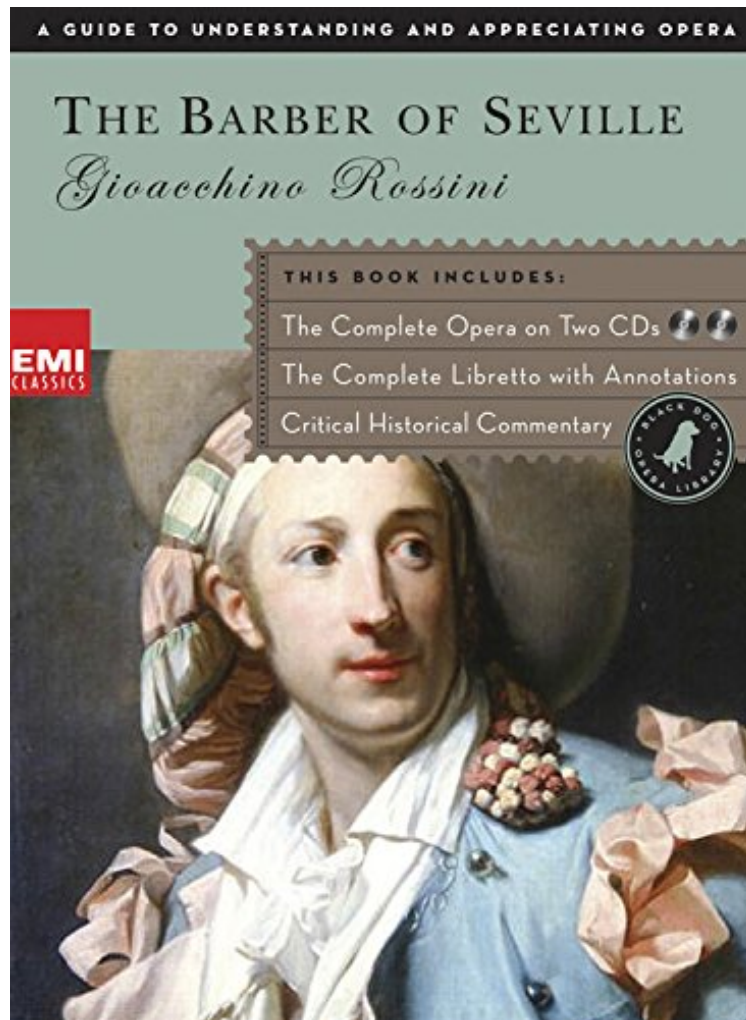


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Barber of Seville (Black Dog Opera Library)

Gioacchino Rossini

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Gioacchino Rossini : Barber of Seville (Black Dog Opera Library) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Barber of Seville (Black Dog Opera Library):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A First Rate Barber of SevilleBy J. J. HohmannThis is a first rate Barber. Beverly Sills, upon whom the recording sinks or swims is a melodic and comic gem. James Levine's conducting is precise yet lush and captures the often rollicking brilliance of the score. Nicholi Gedda's Count is all mischief and Ruggero Raimondi is so expressive that you fell you can almost see him.The recording came in EMI's Black Dog Opera series. It's a tidy package, hardbound about the size of a paperback book. The text in the attached book is decidedly for the a listener new to opera. However the photos and historical data are interesting and the libretto is convenient to follow while listening to the recording.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Maybe this goes without saying, but...By Urban CinderellaMaybe this goes without saying, but I don't think that the libretto and

music combined are enough to bring this opera fully to life. In my opinion, the set, costuming, and possibilities for great comedic acting are what makes this opera special. There are tons of videos on youtube of this opera: watch them with this book in hand, but do not read this without watching the opera first or unless you plan on seeing the opera very soon. While humor can be derived solely from the libretto, it really sparkles when brought to life on stage. If you can see it with Peter Mattei and Juan Diego Florez, then all the better in my opinion (on youtube, search "barber of seville met": the one I'm referencing played at the Metropolitan Opera). While for many the advice in this review may seem rudimentary, I just wanted to point out to anyone who may be as inexperienced in the realm of opera as myself that there are many layers to an opera, visual as well as auditory, and that in order to do this magnificent opera justice you must see it as well as hear it and read about it. I do love this book though, and the recordings are excellent. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Doesn't contain the musical score
By J. Jones
I should have read all of the reviews before purchasing, because based on the description, I believed this would contain the musical score and was disappointed that it did not. It is still a beautiful book, though, and worth the purchase for the words and translations, the history, and the 2-CD set... but I'll have to look again for the music.

The Black Dog Opera Library is the most popular, informative, and budget-friendly way to enjoy all the great operas. Each book contains a history of the opera, a synopsis of the story, a complete libretto in its original language as well as in English, dozens of photos, and a world-class Angel/EMI recording of the entire opera on two CDs. All of this for under twenty dollars!

When it comes to operas in which, for once, nobody dies, Gioacchino Rossini's great comedy *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (the Barber of Seville) is perhaps the most popular of all time. It's got it all: funny plot, great tunes (including nine of the most immediately recognizable notes in Western music: "Figaro, Figaro, Figaro!"), irresistible characters, and an overture that provided Bugs Bunny with one of his greatest moments on screen. Have you ever wondered about the scoring of Lindoro's sweet first act aria, or the requirements for the boom in Basilio's celebration of calumny? Check it all out with this complete orchestral score from Dover Publications. As is standard with Dover, this score is a reprint of a German original, and because it offers the complete orchestration it will be more useful to the music student than to the working singer. (.com)
About the Author
Gioachino Antonio Rossini was an Italian composer who wrote 39 operas as well as sacred music, chamber music, songs, and some instrumental and piano pieces.