The Life of Mahler; 9780521467612; 1997; Peter Franklin; 228 pages; Cambridge University Press, 1997

Mahler's life was as vivid and as emotionally stormy as his music. As a Bohemian Jew who managed to flourish in fin de siÃ©cle Vienna with its toxic anti-Semitism, Mahler is a case study in cultural collision. His complicated domestic life, his marriage at the peak of his fame to the much younger and musically talented Alma Schindler, the tragic death of their 4-year-old daughter and his seeking out Sigmund Freud to help solve the crisis in his marriage all provide seemingly endless number of portals into the mysteries of his music. This to me is regrettable in a book of this length and presumed scope, because so much of the true genius of Mahler's invention lies in his astonishingly skillful manipulation of harmony, counterpoint, form and instrumentation. This book is also dedicated to everyone that has improved the life of another being. FOREWORD. By Steve Cotter.

Don't be fooled by the title. Live Life Aggressively! What Self-help Gurus Should Be Telling You by Mike Mahler is not a book advocating violence or aggression toward people. Rather it is a call-to-action, an invitation for you, the reader to stand up and take account of your own life and your actions. This book is not group hug. It is more like a bucket of ice-cold water tossed on you while you slumber in your warm, comfy habits. Summary:â€œThe legendary life of the muse of geniuses, Alma Mahler-Gropius-Werfelâ€œProvided by publisher. ISBN 978-1-55553-789-0 (cloth: alkaline paper)â€œISBN 978-1-55553-845-3 (e-book) 1. Mahler, Alma, 1879–1964. 2. Vienna (Austria)â€œBiography. 3.

Wivesâ€œBiography.â€œConspicuously, the book is not even divided into chapters. Besides this, some episodes are given specific dates, while others are only vaguely attributed seasonal descriptions like â€œin autumnâ€œor â€œat a later time.â€œThe reader is thus not in a position to delve into a specific point in Almaâ€œs life; time and space blur into a diffuse generality.