gymnastics in the United States and this year's upcoming summer Olympics, this book will find a ready audience." —School Library Journal "The jaunty narrative takes readers from Comaneci's childhood through her first Olympics with lively illustrations in ink, watercolor, and pencil." —Publishers Weekly "Poised for the 2016 Summer Games, this pays a respectful, 40th-anniversary tribute to Comaneci's soaring achievements." —Kirkus

As a Romanian and the mother of a daughter I am proud to read Nadia's story in this format: children book ..or any other. I will buy one for every little girl in my family! The illustrations are so nice and accurate, depicting Romania just as it is. The story like is amazing.

This book is fantastic! I have 7 year old b/g twins and a 4 year old little boy who loved reading about Nadia! This book is very well written & and the artwork is great! I highly recommend this book for preschool and elementary age kids.

My granddaughter is thrilled with this book!

LOVE gymnastics books & these adorable illustrations.

Great book! I loved introducing my daughter to Nadia. Karlin does an amazing job telling the story of this gymnastic legend!

Bought this book for my granddaughters! They love the story and the illustrations are so beautiful!

My granddaughter loved this book.

Such a cute book about Nadia!

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