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# Vivaldi's Four Seasons



## **Synopsis**

In eighteenth-century Venice, Italy, the finest musical performances are heard at an orphanage called the Ospedale della Pieta. Hidden from the audience is an orchestra of young orphan girls, some with physical disabilities and illnesses. Padre Antonio Vivaldi, their music teacher, is inspired by the talented and determined young girls. When Vivaldi and his students are separated, Vivaldi is inspired to compose a set of concertos that mark the passing of time--the great baroque masterpiece entitled *The Four Seasons*. Back matter includes an author's note with further historical and biographical information, as well as the text of the sonnets that accompany the music.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 760L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

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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 children'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.

I read this to my Suzuki Book I violin group class this week as part of a unit I am also incorporating on Vivaldi's Four Seasons. It comes with a CD of the music. There are superior recordings, and I

actually use a different recording, however it would be fine to listen to! My students all seemed to enjoy the story and there is a description of all 3 movements of "Spring" that is helpful for directing listening.

Another winner from Anna Harwell Celnza! My nieces and nephew (ages 3-5-8) all love it. Learning about the orphanage for girls was especially interesting for the 8 yr old. And we actually heard the 3 year old humming Vivaldi long after we put the book/cd away!

Students enjoyed the story. This was a good introduction to both Vivaldi and the Four Seasons.

Another great book by Anna Celenza. I love the illustrations and the easy to understand narration. It goes over one of Vivaldi's best loved pieces of music and is great for introducing the composer and the piece to children.

We are studying Vivaldi for school and this has been a nice addition to our composer study. The bonus CD is nice to play while my daughter does her handwork. Familiar tune for those who may not know Vivaldi's work. Easy to read book as well.

My favorite music is now illustrated to make it fun for kids, too. This series of books is excellent for music educators, parents and grandparents.

### Excellent Book

I assumed this book came with the CDs it needs, but it was not stated explicitly in the description whether they are included or not. Upon receiving the book and finding no CD, I had to purchase the iTunes version of the four songs which ended up costing me more than if I had purchased a brand new book that included the CDs

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Vivaldi - "Le Quattro Stagioni" ("The Four Seasons") for Violin and Orchestra: Music Minus One  
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