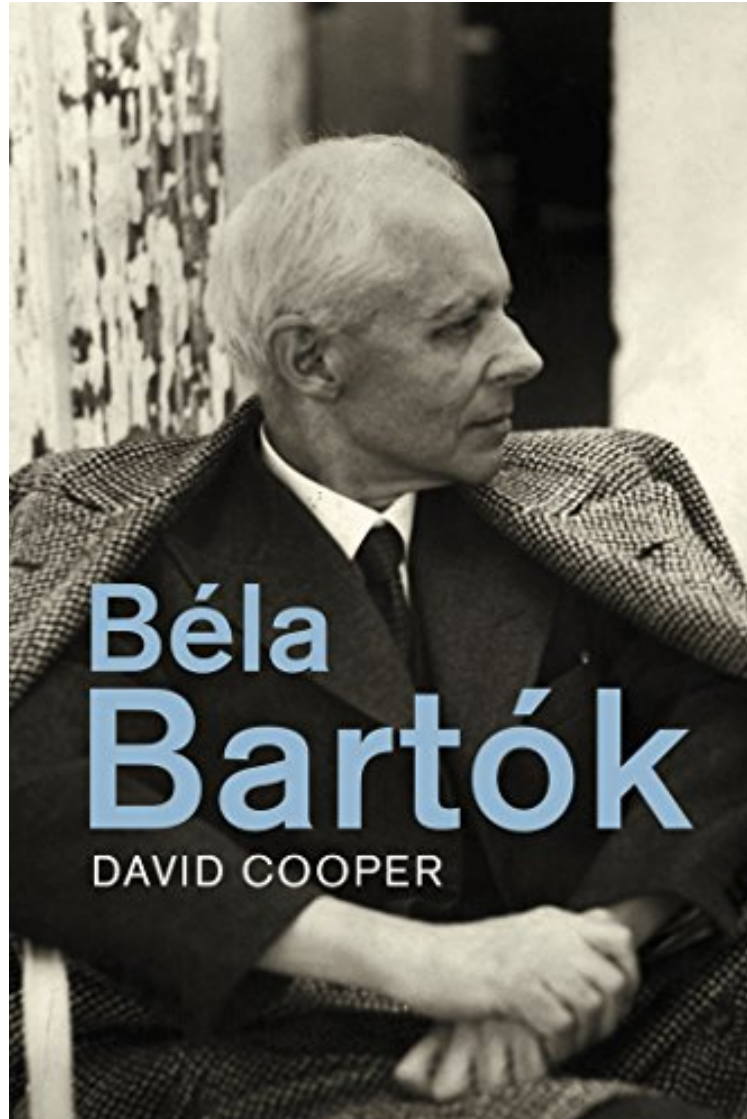



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Béla Bartók

David Cooper

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David Cooper : Béla Bartók before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Béla Bartók:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Mguayaqui I liked it 1 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars By Dr. Vanessa Smith Very technical for the non-expert. 1 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Sorry, but I really don't know for whom this ... By Customer Sorry, but I really don't know for whom this book is destined. For a normal layman it is not possible to read it. And I guess for a professional musician it is not of much help. He can take the notes himself and analyse them. I expected more on the side of the biography. Perhaps Mr. Cooper should have put the analysis of the music at the end of the book, as an appendix. It would be

much easier to read.

"This deeply researched biography of Bela Bartok (1881–1945) provides a more comprehensive view of the innovative Hungarian musician than ever before. David Cooper traces Bartok's international career as an ardent ethno-musicologist and composer, teacher, and pianist, while also providing a detailed discussion of most of his works. Further, the author explores how Europe's political and cultural tumult affected Bartok's work, travel, and reluctant emigration to the safety of America in his final years. Cooper illuminates Bartok's personal life and relationships, while also expanding what is known about the influence of other musicians—Richard Strauss, Zoltan Kodaly, and Yehudi Menuhin, among many others. The author also looks closely at some of the composer's actions and behaviors which may have been manifestations of Asperger syndrome. The book, in short, is a consummate biography of an internationally admired musician."

Cooper's book combines biography with musical analysis, which is illuminating... He calls on an unprecedented range of sources, and new details emerge—*Ivan Hewett, the Daily Telegraph.*