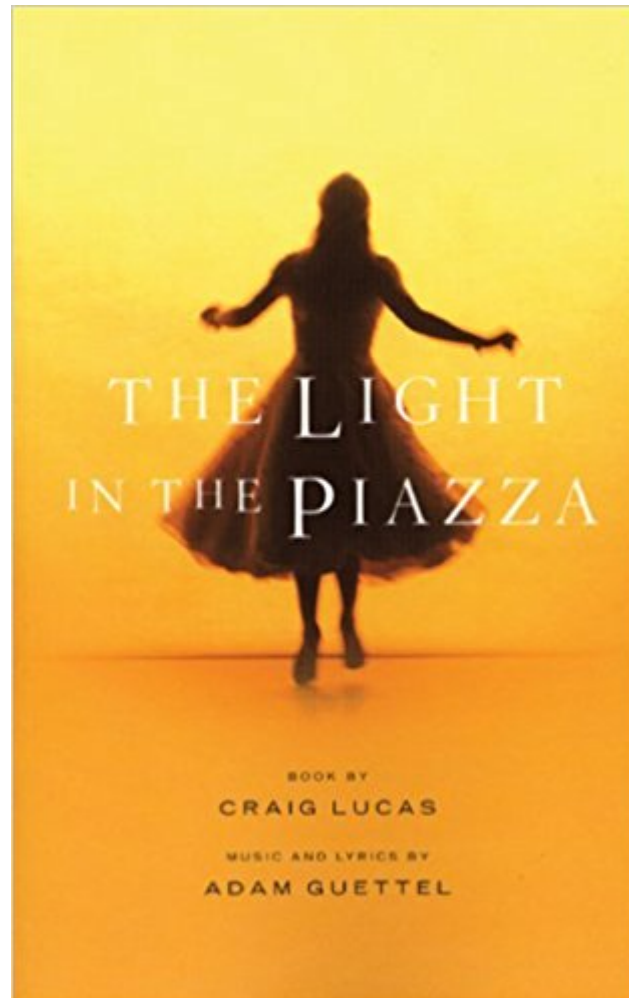




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The Light In The Piazza



Synopsis

Note: This is a Standalone book and does not include Music Sheet. Winner of six Tony Awards
“A wondrous fable that is as simple and complicated as its ineffable subject—love. The Light in the Piazza has ravishing power. It’s as if Guettel were determined to capture the golden light of Tuscany in a bottle. His lyrics are remarkable, and the book, written by Craig Lucas, is written with characteristic empathy and humor. Brilliant.”
—Frank Rich
“The Light in the Piazza beautifully captures the eternal allure of Italy. . . The story wraps itself around your heart.”
—Chicago Sun-Times
“Sumptuous and romantic. Guettel’s music and lyrics represent a genuine expense of spirit. The Light in the Piazza offers a complex contemplation of the well-defended emptiness of every man and woman. It doesn’t want theatergoers to feel good; it wants to make them feel deeply. And it does.”
—New Yorker
Composer Adam Guettel, best known for his Floyd Collins, has teamed with Prelude to a Kiss playwright Craig Lucas to create a passionate and soaring new musical. Based on Elizabeth Spencer’s 1960 novella, The Light in the Piazza is the story of a young American woman whose chance encounter with a charming young Italian man in a Florentine piazza sets off a whirlwind romance, with an unsettling revelation. Craig Lucas is a playwright, screenwriter and director. His plays include Prelude to a Kiss, Reckless, Blue Window, God’s Heart, The Singing Forest and Small Tragedy. His screenplays include Longtime Companion, The Secret Lives of Dentists and The Dying Gaul, which he also directed. Mr. Lucas’s awards include the L.A. Drama Critics Award, an OBIE Award for Best Play and Best Director, and the Excellence in Literature Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Adam Guettel is a composer/lyricist living in Seattle, where he is Artist in Residence at the Intiman Theatre. His other work includes Floyd Collins and Saturn Returns (recorded by Nonesuch Records as Myths and Hymns). Mr. Guettel’s awards include the Stephen Sondheim Award, the ASCAP New Horizons Award, and the American Composers Orchestra Award.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Craig Lucas recently won the 2004 OBIE Award for Best Play for his work "Small Tragedy". He is the author of numerous plays including "Reckless" and "A Prelude to A Kiss", both of which were Broadway successes and made into films. Composer and lyricist, Adam Guettel is best known for Floyd Collins (published by TCG in The New American Musical), which has been widely produced and available on Nonesuch Records.

"The Light In The Piazza" well deserved its many Tony Awards. Craig Lucas' book perfectly echoes Adam Guettel's gorgeous, lilting, classical score (not included, but worth listening to at the appropriate points in the book). After a charming opening scene, which introduces Clara's mental simplicity, without, thankfully, being heavy-handed about it. Indeed, Clara's mental condition takes a back seat to the story -- always lurking in the background, but not the reason that the show exists. After the reader learns about her condition, Clara meets Fabrizzio in a way that would make Wodehouse, Bolton, and Joseph Fields, the librettists of old, proud -- Clara's hat is caught by the wind and magically makes its way right to Fabrizzio's hand. After their first encounter, however, it becomes clear that they are both secondary characters -- the musical comedy structure is a background against which Margaret Johnson, Clara's mother, struggles with herself, and whether she is truly helping or merely hindering Clara by keeping such a tight hand on her. My only qualms about the published libretto lie in plot points that are never resolved. Romance is implied between Margaret and Senor Naccarelli, Fabrizzio's father, but the reader never learns what becomes of it. Similarly, Margaret tells (via telephone) her husband, Roy, not to come to Italy, because he will not find them. Both Margaret and Roy express sorrow at love that apparently disappeared, and desire to rekindle it. However, the reader never finds out exactly what Margaret means by her ultimatum. Her last words to her husband, who is still in North Carolina, are tender, but the reader is still wondering what she plans to do at the close of the play. Overall, highly recommended.

So happy to own the script of my favorite show.

Beautiful story, beautiful music

A thorough, detailed score book of one of the most beautiful musicals ever written.

If you love The Light in the Piazza, as I do, the earlier vocal selections were just too skimpy! This is the real deal.

This was a gift and I think it was well received

As the other reviewers correctly point out, the vocal line is included in the arrangement, which is a problem for those looking to accompany a singer. However, for those who just want to play this stunning music on the piano, this is a terrific book that deserves 5 stars. Guettel's music is enormously complex, both rhythmically and harmonically, and the transcriptions capture most of this. It's certainly not a breeze to play, but the effort is worth the reward.

Hal Leonard Corporation is concerned that customers who search for The Light in the Piazza may not find the exact product they want, or worse still, think they've found their product yet order another. To help avert such confusion, here are descriptions of the three Hal Leonard publications bearing the name The Light in the Piazza. [Prices current day of the review. Also compare page count and date of release.]

Vocal Score: \$43.88, 240 pages, Released March, 2014. Contains the show's complete original piano accompaniments, plus two which were revised for this edition, "Dividing Day" and "Love to Me." There are also several corrections to the lyrics. This is the complete, authorized VOCAL SCORE and includes the music for all transitions and underscoring. http://www.hal-leonard.com/Light-Piazza-Vocal-Score/dp/1480362344/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1396285865&sr=1-2&keywords=light+in+the+piazza

Piano/Vocal Selections: \$14.58, 96 pages, Released November, 2005. Contains 10 songs arranged with the melody in the piano, plus a bio of Adam Guettel and color production photos. The songs are "The Beauty Is"; "Dividing Day"; "Love to Me"; "Fable"; "Il Mondo Era Vuoto";

"Let's Walk"; "The Light in the
 Piazza"; "Love to Me";
 "Passeggiata"; "Say It Somehow";
 "Statues and Stories"; plus a performance edition of
 "The Light in the
 Piazza." http://www..com/Light-Piazza-Winner-including-Original/dp/142340386X/ref=tmm_other_meta_binding_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&sr=1-2&qid=1396285865 Libretto: \$10.36,
 128 pages, Released January, 2007 This contains the complete Book and Lyrics from the Broadway
 show as published by Theatre Communications
 Group. http://www..com/Light-Piazza-Craig-Lucas/dp/1559362677/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&sr=1-2&qid=1396285865

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