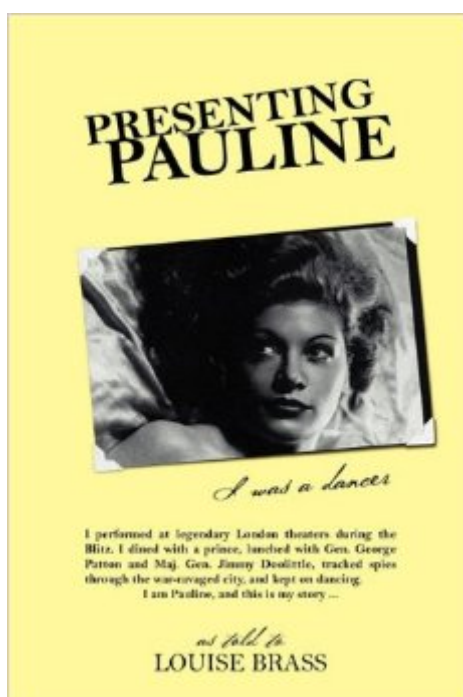


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Presenting Pauline: I Was A Dancer



Synopsis

Presenting Pauline, as told to biographer Louise Brass, is the story of one young woman's courage as she witnessed her world slipping into a very dangerous era. Pauline Fraser set out to be a tap dancer on the London stage, never dreaming that she would rub shoulders with some of the greatest military leaders of World War II, and many of Hollywood's most brilliant stars. Most of all, Pauline never imagined that as a young review artist she would be tracking spies through the terrifying dark nights of the London Blitz. Being a real trooper, she always kept her sense of humor. She never lost faith that she would survive, even as the city was crumbling around her! Pauline recalls running through the streets as Nazi bombers hit their targets, and concrete and glass came crashing to the ground. Even more unnerving, she was required to do her bit for the war effort by serving on a nighttime firewatcher team on a theater roof, while the Luftwaffe tried to devastate the capital city. In 1945, Pauline was swept off her feet by a handsome U.S. Army Air Force officer, and she came to the United States on the first war brides' ship following WWII. The voyage across the Atlantic Ocean, through an unrelenting storm, was almost as dangerous as living through the Blitz. But again, the gutsy young lady survived. The newlyweds lived first in Chicago, where Pauline founded a neighborhood dance school. They later settled in Naperville, Illinois, where she directed and produced successful community theater group musical shows.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Relive the days of WWII war-torn London through the eyes of a young woman, Pauline Fraser.

Pauline was an entertainer/dancer in a world in turmoil. Many fascinating events lead Pauline to meet powerful leaders and interesting people during this chaotic time. I admit to being somewhat of a history buff, and this book was right up my alley! I enjoyed learning more about WWII through the eyes of one individual, rather than an overall "umbrella/big-picture" retelling of the war days. I was absorbed by the details of the London Blitz, and the threats its citizens lived with every day. I was especially intrigued by the first hand recounting of the day to day life of the residents of London as they "did their part" to keep the city safe. Louise Brass does a wonderful job of organizing the facts and keeping the story moving along. This is a fast read, and one you are sure to enjoy.

Presenting Pauline, a memoir as told to Louise Brass. The vivid recollections of her childhood as a stage performer are awe-inspiring. The stories within the story give us surprise glimpses of several notables who passed through her life. Supported by her loving mother, Pauline blossomed into a star despite the chaos and destruction that filled her world. Never has the phrase "The show must go on" held more meaning to me. Thank you Louise, for penning this important piece of history. Lynn Torre, Poet and Author of Dance of the Leaf- Poetic reflections of life, love and soul.

We were led to believe it would be more of a spy book. Actually, it was more about her dance career during the war.

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