

The Girl on the Vaudeville Stage

DeAnna Cameron

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The magic that happens onstage is only half the story...

Go behind the red curtain, and follow Pepper's wild vaudeville adventure.

New York City in 1907 is a wonderland of endless possibilities for anyone who dares to dream, and no one has bigger dreams than young Pepper MacClair, a struggling vaudeville chorus girl who craves the Broadway limelight.

When Pepper must choose between the love of her life and her beloved Chance Theatre, a run-down venue well past its prime and her home for as long as she can remember, she'll discover real life doesn't always go according to script.

She's left heartbroken and betrayed. But as the larger world changes around her and she is pulled into the intrigues of the city's elite, it is her last hope, not only to fulfill her dream, but to follow her heart.

THE GIRL ON THE VAUDEVILLE STAGE is a richly drawn historical tale that takes readers behind the scenes of the exuberant, exciting, and often eccentric world of early New York vaudeville and one woman's romantic journey to find the life she craves and the love she deserves — with a little help from the legendary showman Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr.

Rating: PG

THE DANCER CHRONICLES is a series of stand-alone novels featuring young women destined for passion and fame. Step into their heart-warming stories of love and discovery, where there's never a cliff-hanger end and always an uplifting happily-ever-after.... (so much better than real-life, right?)

Book 1: The Girl on the Midway Stage (available now)

Book 2: The Girl on the Vaudeville Stage (available now)

More on the way!

*** This title was formerly published as DANCING AT THE CHANCE ***

The Girl on the Vaudeville Stage Details

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Author : DeAnna Cameron

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From Reader Review *The Girl on the Vaudeville Stage* for online ebook

Natasa says

While I was reading I couldn't help thinking it was fluffy and quite forgettable. It was not enough to make me feel I had to know what would happen - you pretty much know the minute you start where it will go and how it will end.

Amanda says

New York City in the early twentieth century was a place of dreams, glitz, glamor and, most importantly, opportunity. The city is swarming with people looking for a new life, including Pepper MacCalir and her mother. The pair are penniless, but still harbor dreams of a better life. Pepper works as a vaudeville dancer at a rundown theatre called The Chance, though she's only a chorus girl. That is, until she finds an unexpected road to the city's elite, opportunities that could take her career to a different place, and a daring romance.

Author DeAnna Cameron transports readers to a lush and decadent time brimming with romance and elegance. Through practically every word, Cameron brings the beautiful world of the turn-of-the-century vaudeville stage to life, with all the gilded elegance it entails. Fans of historical novels will approach her in-depth research and romantic approach to something long past, but wrapped in elegance.

Though I never found myself fully invested in Pepper as a character, I was invested in her story and her struggles and, most importantly, I wanted to see her succeed and to find joy. The story told here is well-paced and solid, and offers everything that fans of historical romance novels should expect. I particularly enjoyed Cameron's portrayal of the period and the beauty infused into every sentence.

Romance and lush, *Dancing at the Chance* is a lovely historical that's a great escapist read for romance fans.

DeAnna says

I love all my book babies, so of course I think it's 5-star!

Yes, I'm the author and I hope you'll forgive my enthusiasm, but I am thrilled to share this story about a young vaudeville dancer with a sharp tongue, big dreams and a wardrobe full of quirky costume castoffs, and I hope you'll join her as she fights for her stage dreams, squares off with the notorious impresario Florenz Ziegfeld, and finally learns the meaning of true love.

Here's what some early readers have said:

"Old New York comes to vibrant life in this dazzling tale of follies and illusions. *DANCING AT THE CHANCE* serves up a racy, exuberant feast for the senses, with a lively and intrepid heroine determined to succeed in a fading world threatened by fast-paced, fickle modernity."

~C.W. Gortner, author of *THE CONFESSIONS OF CATHERINE DE MEDICI*

"In DANCING AT THE CHANCE, DeAnna Cameron breathes new life into the dusty corners of a New York vaudeville theater tottering on its last legs. A wonderfully nostalgic look at the rough and tumble world of a group of down-on-their-luck vaudevillians, filled with backstage gossip and quirky characters, a delightful heroine, with cameo appearances by Florenz Ziegfeld and early filmmaker Edwin S. Porter, that will delight readers looking for something a little off the beaten path."

~Elizabeth Kerri Mahon, author of SCANDALOUS WOMEN

Lorraine Mitchell says

I really enjoyed this book. The story took place in 1907. The Chance is a vaudvill theater and the people involved with running the show, and the people performing in the show. It was a fast read with a little different story than usual. Would recommend it to my friends and will look for more books by this author.

Peggy says

Dancing at the Chance is based in the 1907's around a live theatre group. The books has such interesting characters that you are never bored with all the situations going on. I didn't have an opportunity to read her first book but will for sure get it and read it also. This book gave you enough of the past so you had no problem keeping with the story. Good job!

Tara Chevestt says

Dancing at the Chance is about the last day of Vaudeville, when moving pictures began to destroy the stage. We have a young dancer, an orphan who lives in the theater, dreaming of...I'd say being a successful dancer, but she can't seem to focus...of running her own show. She's free with criticism/suggestions and doesn't get along with the manager.

She's rebellious yet also naive. She thinks a fine man is going to marry her and while I could tell from the get-go he only intended to make her a mistress, it took her ages...

Full review here: <http://www.bookbabe.blogspot.com/2013/...>

Meg - A Bookish Affair says

Another day, another great historical fiction read! Dancing at the Chance is the story mostly about Pepper MacClair, a chorus girl and dancer who finally feels at home at The Chance theater. Her mother and her came to New York City penniless and Pepper is finally feeling like she might just be able to get up on her own feet. The Chance is run down and in danger of being no more, a fate that Pepper absolutely cannot fathom. It's also about vaudeville as a whole kind of going out of fashion and struggling to survive.

I loved this book because it took me to a time and place that I haven't read a lot about, turn of the century New York City. For me, New York City will always be one of the most glamorous places in the world. While I don't think that I can take the frenetic pace of living there, I love visiting. What I love about *Dancing at the Chance*, is that I think it really captures the magic of the city and the dreams that you may just be able to make come true while you're there. I think everyone can find something in common with the characters who are really just trying to make ends meet.

I also loved the focus on vaudeville and dancing. It's really a magical world. I loved how Cameron was able to weave some real characters into the story as well (Ziegfeld of Ziegfeld's Follies appears).

Bottom line: This historical fiction captures grand old NYC perfectly!

Cheryl says

Initial reaction: Historical fiction! WHOO! (cue music) *In New York! Concrete jungle where dreams are made of, there's nothing you can't do!* Seriously. For the main character in this book, there's nothing she can't do. I love Old New York. This book was so sassy, classy, and dancey. Great, great fun.

New York City in 1907 is a hopping place where dreams come true and anything is possible. DeAnna Cameron's *Dancing at The Chance* centers on Pepper MacClair, a dancer at a failing vaudeville theater, *The Chance*, her home and workplace since she was a young girl. For Pepper, she hopes to become a huge star on stage and find love in the big city while handling the dark lure of New York's elite. *Dancing at The Chance* is grand adventure featuring a playful cast of characters trapped in a brutal show business.

Can I just say I love, love, love Old New York? The music, the fashion, the radio broadcasts! Ahhh. I bet it was amazing. The characters are pretty complex. The cast members have all sorts of personalities, from outgoing to timid, hard working to lazy. Pepper is a ball of fire, persistent, passionate, and courageous. She's a great heroine for this novel. Cameron vividly describes the sights and sounds of New York City in the early 1900's, and it's just a ton of fun to walk through the streets. The dancing, the pressures of giving a successful show, the lively nature of the city, all of it is just so vibrant. I could just hear the music and voices of New York while I was reading. This book was just a ton of fun with great character and plot development. The ending is a feel good one, I was smiling so hard.

A struggling theatre with amazing characters, romance on and off stage, old New York City! I didn't put this book down until I finished it, and when I did, I was sad it was over. I just want to take a bus up to New York City now and walk down Broadway. If you love the show business and don't mind transporting back in time to the Big Apple in 1907, you'll love *Dancing at The Chance*.

Rebecca says

I won this book in a Goodreads giveaway and was so excited to read it! I loved this book! Highly entertaining and so different than what I have been reading....such a treat!

This would have been a five and a half star read for me except I felt the book needed just a bit more romance. Thank you DeAnna Cameron for writing such an entertaining book!

Emery Lee says

In turn-of-the century New York, the Chance Theatre, once a crowning glory of vaudeville has become a dull grey shadow of its former self. Following the retirement of its original owner, the motley troupe of vaudevillians struggle to keep its doors open under poor stage direction and worse fiscal management while its audience is lured away by the glamorous Ziegfeld Follies and the newfangled flicker pictures. In *DANCING AT THE CHANCE*, author Deanna Cameron resurrects this vaguely familiar and bygone theatre world with life, breath, personality and passion.

Patty says

I did not have the honor of reading Ms. Cameron's first book, *The Belly Dancer*, but I am going to add it to my ever so long wish list. It is a prequel of sorts (from what I can glean) to *Dancing at the Chance* as the main character made a large impact on the heroine here, Pepper MacClair (don't you just love that name?)

Pepper lives at The Chance theatre and it is all she knows. She is young, very young and as with all young women she thinks she knows everything. She is a very well drawn character to the point that at times I wanted to take her over my knee and spank her. She is at that blind stage of life where she will not listen to anyone, she knows what is RIGHT and she believes that love will conquer all. As one reads one knows she is in for it. And that pre-knowledge is, I feel, an integral part of the book.

The Chance is a dying theatre. Vaudeville is reaching its zenith as moving pictures are starting to come on the scene. The great Flo Ziegfeld has arrived on the scene and the smaller theatres are not standing a chance (no pun intended) against his large productions. Pepper thinks she has all the answers but she doesn't realize how hard it is for the stage manager to get acts into a run down theatre. He treats her like dirt; criticizing her every performance. This was one thing I could not understand - I never did find the root of his focus on Pepper and his constant griping at her. Perhaps the answer is in *The Belly Dancer*?

Pepper is in love with the owner's son and longs for marriage but he only offers far less. Since she has little self esteem she accepts his offer of being his mistress. She thinks he is the answer to her prayers; she thinks he will save The Chance. She refuses to see what is in front of her eyes.

In spite of her immaturity I liked Pepper and I was rooting for her and The Chance. I enjoyed my time in this theatre and with all of the very interesting characters therein. Pepper has a lot of friends, it just took her some time to realize it. The ending was a big surprise and leaves me hoping for another book detailing Pepper's future. Ms. Cameron has a magical way with the backstage world and as with most people in love with the theatre I thoroughly enjoyed my time with all of the players of The Chance.

Christy English says

Dancing at the Chance took me back to Old New York, when vaudeville was still produced and Ziegfeld was king. In her second novel, DeAnna Cameron brings the world of 1900's theatre to vibrant life. Part circus, part Shakespeare, part Arabian nights, the Chance Theatre is a place I would love to visit again.

Anamarija Ivanovi? says

Ništa specijalno....imala sam cijelo vrijeme osje?aj da gledam neki film, a ne da ?itam knjigu. Lagano štivo, predvidljivo, onako baš za ubiti vrijeme. Ništa duboko, i ve? ne vi?eno.

Marianne says

Wonderful historical book about vaudeville and the people who were part of it. Made you feel like one of the theater family. Good description of the times and lifestyle. I thoroughly enjoyed the read and step back into an era of entertainment. I want to thank DeAnna Cameron for the ARC book and the great story.

Victoria Vane says

In turn-of-the century New York, the Chance Theatre, once a crowning glory of vaudeville has become a dull grey shadow of its former self. Following the retirement of its original owner, the motley troupe of vaudevillians struggle to keep its doors open under poor stage direction and worse fiscal management while its audience is lured away by the glamorous Ziegfeld Follies and the newfangled flicker pictures. In DANCING AT THE CHANCE, author Deanna Cameron resurrects this vaguely familiar and bygone theatre world with life, breath, personality and passion.

