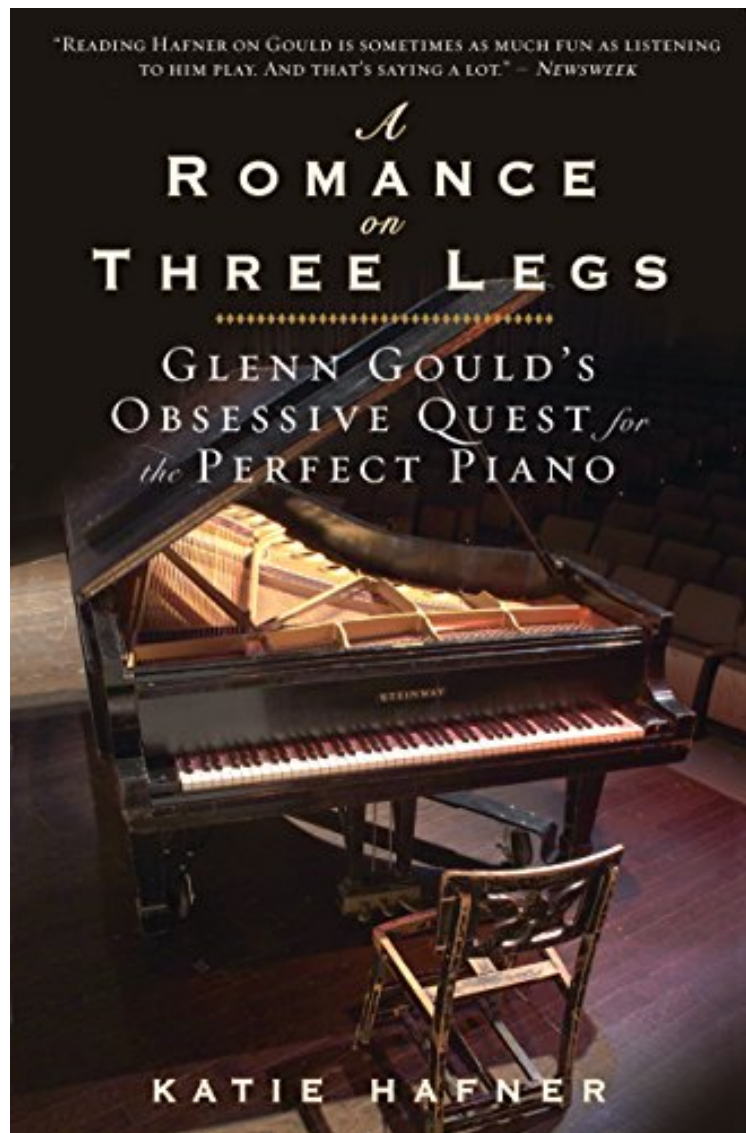


(Pdf free) A Romance on Three Legs: Glenn Gould's Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Piano

## A Romance on Three Legs: Glenn Gould's Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Piano

*Katie Hafner*

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**Katie Hafner : A Romance on Three Legs: Glenn Gould's Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Piano** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Romance on Three Legs: Glenn Gould's Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Piano:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. GLENN GOULDS GRAND PIANOBy Letitia W.GRAND PIANOThe book is so interesting and inspiring that I haven't even gotten half-way through. I save it and study between other stories,and will probably re-read it once I finish. The tale begins with a description of a grand piano that

was once used by the pianist Glen Gould. I am a pianist so first, I found more about the life of the spectacular musician Glenn Gould that I had not known. I have one of his Bach cds but intend to get the Goldberg Variations that were so talked about when Gould's recording was first issued. And then, the story moves away from Mr. Gould and on to the person, who almost completely blind later, after serious training, becomes the caretaker, of Glenn Gould's piano. His name is Verne Lundquist.. The description of his training as an almost blind person, in itself made the book even more interesting. For instance to earn a license he had to tune over a thousand pianos. Can't wait to get back to finishing! .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Curious but CaptivatingBy spockcThis is a good read for people who don't know much about the Steinway piano company, but it is even more fascinating as a study of the richly talented but equally eccentric pianist Glen Gould. I've known for years that the Steinway is considered by many musicians as the finest piano in the world, but this book gives the history of the company as well as a layman's rundown of the interest process of hand-producing these one-of-a-kind concert grand pianos. However, the real story for me was the life of the pianist Gould. I've seen some videos of Gould on Youtube and heard his name mentioned as a gifted artist, but I was mesmerized to learn about Gould's life and his genuine obsession to find THE ONE Steinway concert grand piano. Hafner takes the reader from the beginning of Gould's life when he first discovered his musical talent to the blossoming of his career to his gradual move from live concerts to recording, always told in the context of Gould's total obsession with finding and playing the true love of his life, Steinway CD 318. I couldn't put it down!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. More than meets the earBy D. J. LeedhamAm just finishing this book for the second read. Seems to hit the right balance of interest and entertainment for those of us who want to learn more about Gould and his music, but are neither musicologists, nor keen on trivial gossip. This is a love story about an obsessive perfectionist and a piano, and the tuner(s) who made it work for him. There is sufficient technical detail to make the story truly interesting together with a narrative that weaves the various strands of man, machine, technician, travels and travails... A small, journalistic, insight into Glenn Gould the genius who brought Bach to life....Light enough to read on a plane or train, but substantial enough to be memorable....

Glenn Gould was famous for his obsessions: the scarves, sweaters and fingerless gloves that he wore even on the hottest summer days; his deep fear of germs and illness; the odd wooden "pygmy" chair that he carried with him wherever he performed; and his sudden withdrawal from the public stage at the peak of his career. But perhaps Gould's greatest obsession of all was for a particular piano, a Steinway concert grand known as CD318 (C, meaning for the use of Steinway Concert Artists only, and D, denoting it as the largest that Steinway built). A Romance on Three Legs is the story of Gould's love for this piano, from the first moment of discovery, in a Toronto dept. store, to the tragic moment when the piano was dropped and seriously damaged while being transported from a concert overseas. Hafner also introduces us to the world and art of piano tuning, including a central character in Gould's life, the blind tuner Verne Edquist, who lovingly attended to CD318 for more than two decades. We learn how a concert grand is built, and the fascinating story of how Steinway Sons weathered the war years by supplying materials for the military effort. Indeed, CD318 came very close to ending up as a series of glider parts or, worse, a casket. The book has already been lauded by Kevin Bazzana, author of the definitive Gould biography, who notes that Hafner "has clarified some old mysteries and turned up many fresh details."