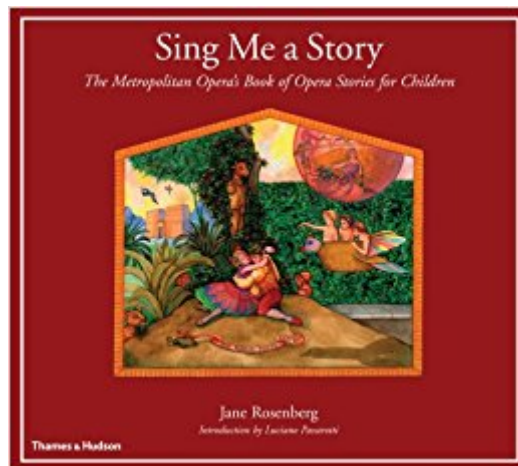




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# Sing Me A Story: The Metropolitan Opera's Book Of Opera Stories For Children



## Synopsis

Engaging. . . . The text and illustrations exude the glamour, passion, and lyricism of opera. Publishers Weekly Jane Rosenberg's delightful retellings for children of the greatest operas—whether the tales are read as introductions to a opera or to relive a production already seen, art and text combine to give a clear understanding of plot, scene, and character. Young children in particular will enjoy reading the stories—or having them read—both as lovely fairy tales and to help them share in the magic of a real dramatic performance. Here are the gaiety of The Barber of Seville and the lavish spectacle of Aida. Sets, costumes, and lighting are re-created to give the true flavor of authentic productions and to approximate, as fully as possible, the experience of attending the opera oneself. 44 illustrations, 29 in color

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Thames & Hudson; 1st Pbk. Ed edition (March 19, 1996)

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ISBN-10: 0500278733

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Product Dimensions: 10.6 x 0.5 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #188,241 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Teens > Art, Music & Photography > Music > Classical #20 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Classical #51 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Performing Arts > Music

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 1 - 3

## Customer Reviews

Similar in style to Rosenberg's earlier work on ballet, *Dance Me a Story*, this engaging volume of opera stories is sponsored by the Metropolitan Opera Guild. The text and illustrations exude the glamour, passion and lyricism of opera, from Luciano Pavarotti's playful introduction--the tenor promises to look for the reader in the audience the next time he is on stage--to the last of the 15 vivid synopses which roll along, *con brio*, in the present tense. Alongside the so-called ABC's-- *Aida*

, *La Bohème* and *Carmen* --are less often performed works such as *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, *Porgy and Bess* and *The Love for Three Oranges*. The author skillfully refers to specific musical passages and uses dialogue drawn from the libretto to link each story to an actual performance. References to staging details, which vary with productions, are a less appropriate choice for inclusion. Although brief accounts in general cannot do justice to the deep emotion and psychological insight of *Pagliacci* or *The Magic Flute*, these failings are more than redeemed by Rosenberg's handsomely detailed watercolors, which convey the opulent sensuality of opera at its most sublime. All ages. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Jane Rosenberg is an author and illustrator and lives in Los Angeles. Jane Rosenberg is an author and illustrator and lives in Los Angeles.

I bought this book as a primer before taking my 6-year-old to "The Barber of Seville" - the first opera for both of us. The text is not the typical children's book made of large print and miniature paragraphs; rather, it reads at perhaps a middle-school level, telling the story of several operas. There are a few illustrations, but mostly text. After reading it to my daughter, I can honestly say that we both learned from this book. An accompanying CD would have been awesome (sigh)

This book was just too "cutesy," and overly detailed, both in text and illustrations, for my purposes. I've been going to the opera for decades, and I'm looking for a book of short, straightforward stories of operas, with simple, charming illustrations, that would introduce the operas to my young grandchildren. This book was overwhelming, and I sent it back.

It can be difficult these days to find books to read to your children that are both interesting to the child, and to the adult who is reading it! For those of you that are opera fans and want a way to introduce your little one to these masterpieces, this book does a fantastic job. The book is well constructed, with very strong binding and high quality paper. The illustrations are beautiful and children of all ages will enjoy looking at them. The stories of these magical operas are told with faithfulness to the originals and instill a sense of wonder. Nothing can really compare to seeing one of these works in person by a great opera company, but this book is a fantastic way to introduce your children to fantastic stories and the world of opera in a way other than the actual music. We've enjoyed it many times over and highly sing its praise.

Not for young children. Stories are involved.

Grandson (6yrs) loving the Libretto of each opera! I really enjoy introducing him to the classics and even humming some of the main arias. Of course, the intro by Pavarotti is my special treat and playing the dvd or cd with Il Maestro singing really draws my grandson's interest because he knows the story!

Good for music class

Good selection of opera plots; just wish there were more color illustrations. This book is geared toward older elementary age children; more text than images.

Thank you SO much Met Opera House for publishing this book. I use this all the time to introduce young students to opera.

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