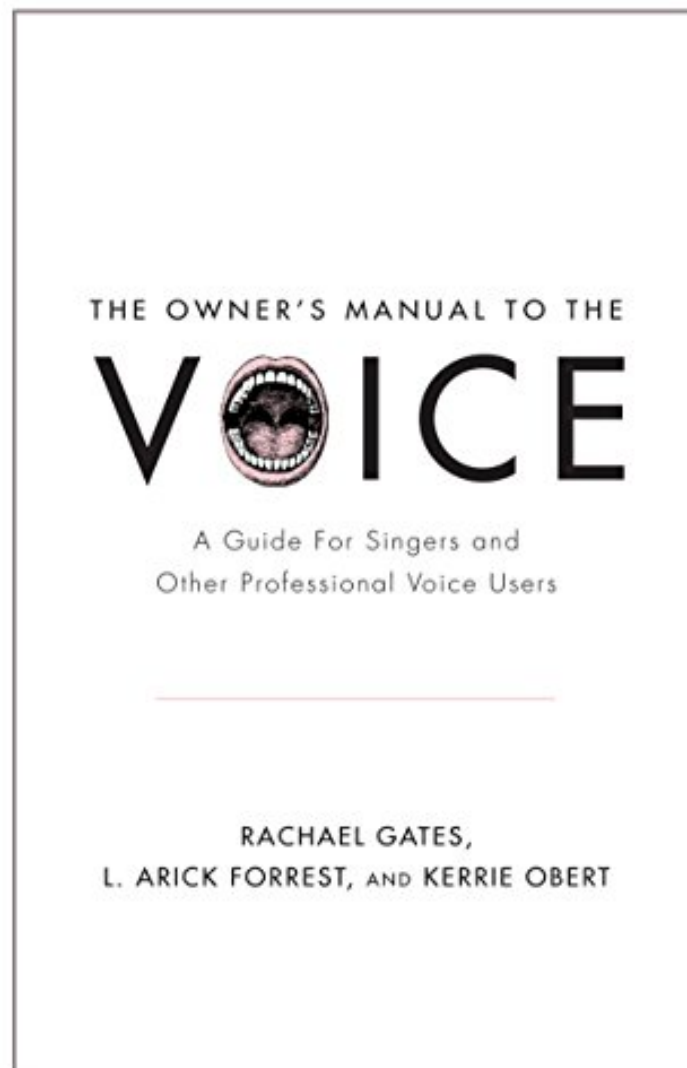


## The Owner's Manual to the Voice: A Guide for Singers and Other Professional Voice Users

*Rachael Gates, L. Arick Forrest, Kerrie Obert*  
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**Rachael Gates, L. Arick Forrest, Kerrie Obert : The Owner's Manual to the Voice: A Guide for Singers and Other Professional Voice Users** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Owner's Manual to the Voice: A Guide for Singers and Other Professional Voice Users:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. easy-to-read format with an excellent balance of the basics of vocal pedagogyBy Rebecca S SchorschThis book is an essential and practical resource for singers of all genres. "The Owner's Manual to the Voice" is laid out in a clear, easy-to-read format with an excellent balance of the basics of

vocal pedagogy, medical information and practical, essential info on vocal health. It is especially useful for students. As a voice teacher who specializes in Musical Theater singing and all the popular styles under that umbrella, Dr. Gates' book is a very welcome addition to my teaching resources and well-received by the young singers I teach. Finding vocal ped and health books palatable for young singers without a classical background or no foundation in pedagogy outside of voice lessons is not easy. Her language is fresh, direct, immediately comprehensible and she does an excellent job of presenting complicated principles in a digestible, \*usable\* form. Outstanding tips on when to seek medical attention for vocal issues, a break-down of medications and how they impact the vocal instrument, and general self-care as a vocal professional. This book is now an established resource for me along with *The Diagnosis and Correction of Vocal Faults* and *What Every Singer Needs to Know About the Body*.<sup>3</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. Mandatory buying By beaglegirl I teach voice for a living and was interested when this book came out. It was such a great find, I keep it on the piano for regular reference during lessons. The most valuable part of this book, for me, was the description of hydration, which was the most complete I have ever read. This reference falls among those few books that every serious singer and teacher **MUST** own.<sup>5</sup> of 5 people found the following review helpful. As one reviewer said, "FINALLY!" By gkra This book will be a treasure for singers, broadcasters, and any professional voice users to own; it contains very thorough information about the voice, medications that affect the voice, vocal anatomy, photos, and how to talk intelligently with a doctor about our "instrument." It would make a great text book for pedagogy classes.

Singers must equip themselves with enough knowledge to clearly convey specific sensations and difficulties with their instrument. Understanding of potential dangers and disorders, familiarity with a variety of medical procedures, and comprehension in various facets of diagnosis and treatments empower singers to "own," just like other musicians, their instrument. *The Owner's Manual to the Voice* provides singers with the knowledge necessary to communicate effectively and in intelligent terms about their instrument, especially when conversing with medical professionals. Beginning with an overview of the vocal anatomy, lead author Rachael Gates, and co-authors L. Arick Forrest, M.D. and Kerri Obert, M.A., C.C.C./S.L.P., proceed through detailed discussions of caring for the voice and common causes of vocal changes and problems before guiding the reader through the process of choosing, talking to, and working with an ENT. In so doing, they give insights that any professional voice user - whether singer, actor, broadcaster, politician, teacher, preacher, or lawyer - will find helpful if not essential.

"[A] clear and thorough overview of the vocal mechanism." --CHOICE About the Author Soprano, Opera Director and Singing Health Specialist, Dr. Rachael Gates, DMA, has sung in Germany, Italy, Russia and many of the United States. Dr. Gates was Assistant Opera Director at Northwestern University and Director of Midwest Young Artist's Opera and Music Theater Program in Chicago, IL for three years. She has taught Acting at The Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford, and guest directed operas for Yale University. She teaches vocal health to broadcasters, singers and SLP student clinicians at Michigan State University where she is a member of the MSU Musician's Wellness Team. She studied at Carnegie Mellon University, Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and The Ohio State University where she received her Doctorate of Music. L. Arick Forrest is Vice Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology, Residency Program Director, and serves as the Director of The Ohio State University Voice and Swallowing Disorders Clinic. He has been involved in treating the professional voice since completing his Laryngology fellowship at Vanderbilt University under Robert H. Ossoff DMD MD in 1993. Kerrie Beechler Obert, MA-CCC/SLP, is a clinical voice pathologist at The Ohio State University JamesCare Voice and Swallowing Disorders Clinic in Columbus, Ohio. She is also actively involved in several on-going research projects with a team of nationally recognized experts in the field of voice pathology. Ms. Obert holds degrees in speech pathology and music and she has extensive performance training in a variety of styles and techniques.