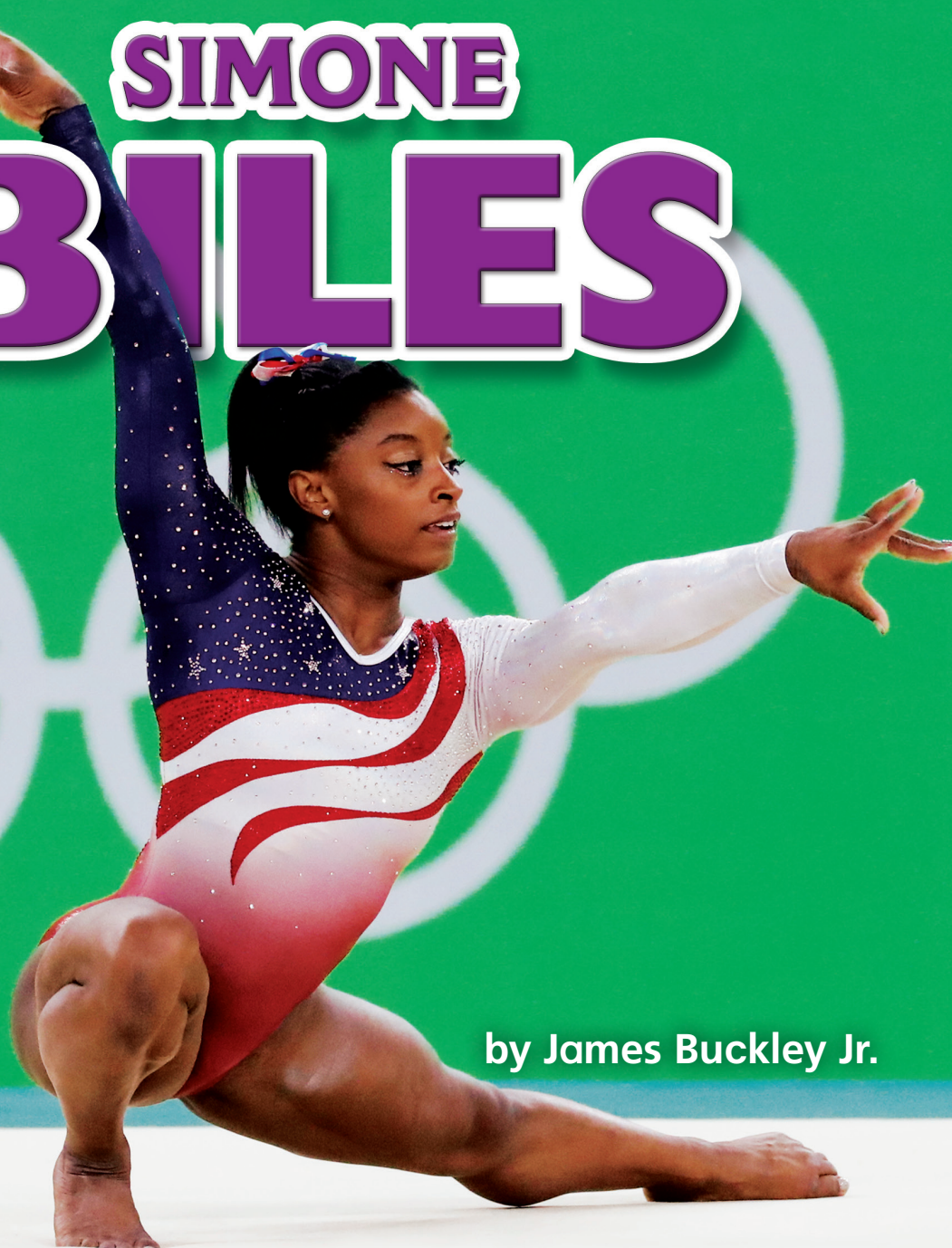


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**AMAZING
AMERICANS**
OLYMPIANS

SIMONE BILES



by James Buckley Jr.

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SIMONE BILES

by James Buckley Jr.

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Former Editor and Writer
Sports Illustrated Kids

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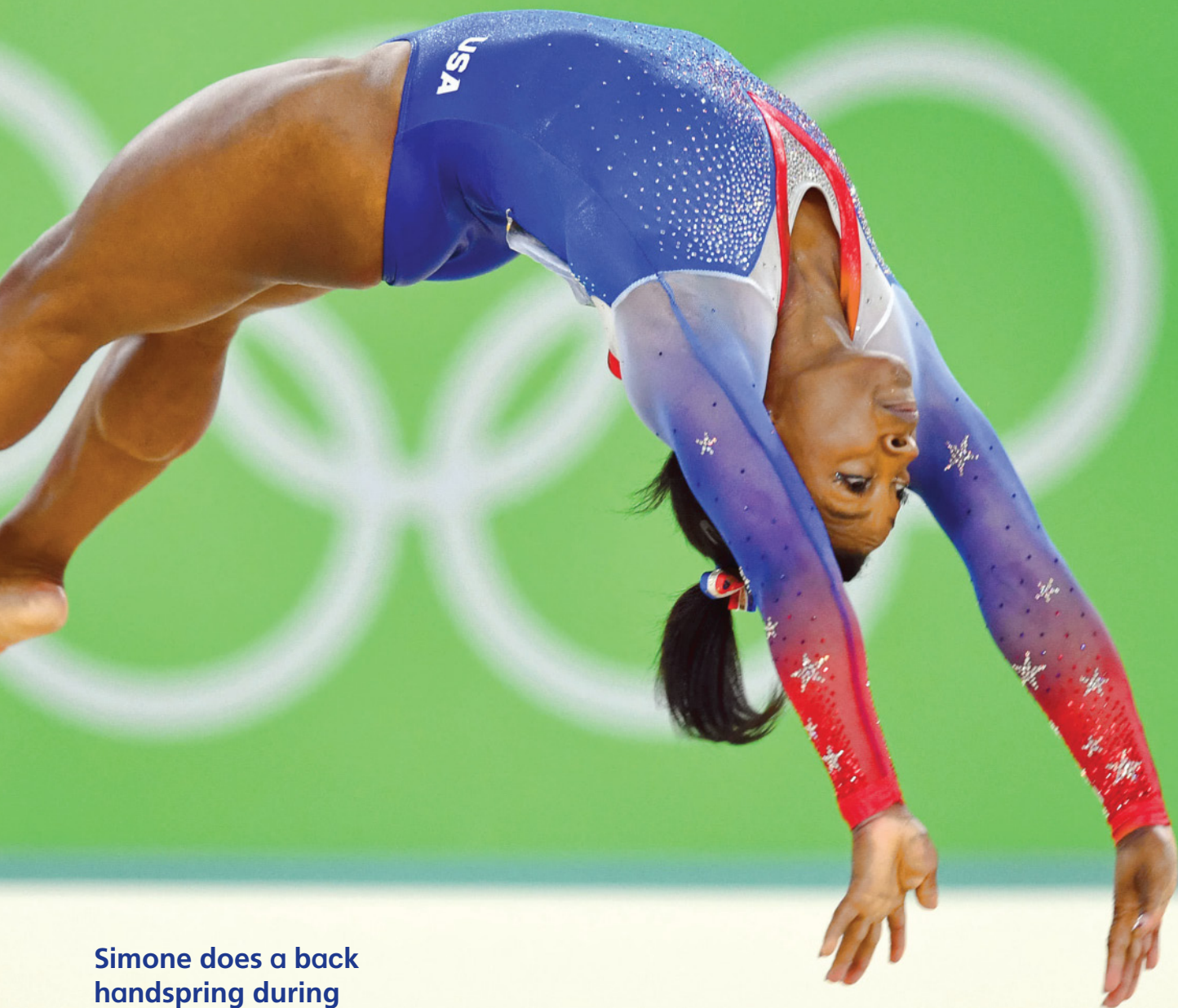
Dreaming Big

It was the gymnastics finals at the 2016 Olympics. Simone Biles was in the lead to win the **all-around** gold medal. She just needed to nail the **floor exercise**. Would she be able to make her dreams come true?

The 2016 Olympics took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The opening ceremony of the 2016 Olympics






Simone does a back
handspring during
the floor exercise.





A New Goal

Simone Biles was born on March 14, 1997, in Columbus, Ohio. She later moved to Spring, Texas, where she grew up. When Simone was just six years old, she went on a class field trip to a gym. She saw girls flipping in the air and walking across a narrow beam. At that moment, Simone knew she wanted to be a gymnast.



Simone was adopted by her grandparents, Ron and Nellie Biles, when she was six years old.

Simone with
Ron and
Nellie



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Read More

Fishman, Jon. M. *Simone Biles (Sports All-Stars)*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner (2017).

Hansen, Grace. *Simone Biles (Olympic Biographies)*. Minneapolis, MN: ABDO (2017).

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To learn more about Simone Biles, visit
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About the Author

James Buckley Jr. has written dozens of books about sports for young readers.

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AMAZING
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SIMONE BILES

Simone Biles has won more Olympic gold medals than any other American gymnast! So how did this incredible athlete rise to the top? Look inside to learn all about Simone's life, from her childhood to Olympic gold!

Simone Biles

Kevin Durant

Katie Ledecky

Michael Phelps

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