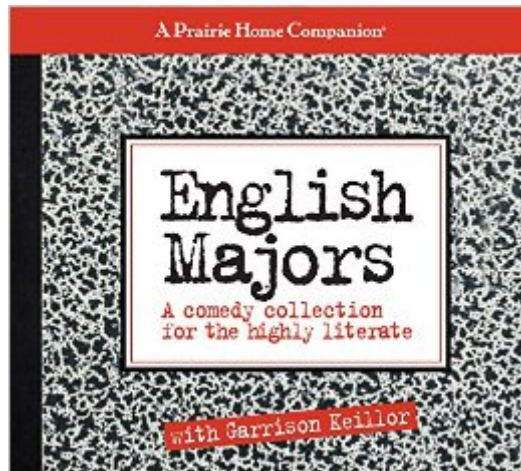


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# English Majors: A Comedy Collection For The Highly Literate (Prairie Home Companion (Audio))



## Synopsis

Includes the Six-Minute Hamlet, tributes to Hawthorne and Kerouac and Emily Dickinson, a Guy Noir adventure that exposes an M.F.A. scam, Garrison Keillor's recollection of growing up bookish in a football-loving town, and the Ballad of John Henry ('John Henry was an English major and poetry was his line. He sat by the window with his yellow legal pad and he wrote one sentence at a time.') With guest appearances by Billy Collins, Roy Blount Jr., Robert Bly, Donald Hall, and Calvin Trillin.

## Book Information

Series: Prairie Home Companion (Audio)

Audio CD

Publisher: HighBridge Audio; Unabridged,Original radio broadcast; 2.5 hours on 2 CDs edition (March 4, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1598875884

ISBN-13: 978-1598875881

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 11.2 x 5.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #312,159 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Books on CD >

Radio Shows #70 in Books > Books on CD > Music #154 in Books > Humor & Entertainment >

Radio > General Broadcasting

## Customer Reviews

This compilation of skits, poetry readings, songs, and ruminations on classic literature is very engaging. Keillor's dry humor and unsurpassed storytelling ability make this collection worth a listen. I did feel that some of the references and humor might be difficult for some people to grasp, but, all in all, these CD'S are just plain fun and should not pose a problem. The first disk is far superior to the second. I felt that the second CD dragged at places, and the rendition of Walt Whitman's "Song of Myself," (performed by Alan Ginsberg), was overdramatic and unnecessary. The parody of Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter was too silly and, frankly, insulting to have any merit. The second CD did have some gems, my favorite track being a beautiful rendition of Mary Oliver's "The Wild Geese," read by actress Meryl Streep. My favorite pieces in the collection are as follows:1. "Guy Noir: Private Eye": The humorous private detective, (portrayed by Keillor), goes to New York City to

buoy the spirits of a first-time poet who has received a bad review from a writer with another agenda. This piece was hilarious and featured poet laureate Billy Collins as the bad guy.<sup>2</sup>

"Lanyard": This poem is a tribute to mother's everywhere. It's humor and poignancy are truly beautiful. The author, Billy Collins, reads the poem wonderfully well.<sup>3</sup> "For Whom": My absolute favorite skit of the bunch, this scene features an English major, (Keillor), working at a fast-food establishment. "Welcome to Buggeda-Buggeda. May I interest you in one of our jumbo joe-joe meals with the half-pound Buggeda-Buggeda burger, the big bucket of fries and the half-gallon vanilla shimmy-shimmy shake all for \$5.49?" I was in stitches by the end!<sup>4</sup>.

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