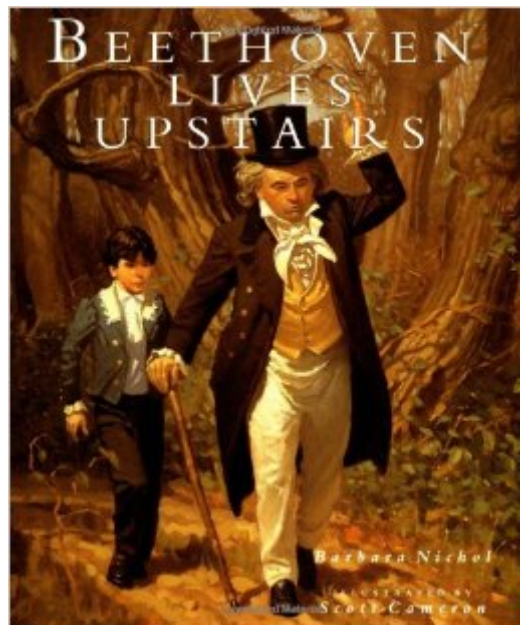


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# Beethoven Lives Upstairs



## Synopsis

Classical Kids best sellers Beethoven Lives Upstairs and Tchaikovsky Discovers America are also available as beautifully-illustrated books.

## Book Information

Paperback: 1 pages

Publisher: Scholastic; 1st American ed edition (March 1, 1994)

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 8.4 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #192,484 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European](#) #588 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts](#)

## Customer Reviews

"...I write, Uncle, because something terrible has happened. A madman has moved into our house." Young Christoph can't believe his family's misfortune with their new boarder. Mr Beethoven has rented the upstairs rooms, and the terrible noises begin at dawn. There's loud pounding and howling, stomping and crashing. Beethoven has four pianos, some without legs sitting right on the floor so that he can "hear" the vibrations of his music. His room is a mess, papers scattered everywhere, dirty dishes and clothes on every surface, and he writes on the walls. He walks the streets humming and growling, and waving his arms. Christoph is mortified, angry, and embarrassed as he asks his uncle..."I beg you to tell my mother to send Mr Beethoven away." But as the months and then years go by, Christoph's letters begin to change. He develops compassion and tolerance for this eccentric musical genius who lives upstairs, that slowly turns into respect, admiration, and true friendship..... Barbara Nichol and Scott Cameron have authored a creative and inventive story, written as correspondence between uncle and nephew, that combines history, music, and actual events during the three years Beethoven wrote his Ninth Symphony in Vienna. Christoph's intriguing and compelling letters are full of drama and tension as he tells his uncle what it's like to live with the deaf and tormented composer. His uncle, also a musician, writes back giving Christoph insight and understanding into Beethoven's life and times and famous temper. Ms

Nichol's engaging and entertaining text is spellbinding and enhanced by Mr Cameron's dark, lush oil paintings. Together word and art transport you back to the 1820s, and allows the reader to spy on Beethoven as he works. Perfect for youngsters 8-12, *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* is an evocative and fascinating adventure about a remarkable composer that is sure to whet the appetite of budding musicians, and send them looking for more.

A young Viennese boy named Christoph happens to have the greatest composer who ever lived as a boarder in his mother's house. Set in 1822, this nice re-telling of factual events in the last year of Beethoven's life has introduced millions to the softer side of a musical god too often portrayed as stern and cold. Yes, there really was a Christoph, and Beethoven shared his home about the time of the composition of the Ninth Symphony, possibly humankind's musical high-point. In fact many real life occurrences came to pass just as Ms. Nichol's book tells. *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* is easy to read and hard to forget, and is a positive tale almost anyone should find likable.

I recently read this to my four year old and seven year old children. They enjoyed it and so did I. I thought this was a wonderful introduction to Beethoven. The story was engaging and touches on many important points in the life of the man. It sparked our curiosity and now we will be looking for more about him. A nice read aloud, good for the early reader as well. The illustrations are beautifully done.

OK, I don't own this book, but I my daughter loves the CD of the story. I'm sure the pictures are lovely, but the real magic of Beethoven is his music. Words cannot describe how magical the ending is with the climax of the 9th Symphony. PLEASE get the CD version too, they did an amazing job of allowing the music to tell and enhance the story.

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