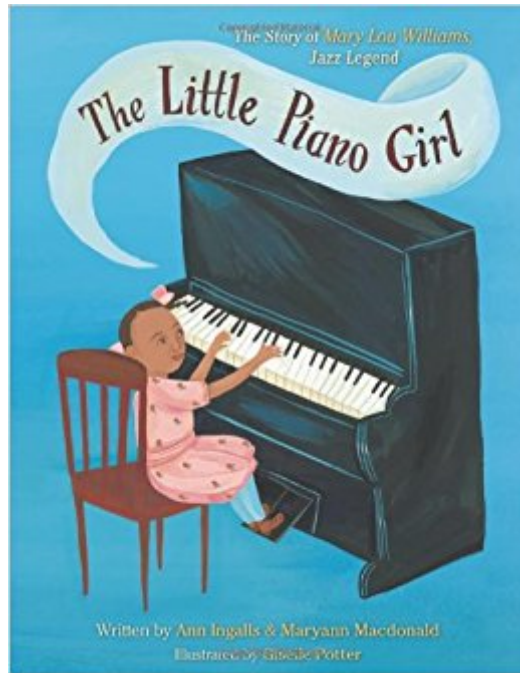




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# The Little Piano Girl: The Story Of Mary Lou Williams, Jazz Legend



## Synopsis

What if you loved music more than anything? Suppose you had just learned to play the piano. Imagine that your family has to move to a new city and you have to leave your piano behind. People don't like you in the new city because of what you look like. How will you make yourself feel better? Mary Lou Williams, like Mozart, began playing the piano when she was four; at eight she became a professional musician. She wrote and arranged music for Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie, and was one of the most powerful women in jazz. This is the story of Mary Lou's childhood in Pittsburgh, where she played the piano for anyone who would listen.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD690L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (January 18, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618959742

ISBN-13: 978-0618959747

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,267,505 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Jazz #291 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Musical #419 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > United States

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

"Acknowledging Mary's long, worldwide career as an elegant, accomplished performer "in beautiful shoes," this sweet tribute neatly fills a niche in the panoply of titles about jazz greats." •Kirkus "Potter's naive, doll-like figures, poised in their slightly tipsy, extravagantly patterned domestic settings, recall the mannered portraiture of the colonial period. With a steadily growing collection of picture books on jazz greats now available for the storytime set, it's nice to see a strong female musician take her place on the shelves." •Bulletin

Ann Ingalls and Maryann Macdonald are sisters and lifelong music lovers. Ann lives in Kansas City, and Maryann lives in New York. This is Ann's first book, and Maryann's twenty-second.

The Little Piano Girl is a touching and poignant depiction of jazz pianist Mary Lou Williams' childhood. Filled with colorful illustrations, the story is lively and fast-paced and sure to capture the interest and imagination of children. It's wonderful that books for all ages are finally being written about this great jazz legend, whose contribution to jazz has not been fully recognized. I am an elementary school music teacher as well as a writer, and my young students thoroughly enjoyed the story of young Mary's amazing early life. Sarah Bruce Kelly Author of JAZZ GIRL, a novel of Mary Lou Williams and her early life

Very happy with this purchase.

My Granddaughter loves this book, and it was out of print. We obtained a discard library book for too much \$ but it was worth it.

All people of color should have their children read about Mary Lou Williams.

Will be using this in my classroom during black history month. I've downloaded some of her selections and plan to play them while I read the story, then we'll open up my piano and check out how it works, great experience for 1st graders!

Bought it for my grand daughter (20 Mos) I am sure she will enjoy reading it when she learns to read.

Love this book

I love the book and it makes a perfect gift for the kids of jazz lovers who would like their children -- especially little girls -- to be inspired and grow up appreciating jazz piano.

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