



Lives of the Musicians: Good Times, Bad Times (and What the Neighbors Thought)

Kathleen Krull , Kathryn Hewitt (Illustrations)

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Here are the life stories of such diverse figures as Vivaldi, Mozart, Scott Joplin, Nadia Boulanger, and Woody Guthrie. Readers will learn of both their musical natures and the personal, humorous characteristics that make their lives so fascinating. "Living, breathing anecdotes--the stuff of which the best biography is made."--*Publishers Weekly*

Lives of the Musicians: Good Times, Bad Times (and What the Neighbors Thought) Details

Date : Published March 1st 2002 by HMH Books for Young Readers (first published 1993)

ISBN : 9780152164362

Author : Kathleen Krull , Kathryn Hewitt (Illustrations)

Format : Paperback 96 pages

Genre : Biography, Music, Nonfiction, Childrens, History, Picture Books



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From Reader Review Lives of the Musicians: Good Times, Bad Times (and What the Neighbors Thought) for online ebook

Benjamin Zapata says

An entertaining survey of living, breathing anecdotes about 20 of the greatest musicians that ever lived. From Antonio Vivaldi to Woody Guthrie, it's an irresistible package, leaving you hungry to know more about this amazing artists. Kathleen Krull has done an amazing job collecting all the fact, and putting it into writing, and Kathryn Hewitt has created some very beautiful portraits/illustrations about each musician, a complement to each chapter about each of them.

Just read the chapter about Mozart : "Until he was three, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was an ordinary baby. Then at age four,..." And so on, to discover that at age 7, he proposed marriage to Marie Antoinette (the future Queen of France).

I don't want to spoil it for anybody, so if you get the chance, read this very entertaining book, the first one I read in a series created by Kathleen Krull about the lives of amazing people! A colorful, entralling introduction into our cultural heritage!

Dee Maselle says

Surprisingly absorbing. Colorful, accessible synopses of composers' personal lives, habits, and scandals, most of which I hadn't known even a hint before. Their extremely human life experiences make me want to dig into their oeuvres again--or for the first time. I did wish for more race and gender diversity, and I'm going to do some research among the "greats" to see whom else the authors might have incorporated.

Grace Feldt says

I liked this book. It's about many different musicians and more about their lives. It includes musicians like Beethoven and Woody Guthrie. It's very cool to know more about the artists behind all the songs we've heard for years.

Heidi says

This book is for older children and adults as it includes mature elements about the composers' lives such as harsh treatment of children, suicide, homosexuality, love affairs, etc. This is obviously not the fault of the author; many musicians just had rough lives. I was disappointed Debussy was not included. I did enjoy the illustrations.

Allison Z says

I recommend the audiobook- it was a very quick listen, and had audio clips of works by each composer.

Talie says

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momma.hailey says

An incredible book for the young aspiring musician, as well as the seasoned musician. We checked this out at our library over 5 times in a row and when we finally had to return it, I put it on my book list to purchase! My 8 year old daughter loves it and has read it cover to cover many times.

Linda Maycock says

this would've been a good book to read while taking 'Music History'... little inside snippets to remember each composer.

Susan says

Krull has compiled an enjoyable assortment of sketches on 16 famous musical giants that will have readers rushing to the stereo. In three or four pages each, such masters as Vivaldi, Mozart, Beethoven, and Tchaikovsky; popular composers such as Gilbert & Sullivan, Joplin, and Gershwin; and even folk hero Woody Guthrie are profiled. Gossipy, nitty-gritty personal habits and quirks are presented, along with a sense of appreciation for the musicians' lives and times. Hewitt's full-page caricatures are surrounded by important details. In subdued but striking colors, she captures the personality and temperament of these composers. This is a humorous, delightful, appreciative treat. While it doesn't have enough information for reports, it's a fine, personalized way to introduce children to the creators of great works that are a part of every music curriculum.

Elaine says

We checked this out of our city library to find out facts about Peter Tchaikovsky, who turns out to have been a very quirky fellow. I went on to read this and loved sharing the things I learned about the nineteen different

composers.

Karen says

This is a great book. We had to return it to the library so I found a used copy and bought it on Amazon. Wonderful book to use throughout the year when we do unit studies on each of the musicians.

Barbara says

Lives of the Musicians: Good times, Bad Times (and What the Neighbors Thought was an interesting, quick read. Kathleen Krull wrote short, humorous chapters about different classical musicians. The illustrations by Kathryn Hewitt added a lot to the stories. This was another unknown, picked up at a library book sale. Definitely a good read!

Anna says

** Read by John C Brown & Melissa Hughes
app 2 hrs

the audio version is a series of 5min sketches of 20 musical artists + a hint of their music
light-hearted
great introduction for kids (8+?)

But - Woody Guthrie???

Elisa Jones says

Okay, if you have ever heard of more than three famous composers, you need to read this book. This highlights 20-ish of the more noted composers of all time...but not with the typical historical perspective. Rather, it is commentary on how their habits shaped their lives, and what the neighbors observed of their frequently uncanny behavior. After reading this book, I never listened to or performed Chopin or Stravinsky the same way again.

CE says

Seven years ago, I listened to this series via audio book and didn't care for them. They read to me like a gossip column. However, my husband-of-the-magnificent-memory who happened to be listening recently quoted some tidbit from this one. He even remembered where he heard it. So, they're memorable and entertaining, even to eavesdroppers. And he has a better sense of humor than me, so feel free to take his word for it.

