

The most memorable day of my life

I was in third grade at the time and I wanted to be a spy. I thought it would be cool to be a spy with all their gadgets and gizmos and fighting crime. I read books about them and dressed up as one for what do you want to be when you grow up day at my school. But in that time of wanting to be a spy I was also anti girly things, like dresses, pink, ballet, and other things like that. I had done ballet when I was three- five and was obsessed. I had started loving ballet when my parents took me to my first Nutcracker at PNB. I was so amazed that I stood all the way until intermission, my jaw dropped staring at the beautiful dancers wanting to be one myself. They were creating a story through dancing and I liked that. After that all I would listen to was Nutcracker music. I wanted to be Clara. I would act out the Nutcracker for my parents and neighbors and friends and I was always Clara. I had a ballerina birthday party and pretty much all the photos of me as a little girl is me in a leotard and a skirt. My nanny gave me a pair of her old pointe shoes on my third birthday and wrote a message on the sole of the shoe: To Miss Maggie on her third birthday, I hope all your birthday wishes come true. Keep twirling! Love, Aleah. I stopped in kindergarten. One day in third grade on a movie night my mom chose the movie. It was called *Leap*. My mom had never shown it to me before because it had an intense part that I wouldn't have been able to handle as a little girl. "If you never leap you'll never know what it's like to fly," *Leap*. After the movie was over I sat there stunned. Then I turned my head and looked at my mom and asked, "So ballerina's are tough?" My mom scoffed, "Some of the toughest athletes in the world," she told me. I sat in thought for a moment. "I think I want to take ballet again," I said. That movie changed my life for the better. Now my whole life revolves around ballet and I owe it all to the cartoon movie *Leap*. If I hadn't watched it, who knows where I would be now. Most people would think that a movie couldn't change your life but here I am, alive to tell the tale. Now: I am so close to pointe shoes. My goal in life is to become a professional ballerina. I want to go to New York for college and dance at ABT. I have been in three Nutcrackers but was never Clara. (It's still my dream role in the Nutcracker to this day.) All because of that one day in third grade when I watched a movie with my mom. Even though I don't want to be a spy anymore, my five year old self lives on.