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Synopsis

(Opera). French/English.

Book Information

Paperback: 64 pages

Publisher: GS LIBRETTO 5 (November 1, 1986)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0793567149

ISBN-13: 978-0793567140

Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 0.2 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

“Brilliantly produced and superb value.”
•The Sunday Times
All these will provide the new opera-goer with food for thought.
•Daily Telegraph
--This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Text: French, English --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

had to replace well-worn Schirmer hard cloth-bound. Cheap and good.

Well bound on sleek paper - easy on the eyes - wonderful score.

The item exactly matched the description. It came sooner than expected. I like the size of the font. In the score there is a little not clearly written which part some role sings, but I like it.

Great book.

The previous reviewer makes a very strong case for this series. In fact, he is so impressed by this

series that he sings the praises no less than twenty-eight of "The Opera Journeys Mini Guides" here in --and, as I write this, offers comment on nothing else, on no other publication ... nothing. He is so taken with these "Mini Guides" that each and every one of his twenty-eight five-star reviews begins, "The Opera Journeys Mini Guide Series is just wonderful; it's like a "Cliff Note" [sic] of the opera, and extremely informative and educational." And every one of his twenty-eight reviews ends with "My tip: acquire the entire collection because you will be in easy reach of superbly presented opera guides consisting of story analysis, principal characters in the opera, story narrative with music highlights, background, analysis, and commentary."How fortunate the gentleman is to have found a subject on which he can lay such honest, heartfelt and unstinting praise. And so often, too.As for myself, I am not quite so enthusiastic. This "Mini Guide" to Massenet's "Manon," and others of the series that have fallen into my hands from time to time, delivers pretty much what it says it will do. If you are actually willing to be satisfied with so small a thing as a CliffsNotes approach to opera, these "Mini Guides" will serve as well as any other--although the asking price strikes me as a bit steep.However, I wish to suggest alternatives. First, haul yourself away from your computer. Then, go out to see the opera.If you don't have an opera company nearby, call up your local college, university or conservatory and ask what the opera workshop is doing. (Here in Vancouver, the student productions at the University of British Columbia for the past few years have consistently been better sung and better produced than those of the Vancouver Opera--and for a vastly lower ticket cost.)If no live performances are available in your area, then go ahead and invest in a DVD or a CD. Older performances of operas that in many cases can only be described as superb can be found on CD right here at for about the price of this pamphlet. The DVDs cost about the same as a single ticket in the cheapest seats in a professional opera house.Actual performances will give you pleasure and enrich your soul in a way that these or any other such arid distillation and simulation cannot.

will buy next time . quickly. will buy next time. This product is sleek, light, and extremely sharp! For what I paid, I thought this was going to be a Walt-Mart knock off quality bread product, but this thing has sliced through every bread I've thrown at it like butter! The handle is also really well designed and easy to get a good grip on, so getting nice, even, straight slices is really easy. Kelly needs it ,

The Opera Journeys Mini Guide Series is just wonderful; it's like a "Cliff Note" of the opera, and extremely informative and educational. I particularly like the size; these guides are not cumbersome and fit right into my shirt pocket. The ladies will find sufficient room in their pocketbooks.The story

narrative with the music examples is excellent. I prefer it to a libretto; indeed, it's a much easier way to follow the essence of the story. The essay is magnificent; very well written, not pedantic, and extremely insightful and comprehensible. I congratulate Burton Fisher for a job very well done and for making these handy, information-laden booklets available. The Opera Journeys Mini Guide Series is a wonderful contribution to opera education and opera appreciation. My tip: acquire the entire collection because you will be in easy reach of superbly presented opera guides consisting of story analysis, principal characters in the opera, story narrative with music highlights, background, analysis, and commentary. Heinz Dinter, Ph.D.

Here, you have a piano-vocal score of Massenet's opera, Manon. Shirmer, like always, publishes easily accessible scores appropriate for a singer studying a role or the work or a rehearsal pianist hired to play the orchestral reduction. The price is quite normal, as scores go, and you shall find accurate markings and index.

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