

(Free) But First a School

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Jennifer Dunning

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Jennifer Dunning : But First a School before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised But First a School:

This engrossing beautiful account tells the remarkable story of the school that made modern American ballet possible - how it beg, who taught studies there, how it became the training ground for stars. In 1933, as a recent Harvard graduate, Lincoln Kirstein invited George Balanchine, a young Russian choreographer and dancer then working in Europe, to start a U.S. company. With the famous response, ``But first a school," Balanchine was committed. The School of American Ballet and the New York City Ballet were the achievements of that liaison. The author's vivid dramatically detailed text is accompanied by remarkable photos drawn from the schools' archives.

From Library JournalIn 1933, as a recent Harvard graduate, Lincoln Kirstein invited George Balanchine, a young Russian choreographer and dancer then working in Europe, to start a U.S. company. With the famous response, ``But first a school," Balanchine was committed. The School of American Ballet and the New York City Ballet were the achievements of that liaison. Though much has been written about the company, Dunning has done a service by describing the 50-year history of the school, the life support of the company and the spawning ground for dancers and choreographers in many major companies. The chapters on the Ford Foundation and the Balanchine ``style" are

especially interesting. This behind-the-scenes look at ballet will appeal to balletomanes and prospective students. Joan Stahl, Enoch Pratt Free Lib., Baltimore Copyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.