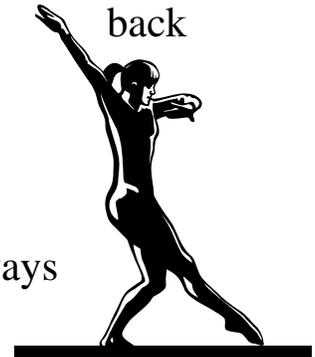




# Olympics By Maya

There I was, actually in the Olympic Gym. Shawn Johnson was next. The crowd was cheering. It was silent for a moment. She had already won a gold medal. My job was to break her streak and get that next gold medal for myself. She only had five minutes to show what her routine was, and then it was my turn. Shawn Johnson was a role model for me until she lost the gold medal. It was my destiny to get that gold medal.

Shawn was going up the stairs to the beam. She did on to the balance beam. She had done it. I could never do a handspring. How could she not fall of the balance beam? Every other gymnast had fallen off the beam when doing the same routine. Well, that was her only secret move in gymnastics. Nobody else could do that move except for her, and sometimes I but I would always fall off. I was next. Shawn danced to Cheetahlicious Christmas. Why would she dance to that song? Then it came to me it was nearly Christmas. Of course Shawn had finished her routine and got a five from the first and fifth judges, a 10 from the second judge (which was an unfair score because the second judge was her MOTHER) and an 8 from the third and fourth judges. She got 36 out of 50.



It was my turn. I was so nervous. Would I ever achieve something like that! Truly, I thought I would never make it on to that balance beam, and if I did I would fall right off. There was a moment of silence. I had experienced this moment for the longest time. I went up to the springboard. I did a back handspring. It worked! I actually did it! I made it on to the balance beam by

doing a back handspring. I landed it perfectly! It was the best time of my life! I couldn't believe it I did a back handspring and landed ON the balance beam! The crowd went crazy for me. The crowd never went crazy when Shawn did a back handspring on the balance beam. I got all TENS!!!

It was 2008 Miss Shawn Johnson had won the USA team only a silver medal. Well, I guess Shawn was obviously clearly one of the best gymnasts to ever live. I guaranteed my mom that I would talk Shawn into getting the USA team a gold medal **not** a silver or a bronze medal, but a **GOLD** medal, a pure gold medal.



The judges asked Shawn and I to go the Nationals and we said we had couldn't go because #1, we had to represent America. Reason #2, we did not have the money for the plane tickets. They said that they would pay for the flight tickets themselves.

I went over to Shawn and said "Why do think you are all that, when clearly you are..."

"Girl, you did not just say that."

"Oh, no, you did not just get sassy with me!"

"Who are you to be talking about being sassy? And no I do not think that I am clearly the best."

There were three finalists Shawn Johnson, Nastia Liukin, and me, Lola Vinson. Shawn Johnson and I were on the USA team. Nastia Liukin was also on the USA team.

Shawn and I HATED her. We thought that she thought that she was so popular, pretty, smart (she was actually very dumb), and last, but not least, the best of the best in gymnastics.

We went to the mall and fought over who would get which leotard. I wanted the pink one with rhinestones on it, but Nastia had to have the pink one so I got the blue one with yellow polka dots.

“Blue and yellow so clash! I hate it!” I complained to Nastia.

“Get over it! I am a much better gymnast than you are.”

Nastia sassed me.

“Oh why I ought to...”

“Stop fighting! It is almost time for the competition.” Shawn pulled me away.

Nastia was disqualified for unsporting behavior. She had gotten a penalty. In the competition Shawn got all 8's. I got all 6's. Nastia would have gotten the same score as Shawn but she once again got disqualified for unsporting behavior. The gymnast that won the gold medal was on the China team. So this whole fight about wining was actually nothing, because Shawn got sliver and I got bronze. I am happy with my score and my medal because I tried my best and at least I got a medal.

The End