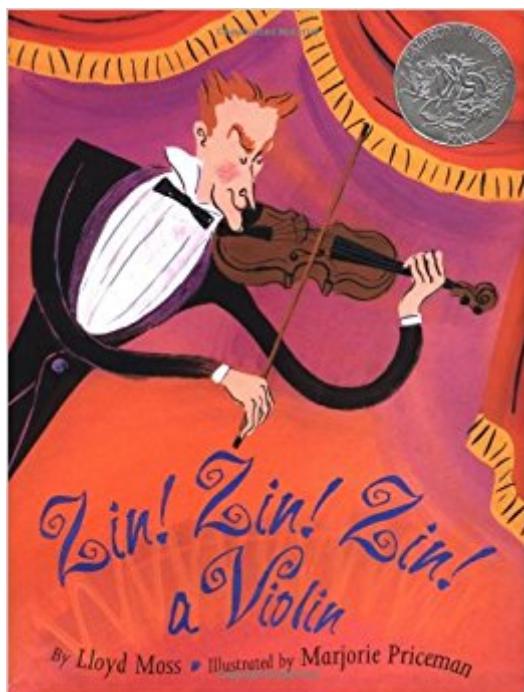


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Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin (Caldecott Honor Book)



Synopsis

When this book begins, the trombone is playing all by itself. But soon a trumpet makes a duet, a french horn a trio, and so on until the entire orchestra is assembled on stage. Written in elegant and rhythmic verse and illustrated with playful and flowing artwork, this unique counting book is the perfect introduction to musical groups. Readers of all ages are sure to shout "Encore!" when they reach the final page of this joyous celebration of classical music.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD730L (What's this?)

Series: Caldecott Honor Book

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Ex-library edition (March 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0671882392

ISBN-13: 978-0671882396

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 118 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #183,171 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #118 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Instrumentation > Violin #170 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music #551 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

"The STRINGS all soar, the REEDS implore, / The BRASSES roar with notes galore. / It's music that we all adore. / It's what we go to concerts for." In this exuberant tribute to classical music and the passionate, eccentric musicians who play it, author Lloyd Moss begins with the mournful moan and silken tone of one trombone. A trumpet sings and stings along, forming a duo, then a fine French horn joins in, "TWO, now THREE-O, what a TRIO!" The mellow cello ups it to a quartet, then ZIN! ZIN! ZIN! a violin soars high and moves in to make a quintet. The flute that "sends our soul a-shiver" makes a sextet, and "with steely keys that softly click," a sleek, black, woody clarinet slips the group into a septet. We move on! A chamber group of ten! And the orchestra is ready to begin.

Moss should be congratulated for creating a playful, musical stream of rhyming couplets that seamlessly, slyly teaches the names of myriad musical groups. Marjorie Priceman, the whimsical, masterful illustrator of Elsa Okon Rael's *When Zaydeh Danced on Eldridge Street* and Jack Prelutsky's *For Laughing Out Loud*, won a Caldecott Honor Award for this swirling, twirling, colorful musical world worthy of thunderous applause and a standing ovation. (Ages 4 to 8) --Karin Snelson

This debut book by author Moss, as kids today would say is boss. Its clever, jazzy verse presents (In language that is never dense) a helpful intro to each orchestra instrument-how some are alike but rather more are different. He starts with the trombone's "mournful moan," playing solo (i.e., alone); then adds a trumpet, French horn and cello-all sounding forth a signature "hello." Each musical portrait (in quatrains) abounds with perfectly chosen, alliterative sounds. Thus the flute, notes Moss, "sends our soul a-shiver; flute, that slender silver sliver." And Priceman's zany art's just right, with loose-limbed figures taking flight around each spread in garb bizarre, if proving how funky musicians are. With every new instrument joining the throng of diligent players practicing song, Moss incorporates numbers and stops only when his team finally reaches a "chamber group of ten." So the book can be used as a counting tool (A great way to perk up a dull day at school): but it really works best, it's easy to see, as a deft means of meeting the symphony. So a plentiful praise to this finely matched pair, whose pictures and words show unusual flair. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

My son was given a stack of truck books when he was about 2 and began learning the names of all kinds of obscure heavy machinery. I thought, "that's neat, but if he can learn that, he can also learn other things (more important to ME :)." So I decided to look for books about music. I bought "Zin Zin Zin a Violin!" and, sure enough, he soon began to recognize an oboe, harp, trombone, etc. He and we, his parents, loved it so much I looked for another Moss book and found the equally wonderful, "Our Marching Band." As I wrote in my review of that book, it is primarily because of these two books that our son (who will be three next month) now recognizes all the major Western orchestral instruments, knows the difference between concert hall orchestras and marching bands, and is even aware of the difference between the type of batons used by a concert hall conductor and a marching band leader. The language is also fun and poetic with some lovely vocabulary and wonderful illustrations with diverse casts of characters. These books have truly influenced and become part of our life, and we're the happier for it!

One musician after another begin to practice their instrument on the stage of the theater until ten musicians are playing their instruments, creating an orchestra of beautiful music that two cats, one mouse and one dog enjoy along with the audience. *Zin! Zin! Zin!* a Violin has bright, award-winning illustrations and curved, rhyming text that teaches numbers, musical instruments and musical terms in an exciting way. The background colors of the pages change throughout the book. The vivid colors Moss uses are red, pink, orange, green, and yellow. Since the illustrations do not have any distinction between the floor and wall, when the focus is on one instrument, the other musicians and their instruments seem to float in the background. The appearance of them floating or flying creates excitement and movement in the story. The violinist's movements are described in the text as, "soaring high and moving in." Several of the musicians have curved arms or bodies, which contributes to motion and the playing of music. Also, this book is multicultural in that it includes Caucasians, an African American cellist and an Asian flutist. These all assemble together to form a ten- piece orchestra. Most of the text is printed in a curved or waved pattern and correlates with the curved illustrations and the sense of motion created by the musicians playing the instruments. Words such as "moan," "tone," "oiled," "coiled," "throbbing," "sobbing," and "gliding," "sliding" rhyme, and create a flowing pattern as they are read. These words as well as "sleek," "black," "breezy," "yellow," and "rings" beautifully describe the way musical instruments look and sound. Moss uses alliteration as another stylistic device to generate excitement. He describes the trumpet as, "sings and stings its swinging song." The text that accompanies the flute describes it this way: "sends our soul a-shiver; ...slender, silver sliver." Also the text is a counting sequence which teaches numbers. As each instrument is added to the group, the text counts. For example, "Two, now three-o, what a trio!" Along with the numbers, the musical terms for instruments playing together, such as duo, trio, and quartet, are incorporated as seen in the quote, "what a trio!" The numbers paired with the music terms inform the reader of the number of instruments that compose a quartet, quintet, sextet, and the other groups. Priceman uses beautifully colored illustrations to orchestrate a sense of excitement as the musicians gather together to perform. At the same time, Moss uses stylistic devices of rhyming and alliteration and the use of numbers and musical vocabulary to delight and to teach.

Good introduction to various orchestra music instruments for young children. The rhyme is cute, though sometimes may seem forced, it doesn't "baby" down the language even for the younger crowd - the vocabulary level is challenging and not typical without being out of reach (e.g. "encore" and "octet"). Text is not too long or verbose so doesn't overwhelm young children. A fun read aloud

for our music loving 2 year old and seems good through kindergarren. Though not the main focus, also a good and atypical counting book (10 instruments introduced one by one and counted upwards from a solo to duo, trio, quartet up to a nonet to a chamber group of ten.) Very lively, dynamic illustrations (see picture of cover) - I enjoyed them as an adult. Good gender/race mix for the musicians - a positive book in terms of diversity issues. Overall, a very good book for exposing young children to musical instruments; definitely worth having.

My toddler loves the book, asked us to read it at least a few hundred times and memorized the words cover to cover.

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