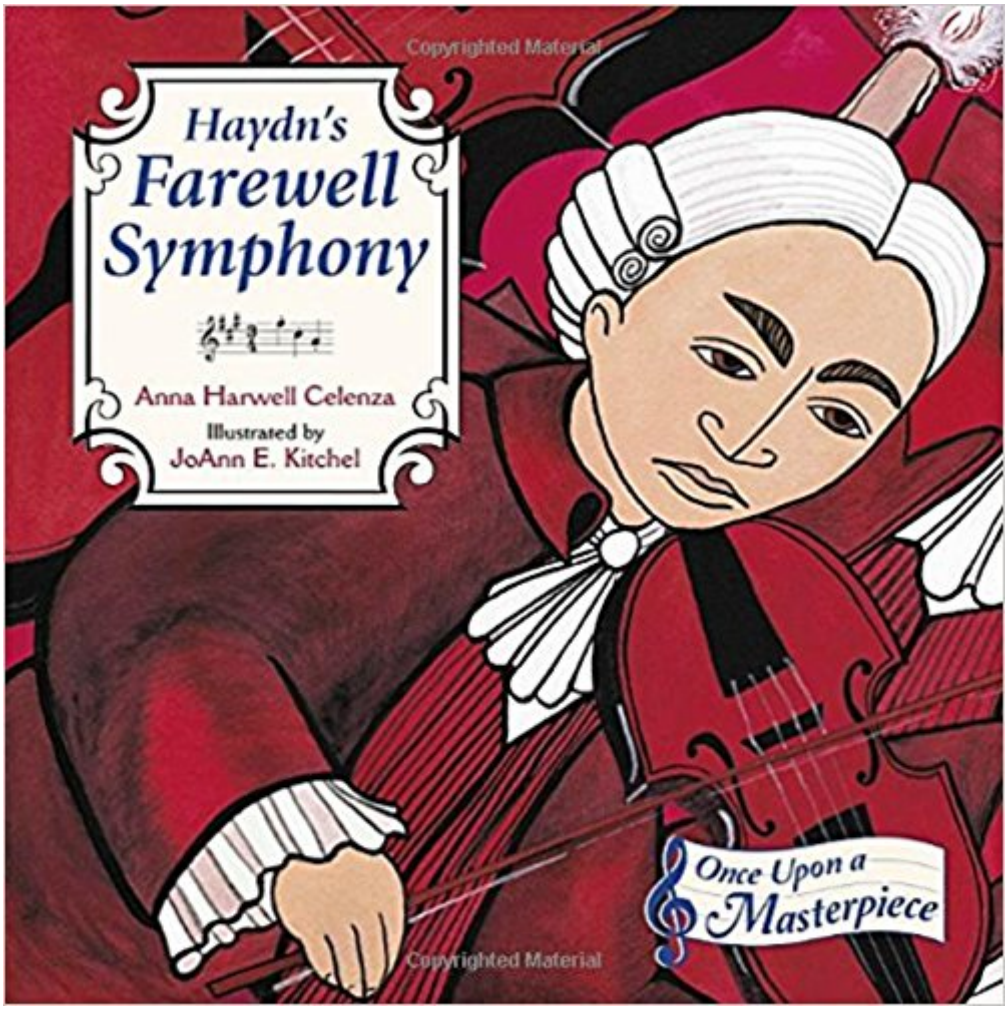
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Haydn's Farewell Symphony (Once Upon A Masterpiece)



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Synopsis

Anna Harwell Celenza’s engaging fictionalized telling of the story behind Franz Joseph Haydn’s famous symphony is a perfect introduction to classical music and its power. THE FAREWELL SYMPHONY brings to life a long summer spent at EsterhÃƒÂ¡za, the summer palace of Prince Nicholas of EsterhÃƒÂ¡zy.The blustering, bellowing prince entertained hundreds of guests at his rural retreat and demanded music for every occasion. As the months passed, Haydn was kept very busy writing and performing music for parties, balls, dinners, and even walks in the gardens. His orchestra members became homesick and missed their families. The anger, frustration, and longing of the musicians is expressed beautifully in the symphony born of the clever mind of Joseph Haydn who used it to convince Prince Nicholas that it was time to go home.Wonderfully expressive illustrations by JoAnn E. Kitchel capture all the comedy and pathos of this unique symphony. Beautifully interpretive motifs and borders convey the setting and emotion of the story mirroring the structure of the symphony with the repetitive use of sets of four. Making classical music and history come alive with color and character, THE FAREWELL SYMPHONY ensures a place for the arts in the hearts and minds of children.

Book Information

Series: Once Upon a Masterpiece

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Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Anna Harwell Celenza is a musicologist and the author of several books for adults and children regarding music history and the history of art. Her childrenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s books include THE FAREWELL SYMPHONY, PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION, GERSHWIN'S RHAPSODY IN BLUE, and VIVALDI'S FOUR SEASONS. Anna lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

My 4 year old loves classical music, and we both really enjoyed this story, and he has asked to read it several times. I would recommend it for all ages. I thought, from the cover, the illustrations might be strange, but they were great inside the book. The author did a good job of making an engaging story out of difficult subject matter for a picture book.The only thing that I felt would have made it much better would have been to include a CD of the composition. I initially thought this included a CD, so was disappointed when it showed up without one. We found a sub par recording on youtube to listen to.

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