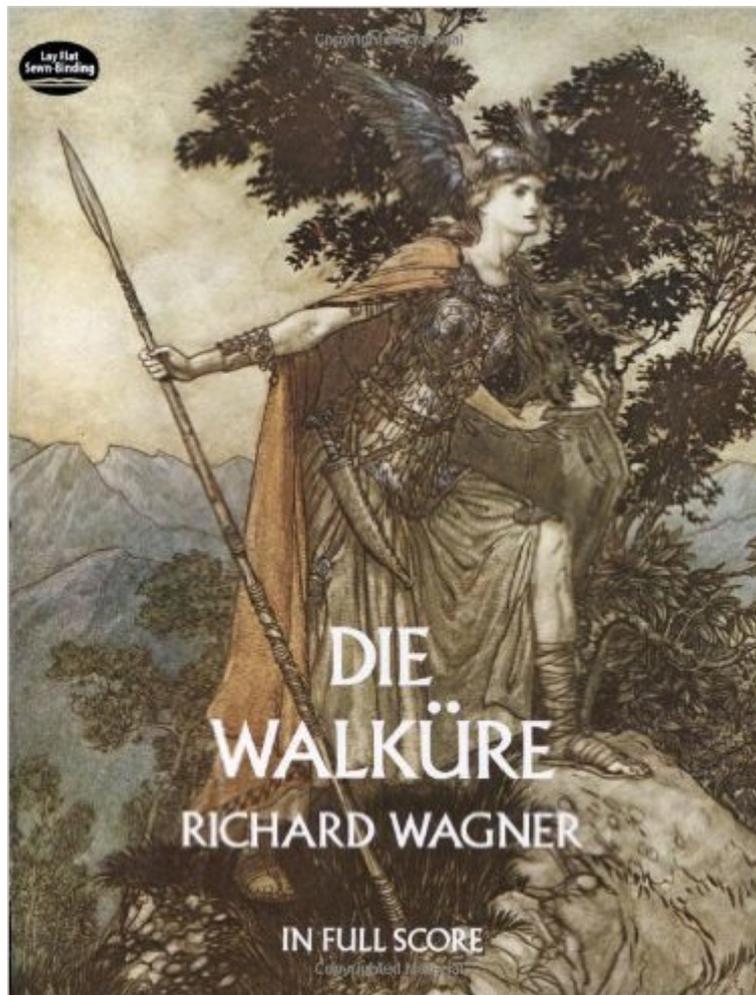


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Die Walkure In Full Score



Synopsis

A landmark in the history of opera, Die Walküre is the most popular and most frequently performed opera among those that make up the Ring Cycle. It contains some of Wagner's best-known and most memorable music and stands alone as a complete work. This edition reproduces the full orchestral and vocal score in a clear, modern engraving with large, legible notation for easy reading and study. Do not confuse this with a piano rendering; it is the full orchestral score – nothing has been left out. Perfect for study, this score is also indispensable for anyone listening to recordings. In no other manner can the listener keep full awareness of the orchestral richness of this opera.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

this has got to be one of the greatest operas of all time. dover's publication is neatly laid out and easy to follow. the paper and binding are good quality; i own many dover scores and they've all held up very well, even though i use them a lot. 'full score' means you get the music as it was written for every instrument (including vocals), just as the composer intended for it to be played, just as you would hear it performed live or on cd. a list of instruments is also included to give an idea of the massive orchestra that the work calls for. if you don't know german, you may want an english translation of the libretto (it's not translated here), and a good german to english dictionary, as wagner wrote his musical instructions (tempo, articulation) in german, rather than the usual italian. for composers or music lovers, this is a great way to study orchestration and composition, right at the

feet of one of the masters...

The one-star rating is merely to draw attention to a problem. The top line in the little box that displays the purchase options - new, used, paperback, etc. - will divert you to an item that is the LIBRETTO ONLY. Nothing describes it as such, and all the reviews on the new page refer to the full score. The cover design is different, but I figured it was a different printing. It doesn't help that erroneously describes the full score as being part of the Dover Vocal Score series - though, if the vocal score with piano reduction is what you want, they have that, too. (Fortunately, the Dover cover design is fully legible in thumbnail.) Just be advised that until this situation is corrected - , are you reading this? - you'll have to do some sleuthing to find what you want and be extra vigilant to make sure the right thing ends up in your cart. Despite my complaints, I have to give credit for making the return and refund process super-easy.

Before I got the score, I had listened to the opera once through and after grasping the basic story with the libretto, I decided to go ahead and see what German opera was all about even though I had been told by many people that it was 'heavy' and I should avoid Wagner at all costs. The result was something I hadn't been expecting. The score is wonderfully presented and extremely clear. Of course, it's a big score (just over 700 pages) but opens out flatly and doesn't damage the spine - quite clever thing from Dover! Text is all in German apart from a translation of the contents, characters and orchestration so unless you've mastered the German language, get your hands on a German or music dictionary. See-through is minimal. The score had been intended to be the second package to arrive but ended up being the last. The reason: someone had mixed their 'r' and 'c' up and instead of posting to Ireland, they somehow managed to send it a few miles north to Iceland. It arrived though, explaining the long journey it had undertaken!!! A good bargain for such a complex and diverse score.

Unlike Schott's editions (which Dover uses for its reprints of the other 3 operas of the cycle "Der Ring des Nibelungen" {"The Nibelung's Ring"}), the Peters version reprinted here DOES have the voice and instrumental staves mostly arranged in proper order, making things a great deal easier to follow. [Alas, there's one exception - having the voices (though not stage instruments - that part at least is already in proper order) between the violas and the 'celli - at least they're consistent with it which helps...] Also the fonts used by the Peters engraving are somewhat clearer than those of Schott in their first editions (their current edition of the complete works of Richard Wagner is

SUPERLATIVE but no doubt fantastically expensive!!!). This score of one of Wagner's most accessible works is not only a steal at the price, it's an excellent score, period (though I could visualise it using fewer pages if the engravings were done differently whereby the systems would have been somewhat smaller but done for a larger paper-size). GET IT!!!!

This Dover Edition has everything what I was hoping for: clear and elegant print of complete score with concise preface notes (also in English translation). I recommend this edition to all music students, Wagner lovers, and connoisseurs.

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