

## Prairie Home Companion 40th Anniversary Collection

*Garrison Keillor*

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Doc Watson • Gillian Welch • Sharon White • Robin and Linda Williams



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**Garrison Keillor : Prairie Home Companion 40th Anniversary Collection** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Prairie Home Companion 40th Anniversary Collection:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable collection, great valueBy Cinda MusgraveGave 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.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Garrison Keillor--A Family FavoriteBy C. HayesIt is fun to be able to listen to the past Prairie Home Companion programs especially now that Garrison Keillor is retiring from the show.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy faye macleodNot what I was expecting. Very little story telling. Mostly country type music

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 if 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.?

.com 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"; and "The Secret Lutherans." (Running time: 6 hours, 4 cassettes) --Natasha SenjanovicFrom Library JournalThis 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.AMark Pumphrey, Polk Cty. P.L., Columbus, NC Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. "...may very well have you grinning out loud..." -- St Louis Post Dispatch, Aug 8, 1999