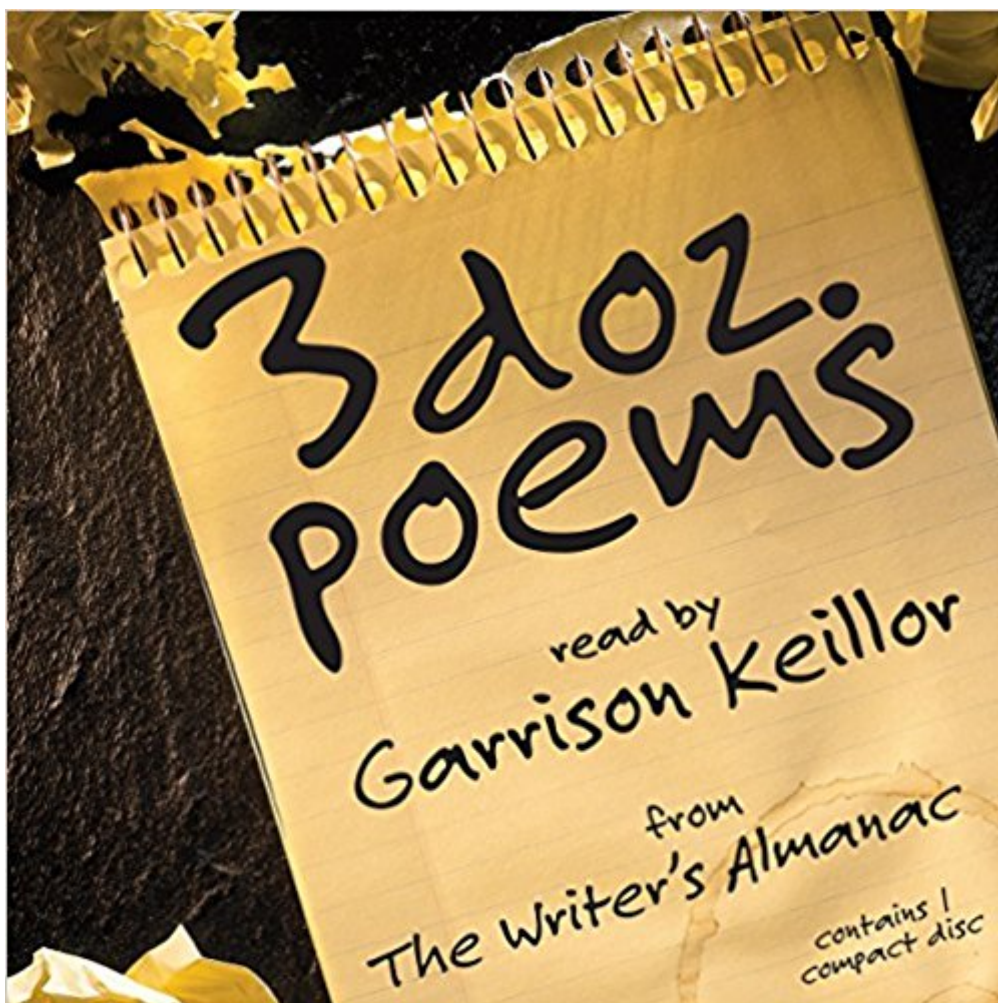


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3 Dozen Poems: From The Writer's Almanac



Synopsis

The favorite poems from Garrison Keillor's daily radio program *The Writer's Almanac*. Selections include: Å Ge Mig En Dag (Scandinavian traditional) Abecedary (Thomas Disch) Old Mother Hubbard (traditional) Frankenstein (Edward Field) Names of Horses (Donald Hall) To One Who Asked Me Why I Love J.G. (Ephelia) What I Learned from My Mother (Julie Kasdorf) When Adam Was Created (anonymous) Å Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day? (William Shakespeare) Casey Jones (anonymous) I Think to Live (Emily Dickenson) Fallacy of Experience (William Harmon) Crocodile (William Jay Smith) Spring (Mary Oliver) I Go Back to May, 1937 (Sharon Olds) Language of Crows (Louis Jenkins)

Book Information

Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

No one reads a poem like Keillor (*The Book of Guys*, Audio Reviews, LJ 2/1/94), and, arguably, no one selects poems like him, either. This collection covers everything from doggerel to classics to works by contemporary poets. Funny, moving, and insightful, this unique collection should be in every library, especially considering the bargain price. However, producer Liz Fleischman should have skipped the recorded sound effects between poems. For instance, the noise of city traffic (complete with a sudden blare from a taxi horn that could cause a coronary for some drivers) detracts from the poems. Additionally, a simple statement of the author's name would have been preferable (and may also help prevent traffic accidents caused by folks having to squint at the cassette insert). Reilly Reagan, Putnam Cty. Lib., Cookeville, Tenn. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

As the host of A Prairie Home Companion for over forty years, Garrison Keillor has captivated millions of listeners with his News from Lake Wobegon monologues. He has been honored with Grammy, ACE, and George Foster Peabody awards, the National Humanities Medal, and election to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

This is a well-planned collection of simple, direct poems read by Garrison Keillor, a much-loved speaker with a soothing and ultimately expressive voice. He can express understated humor and mild states of acceptance and resignation better than almost anyone on our planet. A standout quality is variety of both authors and topics. It offers varied and charming, brief interludes between poems. Some are musical; others involve sounds of nature or human activities. The poems are remarkably explicit, perfectly articulated and unmistakable in meaning and impact. If this collection was a movie, it would get a G rating for general audiences. Perfectly suitable for children or adults, this collection is unusually free of hidden meanings or pseudo-intellectual desires to impress. If you like upbeat folk music lyrics without lamentations, you will love this and should purchase it. On the other hand, if you look for wild flights of fancy, risque passages or gut-wrenching critiques of society, you should pass this one up.

I love this CD! GK is a great narrator. I laughed so hard at some of them. I used to have the cassette of this. So tickled to find the CD on !

Just like a tall cold drink on a hot day these words refresh renew the spirit. While I don't love all the poems in the group, all of them wash over me with refreshment.

Great

Guess I wanted all of them to be grown-up poems. I know Garrison Keillor would not cheat his audience on purpose.

Keillor is a proven master of storytelling, as thousands know who have enjoyed "A Prairie Home Companion". His "Writer's Almanac" NPR radio spots have demonstrated how thoughtfully he applies that storyteller's insight to the reading of poetry. This collection is marvellously read and is wonderfully varied--from light verse to Dickinson and Shakespeare, with gems by several modern

American poets such Mary Oliver, May Swenson and Donald Hall. A great companion for home or car!

I checked this audio book out of the public library for a road trip several years ago, and was instantly hooked. I wore out the copy I made, and finally bought it. I listen to it regularly, with avidity, and have no idea when I'll get tired of it! Between each poem there is a pause of perhaps 30 seconds filled with intriguing noises, which allows you to dwell in the poem just read for a bit longer, while preparing you for the one to come-- a kind of aural sherbet between courses to freshen the mental palate! The variety of poems-- modern, classic, metered, free verse, serious, witty; Garrison Keillor's mellifluous voice and his sensitive interpretations, along with those marvelous sound-filled pauses between readings makes this particular collection an extremely pleasurable experience.

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