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A Bedtime Companion: An Anthology of Humorous Americana

Robert E. Bell

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Robert E. Bell : A Bedtime Companion: An Anthology of Humorous Americana before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Bedtime Companion: An Anthology of Humorous Americana:

The book is a collection of quotations and cartoons that Mr. Bell has saved over the past sixty years or so added to anecdotes of eccentric and interesting characters that Mr. Bell has known, some from his childhood on an Ohio farm, some from his career as an engineer in several states in the Eastern United States. The writing style in the anecdotes is reminiscent of Garrison Keillor's stories of "Norwegian bachelor farmers" in his fictional community of Lake Wobegon, Minnesota. Mr. Bell has the same gentle type of humor, the type that makes the reader smile and enjoy the stories rather than laughing out loud. The cartoons likewise are mostly colloquial humor rather than the slapstick type of cartoons one sees so often. The book is a mixture of items in no particular order and is ideal for reading on a train or airplane where one's concentration is broken so frequently and reading material that requires deep thought is not suitable. This is material that is amusing and sometimes inspiring, but requires no great effort to assimilate. It makes a great gift book, one you can read first and then give away.