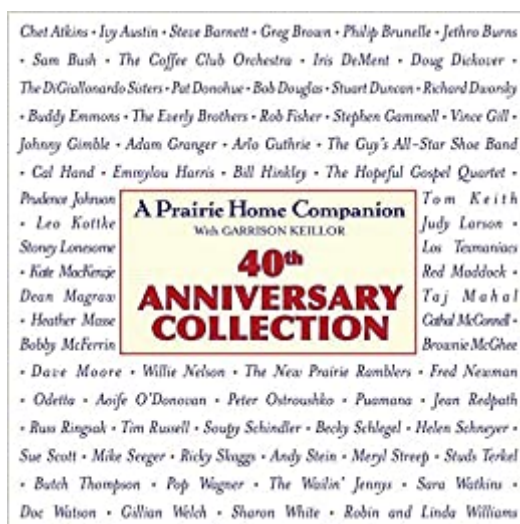


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Prairie Home Companion 40th Anniversary Collection



Synopsis

Since A Prairie Home Companion first went on air, July 6, 1974, a steady stream of great musicians has crossed its stage-The Steele Sisters, Gillian Welch and Dave Rawlings, Peter Ostroushko, The Wailin Jennys, Robin and Linda Williams Iris DeMent, Howard Levy-plus the radio detective Guy Noir, the Cowboys Dusty and Lefty, the librarian Ruth Harrison, Duane and his Mother, and the good people of Lake Wobegon, Minnesota. An all-star roster of favorite performers joined to celebrate the anniversary on the lawn of Macalester, College in St. Paul, a stone's throw from the hall where the first broadcast was made. Some highlights from that show are presented here, interwoven with archival performances by Doc Watson, Odetta, Pete Seeger, Helen Schneyer, Chet Atkins, Bill Hinkley & Judy Larson, Soupy Schindler, and Tom Keith, With a memory-filled souvenir booklet.

Book Information

Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

It's been 25 years since Garrison Keillor first began charming audiences with the goings-on of the strong women, good-looking men, and above-average children in his mythical Minnesota town. Keillor's storytelling alchemy (part literary orchestra, part gossip), gentle humor, and deadpan (or is that just Midwestern?) delivery are what have made Prairie Home Companion a stalwart of public radio. This collection commemorates the quarter century of the program's continuing success with 15 monologues (7 of which have not previously been available) and 33 of the most (in)famous songs and jingles, including "Cowpies," Keillor's tribute to the brains behind the impeachment trial; "Gospel Birds

This anthology of material originally presented over the past 25 years on Keillor's A Prairie Home Companion radio show on Minnesota Public Radio is a delight from start to finish. The last cassette alone, which is a compilation of songs from various musical groups who have appeared on the show and the cast of the show, would make this production worth purchasing. But the stories from Lake Wobegon and other reminiscences by Keillor are equally wonderful vignettes of life in the Midwest. If there are natives of the region who may object to the author's often comical characterizations of the denizens of the "town that time forgot," they should just get over it and realize that Keillor is writing about small-town life in Anywhere, U.S.A., and lovingly at that. The stories range from the remarkably moving "Truckstop," about an elderly couple who become separated on a road trip, to the hilarious "Clarence Cleans His Roof," which taps into the hazards of the formidable winter weather of the Midwest. It is clear that careful selection was made of the stories to be included, from the many they could have chosen, to assure not only high quality but also balance in the anthology. Highly recommended.

Mark Pumphrey, Polk Cty. P.L., Columbus, NC
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Gave it a 4 only because I guess I was expecting more skits, less songs. Will do better with next purchase reviewing content of CD's.

It is fun to be able to listen to the past Prairie Home Companion programs especially now that Garrison Keillor is retiring from the show.

Not what I was expecting. Very little story telling. Mostly country type music

Beautiful set.

This is a wonderful collection of excerpts from the program but there are very few of the wonderful skits (Guy Noir, News fro Lake Wobegone< excpet on the final CD of the set.

For those who grew up with old time variety radio shows and those whom long for a more simpler time with rich and intriguing characters, A Praire Home Companion is for you! Broadcast on NPR stations at 12 noon Saturday and rebroadcast on Sunday at noon a must listen for shear

delightment!

Both copies were gifts to my daughters and they loved the collection! Arrived in perfect condition and very timely. Thank you!

I was hoping for some of the news from Lake Wobegon, but it's really just a collection of some of the skits and music from 40 years of programs. A lot that I enjoyed hearing again, but a lot that I fast forwarded through.

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