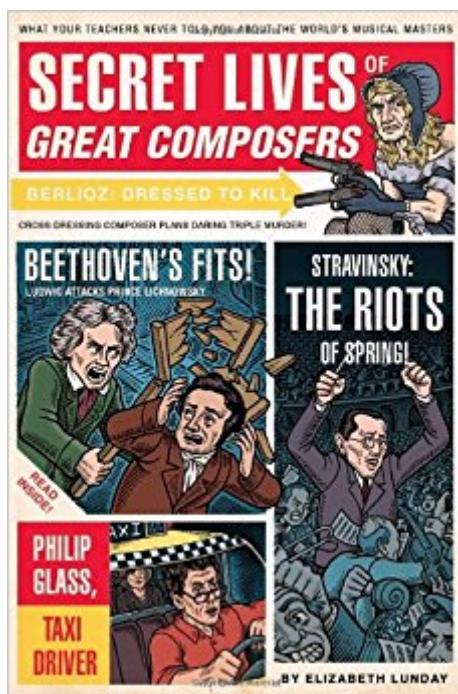


The book was found

Secret Lives Of Great Composers: What Your Teachers Never Told You About The World's Musical Masters



Synopsis

True tales of murder, riots, heartbreak, and great music. With outrageous anecdotes about everyone from Gioachino Rossini (draft-dodging womanizer) to Johann Sebastian Bach (jailbird) to Richard Wagner (alleged cross-dresser), *Secret Lives of Great Composers* recounts the seamy, steamy, and gritty history behind the great masters of international music. You'll learn that Edward Elgar dabbled with explosives; that John Cage was obsessed with fungus; that Berlioz plotted murder; and that Giacomo Puccini stole his church's organ pipes and sold them as scrap metal so he could buy cigarettes. This is one music history lesson you'll never forget!

Book Information

Series: *Secret Lives*

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Quirk Books (August 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1594744025

ISBN-13: 978-1594744020

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #95,352 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Classical #122 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Trivia #191 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Classical

Customer Reviews

Elizabeth Lunday is a journalist specializing in music, architecture, and culture. She writes the "Masterpieces" column for *mental_floss* magazine and lives in Fort Worth, Texas.

This is an interesting book but sometimes fiction. For instance, with Aaron Copland, just about every other source has some disagreements with the "facts" presented in this book. These are all the errors I found just on page 232.1) his sister started teaching him at 11 not 82) he worked in the Berkshires, not the Catskills (both summer camp locations frequented by Jewish families and the Catskills would have made sense for a family from Brooklyn but the Berkshires explains his later collaboration with the Boston Symphony)3) it would be nice if he was writing piano pieces at age 8 but that was 3 years before any lessons and no other sources claim this4) and a grammar error -

extraoneous "and" If you are trying to make sure you present the facts, check every single bit of information.

excellent stories. It raised up my interest for those composers. It makes me realize that they are real human beings instead of some plain word on the textbook and the name on the scores. But I would always read the history of this composer from other textbooks as well to know more formal history of this composer at all aspects. I would also recommend reading it while listening to the music from each composer online. So it is a slow process. If you read the book really quick, don't stop and reflecting it, it would just be some funny stories that can be reached everywhere and you will get bored really quick.

I was looking for some interesting stories to tell my students about various composers that wasn't something out of a history book. This is exactly what I was looking for. The stories brought these people to life. Not only were there interesting stories (sometimes racy, but all entertaining), but interesting quotes, and I especially liked how the author listed a most famous work of each composer and where you might have heard it (whether it be a recent movie, TV show, cartoon, etc.). An enjoyable read.

Humorous, but not necessarily accurate.

Great read and very informative. I will recommend this my friends.

This is a lot better than other so-called classical music humor books.

Once I started reading this book, I couldn't put it down. It contains all the juicy details (and then some) of some of the greatest composers of Classical music. Basically, as you read about each composer, you'd think they were immune to the kinds of things mentioned in the book - theft, illness, bizarre ways of thinking, etc. I always thought my favorite composers were untouchable to such things. The down side is that not all composers were covered in this book, which is why I'd strongly encourage Elizabeth Lunday to write a SEQUAL to the first book, including composers such as: Franz Schubert, Camille Saint Saens, Johan Strauss Snr & Jnr, John Philip Souza, Nicolo Paganini, Benjamin Britten, Bela Bartok, Khachaturian, Edvard Grieg, George Bizet, Pierre Boulez, Jacques Offenbach, Nicolay Rimski-Korsakov, Modest Mussorgsky, Steve Reich, Henry Purcell, Claudio

Artists, authors and now composers. The dryly humorous series continues, telling you things that would have music class much more interesting had the teacher only known. It, albeit unintentionally I'm sure, humanizes its subjects and blows the dust off of their histories. Wagner in pink lingerie indeed....

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Secret Lives of Great Composers: What Your Teachers Never Told You about the World's Musical Masters Secret Lives of Great Authors: What Your Teachers Never Told You about Famous Novelists, Poets, and Playwrights Secrets The Secret Never Told You;Law of Attraction for Instant Manifestation Miracles: 5 Secrets Never Told on How to Use the Law of Attraction (Law of ... Instant Manifestation Miracles Book Book 2) Secret Lives of the U.S. Presidents: What Your Teachers Never Told you About the Men of The White House Secret Lives of the First Ladies: What Your Teachers Never Told you About the Women of The White House New Illustrated Lives of Great Composers: Gustav Mahler (Illustrated Lives of the Great Composers) The Greatest Music Stories Never Told: 100 Tales from Music History to Astonish, Bewilder, and Stupefy (The Greatest Stories Never Told) Meet the Great Composers, Bk 1: Short Sessions on the Lives, Times and Music of the Great Composers, Book & CD (Learning Link) Accent on Composers, Vol 2: The Music and Lives of 22 Great Composers, with Listening CD, Review/Tests, and Supplemental Materials, Comb Bound Book & Enhanced CD OTHER Secret Stories of Walt Disney World: Other Things You Never Knew You Never Knew Secret Stories of Walt Disney World: Things You Never Knew You Never Knew (Volume 1) Secret Stories of Walt Disney World: Things You Never Knew You Never Knew More Secret Stories of Walt Disney World: More Things You Never Knew You Never Knew (Volume 2) Secrets The Secret Never Told You: Law of Attraction for Instant Manifestation Miracles Everything Your Coach Never Told You Because You're a Girl: and other truths about winning You Can Be Happy No Matter What: Five Principles Your Therapist Never Told You Photography: Portrait Photography: 9 Tips Your Camera Manual Never Told You About Portrait Photography Salsa!: ...or "Everything Your Mother Never Told You About Salsa Dancing!" (The little book of dancing... 1) The Top 10 Hidden Herpes Triggers Your Doctor Never Told You (Living With Herpes Book 5) 101 Things Your Dad Never Told You About Men: The Good, Bad, and Ugly Things Men Want and Think About Women and Relationships

[Contact Us](#)

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help