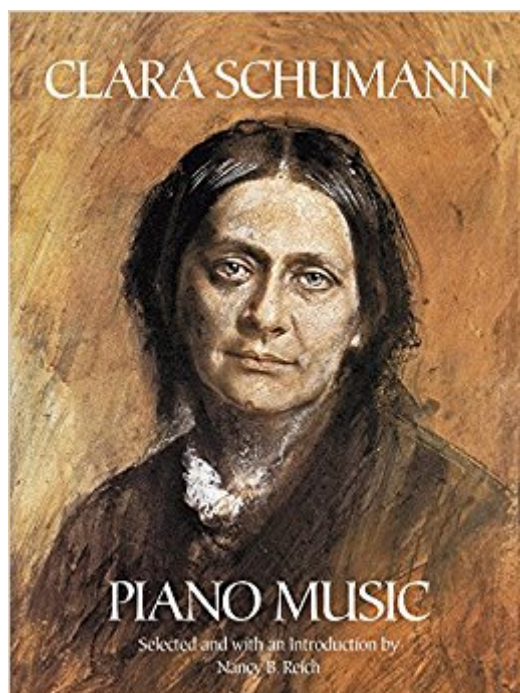


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Born in London in 1921, Mary was educated at Haberdashers' Aske's Girls School, Acton. During the Second World War she served in the Women's Royal Naval Service (Wrens) attached to the Fleet Air Arm Meteorology branch and then briefly with the Signal Section in Plymouth. Writing was in her blood. Juggling her work as a local government officer in Middlesex Education Department with writing, at first short stories for magazines and pieces for The Times Educational Supplement, she then had her first book, *The Winter City*, published in 1961. The book was a success and enabled Mary to relinquish her full time occupation to devote her time to writing. Even so, when she came to her beloved Lewes in 1961, she still took a part-time appointment, as a secretary, with the

East Sussex Educational Psychology department. Long before family sagas had become cult viewing, she had embarked upon the 'Fairley Family' trilogy - Good Daughters, Indifferent Heroes, and Welcome Strangers - books which give her readers a faithful, realistic and uncompromising portrayal of ordinary people caught up in extraordinary times, between the years of 1933 and 1946. For many years she was an active member of the 'Monday Lit', a Lewes-based group which brought in current writers and poets to speak about their work. Equally, she was an enthusiastic supporter of Lewes Little Theatre, where she found her role as 'prompter' the most satisfying, and worshipped at the town's St Pancras RC Church. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

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As a pianist, I'm familiar with Clara's husband's music. So I was pleased to find all of Clara Schumann's piano music compiled in one volume. It will be interesting to compare her output (limited) to her husband's.

After playing piano for a long time, I have finally discovered a wonderful woman composer. The music is great and not too difficult to play if you are a medium to good pianist. A wonderful discovery.

great job

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I am just loving the wonderful music book with songs written by a woman in the 1800s. She was amazing and her music is amazing.

Those 70's women's lib folks adopted her as their own. If you think you know music, and still endorse this mediocrity, you're a bigot (in a nice way of course).

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