Aida

Author: Monica E. LaPenta
Illustrator: Ilaria Tellatin
Publisher: LaMa House Publishing 2009
Pages: 44; Paperback
Appropriate for: All ages

One of the most beloved operas by Giuseppe Verdi, Aida, is the story of a young and beautiful Ethiopian princess who is captured and brought into slavery in Egypt. The story is skillfully retold for children - in Italian, English, German, and Russian.

Aida as told by Leontyne Price

Author: Leontyne Price
Illustrator: Leo and Diane Dillon
Publisher: Harcourt Brace & Co. 1990
Pages: 32; Hardcover
Appropriate for: All ages

With depth and understanding, acclaimed diva Leontyne Price retells this famous opera about the beautiful princess of Ethiopia.

Beethoven Lives Upstairs

Author: Barbara Nichol;
Illustrator: Scott Cameron
Publisher: Orchard Books 1993
Pages: 48; Hardcover
Appropriate for: Ages 5 and up

The arrival of an eccentric boarder turns Christoph’s life upside down. Ludwig van Beethoven has moved in upstairs!
**Behind the Curtain**

Author: Robert Levine  
Illustrator: Christian Thee  
Publisher: Workman Publishing 1994  
Pages: 16; Hardcover  
Appropriate for: Ages 6 and up

*Christian Thee introduces young readers to the magic of the theater. Giving a tour of the popular opera Hansel and Gretel, Thee's interactive paintings take the reader from lobby to backstage.*

**Behind the Golden Curtain**

Author: E. Lee Spruyt  
Illustrator: E. Lee Spruyt  
Publisher: Four Winds Press 1986  
Pages: 32; Hardcover  
Appropriate for: Ages 9 and up

*Describes both onstage and backstage preparations for the opening night of the opera Hansel and Gretel at the Metropolitan Opera House.*

**Carmen**

Author: Mike Ashman  
Illustrator: Wendy Corbett  
Publisher: Pagoda Books Simon & Schuster  
Pages: 100; Hardcover  
Appropriate for: Ages 8 and up

Carnival of the Animals

Author: Barrie Carson Turner
Illustrator: Sue Williams
Publisher: Henry Hold & Co., LLC 1998
Pages: 45; Hardcover
Appropriate for: All ages

The animals are having a carnival, and the guests are arriving. There's the majestic lion, the braying mules, the dancing elephant, and the bouncy kangaroos and more! Everyone is invited!

Do Re Mi

Author: Susan L. Roth
Illustrator: Susan L. Roth
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Company 2006
Pages: 40; Hardcover
Appropriate for: Ages 4 and up

For many years, Guido d'Arezzo, a young man from Tuscany, has imagined that his system of lines and spaces can be used as a written language of music and he is determined to make his ideas work.

Hot Jazz Special

Author: Jonny Hannah
Illustrator: Jonny Hannah
Publisher: Candlewick Press 2005
Pages: 40; Hardcover
Appropriate for: K and up

**The Magic Flute**

Author: J.D. McClatchy

Illustrator: Davide Pizzigoni

Publisher: Abbeville Press 2000

Pages: 195; Hardcover

Appropriate for: All ages

*The inventive design of the book stages the opera on the page, giving each reader front-row seats at a dazzlingly original performance.*

**Sing Me a Story**

Author: Jane Rosenberg

Illustrator: Jane Rosenberg

Publisher: Thames & Hudson 1989

Pages: 158; Paperback

Appropriate for: Ages 4 and up

*Delightful retellings for children of the greatest operas—whether the tales are read as introductions to an opera or to relive a production already seen, art and text combine to give a clear understanding of plot, scene, and character.*

**The Farewell Symphony**

Author: Anna Harwell Calenza

Illustrator: JoAnn E. Kitchel

Publisher: Charlesbridge 2005

Pages: 32; Hardcover

Appropriate for: Ages 4 and up

*Prince Nicholas isn’t easy to work for—just ask composer Joseph Haydn. When the prince isn’t demanding chamber music, operas, and ballets to entertain his guests, he wants dance music for balls and dinner music with his meals. Haydn and the other musicians are kept quite busy at the prince’s summer estate in Hungary. As summer fades into autumn, however, the musicians grow increasingly homesick. When Haydn mentions the musicians’ distress, the prince threatens to fire the entire orchestra! How will the talented composer convince the mighty prince that it’s time to bid farewell to the summer palace?*
The Flying Dutchman

Author: Simon Estes
Illustrator: Kevin Maddison
Publisher: Pagoda Books Simon & Schuster 1987
Pages: 68; Hardcover
Appropriate for: Ages 8 and up


Nicky the Jazz Cat

Author: Carol Friedman
Illustrator: Carol Friedman
Publisher: PowerHouse 2005
Pages: 32; Hardcover
Appropriate for: Preschool and up

Children and adults alike are invited to embark on a jazz journey with Nicky the Jazz Cat. This charming story introduces children to jazz through the eyes and ears of Nicky, a cool feline friend who has had the unique pleasure of knowing some of the world's most celebrated jazz legends. Nicky's fun-filled jazz adventure will be a new children's favorite and a great gift for music and animal fans of all ages.

What Charlie Heard

Author: Mordicai Gerstein
Illustrator: Mordicai Gerstein
Publisher: Douglas & McIntyre Inc. 2002
Pages: 40; Hardcover
Appropriate for: Ages 4 and up

Sometimes little Charlie lay in his crib just listening. He heard his mother's long dress as she moved around his room. He heard big clocks and little clocks. He heard wagons and horse hooves. He heard dogs and crickets and the church bell next door.
Leontyne Price was the first African American to have a successful career as a diva in the European operatic tradition. Her performance as Tosca in 1955 created a sensation, partly for this reason, but more for her marvelous voice and ability. She had already been singled out by Virgil Thomson and performed in the premiere of Samuel Barber's Prayers of Kierkegaard. She has given wonderful performances as Aïda, Madame Butterfly, Donna Anna, Pamina, and Cleopatra in Barber's Anthony and Cleopatra, and also as a concert artist. Price's honors include 19 Grammy awards, including the