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Never Better: Stories From Lake Wobegon

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Synopsis
"It's been a quiet week in Lake Wobegon, my home town." Each week, more than four million radio listeners hear these words, and settle in for some old-fashioned, up-to-the-minute storytelling. During live broadcasts of A Prairie Home Companion, Garrison Keillor takes us to "the little town that time forgot and the decades cannot improve," where "the women are strong, the men are good-looking, and all the children are above average." These expertly crafted tales touch the heart and tickle the funnybone. Warm, poignant, often hilarious, each is a classic of live storytelling, full of gentle humor, genuine emotion, and (more often than not) surprising insights into family, community, love, faith, and hope.

Book Information
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Best Sellers Rank: #466,893 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Rural Life #88 in Books on CD > Radio Shows #117 in Books on CD > Music

Customer Reviews
Like another reviewer, many driving hours have been happily spent listening to Keilor's incredibly engaging tales of Lake Wobegon. When I saw a new collection, my heart raced as I stood at the checkout....only to be sorely disappointed. These aren't stories, they are just newsy ramblings. And they aren't all that funny either. It sounds like Garrison is getting tired of Lake Wobegon, as evidenced by the bored tone of his voice and the superficial news tidbits he plies us with in this collection. If you love his older stories from collections such as Mother, Father, Aunt, Uncle or Summmer, Winter, Spring, Fall, these will not live up to your expectations. But, us Lake Wobegon junkies take what we can get, and any new stories are welcomed. But, jeez, Garrison, there must be some good ones left in you. Although I'm giving this a 3-star rating, it's really more a 2.5 star when
compared to his older stories.

...but not of my favorite stories. I fell in love with Lake Woebegone about ten years ago. I used to do a lot of driving between Georgia and Tennessee and Garrison's hilarious stories made the drive go by fast. I tried to listen to this CD several times, but I noticed that it wouldn't really hold my attention. The stories aren't bad. It's just as a collection, it didn't pop. But I'll continued to listen to his work.

Never Better: Stories from Lake Wobegon is a compilation of ten new stories from live radio broadcasts of "A Prairie Home Companion", the popular, gently humorous show by Garrison Keillor. From the mighty effort of the girls' volleyball team to the migration of turtles to a reflection upon 2006 Christmas and how the most hardcore of traditionalists seem to be children, listening to Never Better is a truly heartwarming experience, sure to stir up fond memories of home and hearth. Highly recommended. 2 CDs, 2 1/4 hours.

I enjoyed the vignettes and thought I was going to have to resuscitate my husband because he was laughing so hard. Pure enjoyment through the eyes of Garrison Keillor.

Keillor is a terrific story-teller and his delivery of these stories is excellent. I don't agree with the leading negative review that he seems tired or "bored" of Lake Woebegon. On the other hand, these are not his best or funniest stories and there are better collections.

Great monologues from the master. Odd that these monologues dispensed with the usual opening and closing lines, but the usual good work.

If you've never heard of Garrison Keillor or Lake Wobegon, well are you in for a treat. Sit back and put on your head phones and be prepared for people around you to think you're out of your mind when they glance in your direction and hear you laughing.

I've had this CD for awhile now and I still listen to it several nights a week as I fall asleep. It really is SO funny. And clean humor is what I prefer. Some bits STILL make me laugh out loud.

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