This book is dedicated to Skateistan, a non-profit organization that uses skateboarding and education to empower children

SB

For Dexter and Ottilie

SD



FURTHER READING

Girls on Wheels by Srividhya Venkat, illustrated by Kate Wadsworth

I've Got the No-Skateboard Blues by Anita Yasuda, illustrated by Jorge H. Santillan

Skateboard Tricks: Step By Step Instructions & Videos To Help You Land Your Next Trick! by Jack Boyd

There Goes Patti McGee!: The Story of the First Women's National Skateboard Champion by Tootie Nienow, illustrated by Erika Medina

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HI, I'M SKY BROWN.

I'm here to tell you about how skateboarding changed my life... and share the magic of it with you, too.



I WAS TWO, MAYBE THREE YEARS OLD

when I started skateboarding. I was really small, but I knew I loved it, even then.



My dad would skate every day on a ramp he'd built in our garden and he would push me around on my little board too.



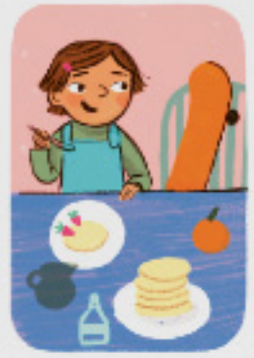




It was so much fun.

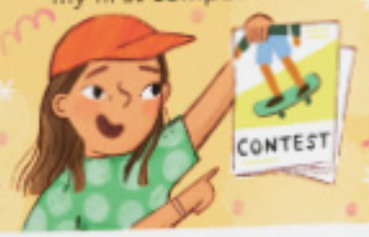






I would go everywhere I could with that little skateboard. It was my favourite toy!

WHEN I WAS EIGHT, I convinced my parents to let me enter my first competition.





It was a big contest that would be on TV. I was the youngest skater ever to compete!

When it was my turn to skate, I just dropped into my run and had the best time.







I couldn't stop smiling. I was so stoked to be there.

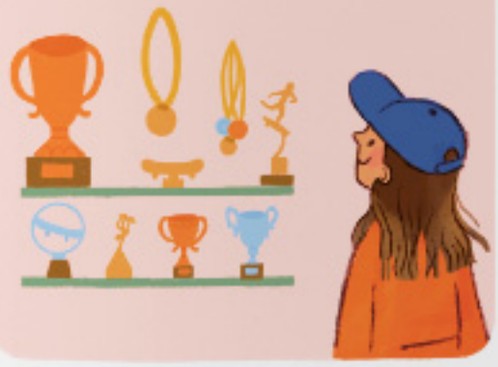


After I landed one of my big tricks, the announcer said, "Half of the pro guys here can't do that!" That made me smile even harder.



I loved competing, and I wanted to do more of it.

When I turned ten, I became a professional skater – the youngest professional skateboarder in the world. I was an Olympic medallist by the age of thirteen and World Champion at fourteen!





So – let me tell you how I got here, and how you can learn to skate like me, too!

#3 SKATE EVERY DAY

We don't really do training in skateboarding like other sports do.



I don't go to the same place to practise for a certain number of hours. I don't have a coach either.

I *do* skate every day though.









Some days I might work on a new trick.







If I'm preparing for a competition I might practise my tricks a few times, to get them looking clean and stylish.

And sometimes I might just go cruising with my dad and my little brother, Ocean. We love to skate to the beach for sunset.



Whatever I am doing, all that really matters is that I am spending time on my skateboard and having **FUN**.

#7 START WITH AN OLLIE

Us skaters love doing tricks! My first trick was an ollie.







An ollie is a rad trick to get really good at because some of the more difficult tricks build on what you do in an ollie.

1



When you're rolling at a speed that you're happy with, first make sure your front foot is just below the front bolts.

2



Crouch low on the board.



3



Quickly push down on your back foot and jump up from that foot into the air.

4



Slide your front foot towards the nose of your board as you jump. Your board should lift with you. Both knees will be bending towards your chest.

5



Put a bit of weight into your front foot to balance out the board in the air so it's level.

6



Land with your knees bent and roll out.

To start with, you can practise these movements without rolling, just while you get used to the order you need to do things in.