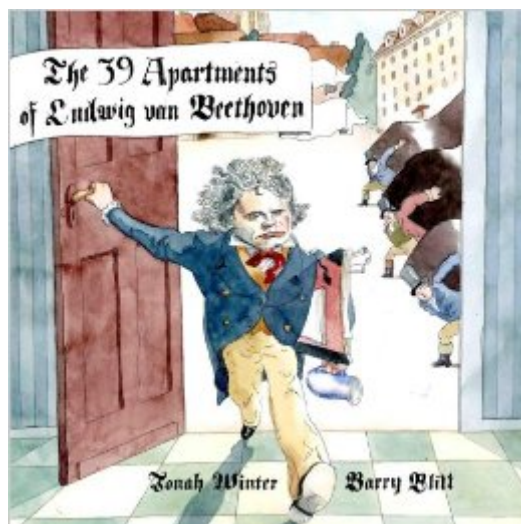


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# The 39 Apartments Of Ludwig Van Beethoven



## Synopsis

How hard is it to move 5 legless pianos 39 times? Beethoven owned five legless pianos and composed great works on the floor. His first apartment was in the center of Vienna's theater district... but he forgot to pay rent, so he had to move. (And it's very hard to move a piano. Even harder to move five). Beethoven's next apartment was in a dangerous part of town... so he moved, and the pianos followed on a series of pulleys. Then came an apartment with a view of the Danube (but he made too much noise and the neighbors complained), followed by an attic apartment (where he made even MORE of a ruckus), and so Beethoven moved again and again. Each time, pianos were bought, left behind, transported on pulleys, slides, and by movers, all so that gifted Beethoven could compose great works of music for the world.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #265,217 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European](#) #195 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Europe](#) #744 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts](#)

Age Range: 4 - 9 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 4

## Customer Reviews

"The 39 Apartments of Ludwig van Beethoven" is one clever picture book. Jonah Winter structures the story in such a way that you only get the joke at the end. Barry Blitt's illustrations are drop-dead funny, with a cranky Beethoven juxtaposed with beautiful Viennese cityscapes on each page. (As you can tell from the cover illustration, Blitt's Beethoven looks just like the ubiquitous statuette of the great composer that glared down at you during weekly piano lessons.)"The 39 Apartments of Ludwig von Beethoven" begins with three facts. The first of these is:"FACT: Ludwig van Beethoven

was born in the town of Bonn in the country of Germany in the year 1770."We then learn that Beethoven composed on five legless pianos and "FACT: Ludwig van Beethoven lived in 39 different apartments--which is of course the subject of our story. (See book title.)"Then the story begins. Beethoven's move from apartment to apartment is "documented" with complaints from neighbors, what he composed where, and details on how movers transported the five legless pianos. Here's a mover's lament:"In the diary of one Anselm Schwartz, we find the following translated here into modern English: 'After this move, I'm out of here. That dude is WHACKED in the head! Yow...My back is, like, REALLY messed up!'"After the first three FACTS of the book, there are only three to follow--two in the story of the moves: "FACT: It is very difficult to move a piano. FACT: It is even more difficult to move five pianos." These two FACTS are self-evident and are easily overlooked amongst the evidence of cotton balls with earwax found in neighbors' apartments.

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