



## Vienna in Violet: A Musical Mystery

By David W. Frank

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**Vienna in Violet: A Musical Mystery** By David W. Frank

**Hours after Franz Schubert and Johann Michael Vogl perform a commissioned song for a notorious countess, she ends up dead, and the two musicians become the prime suspects.**

Franz Schubert is convinced by his friend and musical partner, Johann Michael Vogl, to set aside preparations for his new opera *Alfonso Und Estrella* to accept a commission from the notorious Countess Eugénie von Neulinger. Schubert agrees to set an anonymous poem to music and present it with Vogl at one of the countess's famous soirées. Within hours of the performance, Countess Eugénie, the secret author of the poem, is murdered. Both Schubert and Vogl, an old paramour of Eugénie, become suspects.

Authorities assigned to the case care more about providing a quick, politically expedient solution to the crime than catching the right criminal, and begin to delve into Schubert's and Vogl's private lives. When one of the detectives assigned to follow Schubert also ends up dead, Vogl sees a noose tightening around his composer friend. Convinced that the commissioned song must be the key, Vogl acts desperately but decisively to stop the murderer as well as to preserve the source of much immortal music.

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## **Editorial Review**

### About the Author

After wrapping up a forty-year teaching career teaching English mostly at the high school level and producing plays for thirty-four years at The Roxbury Latin School in Boston, David W. Frank has continued his literary and dramatic pursuits in non-academic settings. His adaptations of Ibsen's *The Pillars of Society* and Henry Fielding's *The Mock Doctor* were published online, and his adaptations of Gozzi's *The Love of Three Oranges* and Aristophanes' *The Clouds* were performed, as well as the revue, *Musical!* for which he wrote the book. His original play, *4'33" in Rehearsal* was also performed onstage. David's life-long hobby, classical piano, introduced him to Schubert at an early age, and his education includes a year at the Eastman School in Rochester, New York. *Vienna in Violet* is his third published novel, the first with a historical setting and the second to feature a musical maguffin.

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**Donald Warren:**

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