

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Rosanna Greenstreet

Garrison Keillor

Garrison Keillor was born in 1942 in Minnesota, the son of a railroad clerk. He attended the University of Minnesota. In 1974, he was assigned by New Yorker to write about the country music programme Grand Ole Opry, which inspired him to broadcast his own radio show, A Prairie Home Companion. His book, Lake Wobegon Days, was derived from his monologues and became a bestseller in the US and the UK. His latest bestseller is The Book Of Guys.



What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Lying in bed with the woman I love after we have put on a great party, talking about it, listening to the dishwasher sloshing, at 3am.

What is your greatest fear?

That she won't be there.

With which historical figure do you most identify?

Charles A Lindbergh, because he came from Minnesota and kept his integrity despite fame.

Which living person do you most admire?

Bill Clinton, for being President and actually enjoying it.

Which living person do you most despise?

Tina Brown, editor of the New Yorker, because she is powerful, vain, contemptuous of inner America, and has a lousy ear for writing.

What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?

Self-pity and gloominess.

What is the trait you most deplore in others?

Confident ignorance.

What do you consider the most overrated virtue?

Hipness.

What is your most unappealing habit?

Envy of other people's good reviews.

What vehicles do you own?

A four-wheel-drive car, an old pick-up truck with a snowplough, and a bicycle.

What is your greatest extravagance?

Owning an apartment in New York with a terrace full of trees and flowers.

What do you most dislike about your appearance?

A sullen look in my eyes, at least when I look at myself!

What is your favourite word?

Sød, a Danish word of affection meaning "sweet".

What or who is the greatest love of your life?

My life isn't over yet.

On what occasions do you lie?

Only in performance or shortly afterwards.

What single thing would improve the quality of your life?

Having another child.

What keeps you awake at night?

Worry that people I love are in trouble and can't tell me.

How would you like to die?

Slowly and gently, with enough time enough to clean up my mess.

How would you like to be remembered?

As a guy who told stories on the radio.