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A puzzle that only a musician could solve,  
A mystery that only a musician could write.

## Out of Tune Piano Blues

### James Boyk

Join concert pianist Arthur Singer, 30, on tour, as a "routine" college visit stuns him with a tragic death, electrifies him with a unique romance, and amazes him with a panoply of fascinating characters.

James Boyk inducts the reader into music's mysteries: the performer's mind during a concert, the heart of the teacher-student relationship; and shows how the soul of the artist, cradled by music, may be torn asunder by the tensions of a career.

Readers say: *"For lovers of music and mystery, for those fascinated by the complexities of human characters and the intricacies of detective stories, this book offers a unique blend, in language precise, transparent, and unexpected, with music penetrating the entire fabric."* *"Absolutely original."* *"Teeming with life and its perils and joys."* *"The most lyrical love scenes I've ever read."*

Pianist James Boyk is known internationally for his concert recordings ("Fabulous"—*Gramophone*). He is on the 2011 faculty of the International Keyboard Institute & Festival, and was Pianist in Residence for thirty years at California Institute of Technology (Caltech), where he was also Lecturer in Music in Electrical Engineering and founded the Caltech Music Lab. He holds a CalArts MFA in piano, and an AB in mathematics from Harvard; and has written for *Scientific American*, *The Los Angeles Times Magazine*, and other publications. His book for musicians, *To Hear Ourselves as Others Hear Us*, is universally praised. This is his first novel.

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