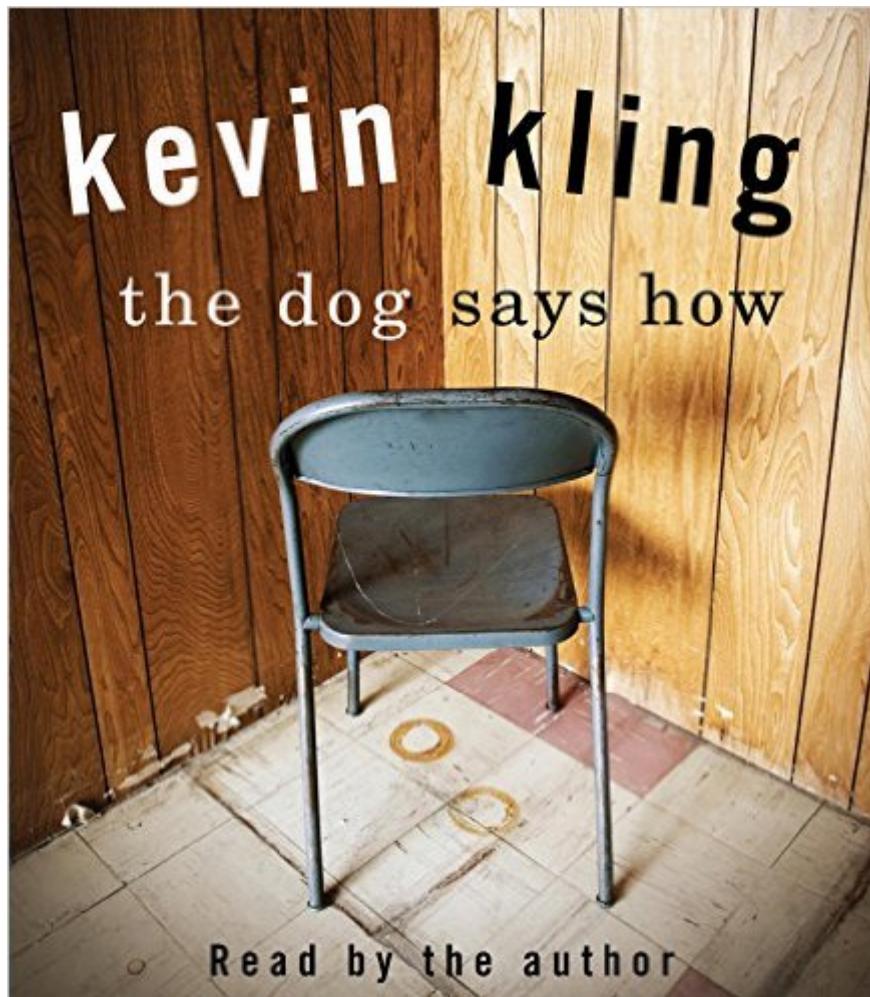


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# The Dog Says How



## **Synopsis**

A popular storyteller and National Public Radio commentator weaves scenes of childhood antics and adult absurdities into tales that provoke laughter-and elicit tears. Kevin Kling is a master storyteller, as anyone knows who has seen him perform or heard him on National Public Radio's All Things Considered. Drawing on his memories-an eventful Christmas at the Klings, taxidermy class, hopping freight trains, getting struck by lightning, joining a circus, eating things before knowing what they are-he invites us into his life of growing up in Minnesota, traveling the world, and relying on the strangeness of others. He also shares tales of overcoming personal tragedy, including a congenital arm disability and a near-fatal motorcycle accident. As a result of the accident, he could no longer type and had to learn to use voice-recognition software. The computer translated the barks of his dog into "How," hence the title, *The Dog Says How*. Hilarious and tender, comical and deeply poignant, these 29 tales will please anyone who loves a good story.

## **Book Information**

Audio CD

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Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 15.5 x 5.3 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (62 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #556,241 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 inÂ  Books > Books on CD > Humor #447 inÂ  Books > Books on CD > Biographies & Memoirs #1727 inÂ  Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Essays

## **Customer Reviews**

Kevin Kling is more than a storyteller--he's a connection to the heart of the world. His talent for touching what connects us all, makes us love, makes us freak out, and so on, and so on, is more than remarkable. In short: He "gets" people. The same way Keillor and Sedaris, and even the Car Talk brothers---maybe especially they- get people. If you've not had a chance to see him on stage, or hear him on Public Radio- do yourself a favor. Get a copy of this book and a comfortable place to read. Once you start- you won't want to go anywhere for a while. When finally you do, I think you'll find that the stories go with you.

I first heard Kevin Kling on National Public Radio a decade ago. He was reading one of his haunting and hysterical commentaries, and it was a "pull the car over to listen" moment. I was hooked from that point on. Since then I've tracked down every one of his live performances, on-air interviews and unforgettable commentaries that I could find. I kept thinking, "but when will he write a book? when will he write a book?" Finally he has written a book, this marvelous book, and I have ordered not only a copy for myself, but ten other copies for Christmas Presents. I cannot freaking wait.

...not to mention well-written, this book is as every bit as wonderful as listening to Kevin Kling on NPR. Lacking only his fantastic delivery, the essays are delightful examples of the art of rollicking story telling. I laughed out loud repeatedly as I read the book in one sitting. My only complaint is Kevin is so funny, that it is easy to miss how beautifully he writes. I suppose I'll just need to read the book again!

I first saw Kevin Kling perform a one-man play (2A, I think it was called) when I lived in Minneapolis in the early 80s. His performance has stayed with me these many years since. I've loved hearing his stories on NPR and am deeply moved - always - by the depth of laughter he evokes and the tears that inevitably follow. He's a beautiful writer - more, he's a beautiful soul. I'm grateful this book has been published. I will also be giving it to many loved ones for the holidays.

Kling is a talented writer and I am sure the print edition of this work demonstrates that. This audio version, however, is a disappointment. It is a re-recording of his previously released material, for the most part. The original CDs are far superior. His delivery used to be understated and charming. In this effort he is emoting to the rafters. Listeners are not going to miss any nuance as Kling practically bursts with emotion. I hope the scenery did not get stuck in his teeth as he chewed it. It is like he swallowed an acting guide written by a hack actor who advertises on matchbooks. Kling is going to show the world he can ACT!, darn it. If you want to experience Kling at his best, try any of the CDs he made before his accident.

What a gifted teller of stories. The truth in them is so pointed that it would hurt if not for the humor that has obviously gotten Kevin through the best as well as the worst of times. I can't wait to read/hear more!

This is a collection of mostly autobiographical stories by Kling, a Minneapolis writer and performer, some of which have been heard on NPR. They are hilarious, poignant and just delicious. A great book to leave lying around for times when you have 10 spare minutes and want some gut-busting entertainment (or a quick cry). Dachshund-lovers will be especially gratified by a couple of the stories, as will Midwesterners in general, and Minneapolitans (current and ex) in particular-- some great depictions of the Uptown Bar and other landmarks of the 70's and 80's. A great gift, and apparently lots of folks have the same thought. I bought a couple of copies for my brothers for Christmas, and found that my sister had done the same! (They opened mine first, so she returned hers to B&N.)

This book reminded me of what is important in life and how everyone has their own journey. Thank you for writing it down and for deciding to stay...

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