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The Dresden Dolls Companion



Synopsis

(Piano/Vocal/Guitar Artist Songbook). This Boston-based alternative pop/German-like cabaret duo hand-designed this book which includes art, photos, commentary and 11 songs from their 2004 release. Songs included are: Bad Habit * Coin Operated Boy * Girl Anachronism * Good Day * Gravity * Half Jack * The Jeep Song * Missed Me *Perfect Fit * Slide * Truce.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a songbook collector. I have them all. But nothing, I repeat NOTHING compares to the content of this book. But more about that in a little bit.I have been hearing good things about this duo for some time and have just recently started to listen. What Amanda does with songwriting is like what Shakespeare did for plays. It's real. It's amazing. It's...Now, for this book. Amanda starts with a 35 page introduction that includes photos, drawings, and other pictures of various worth. The intro also includes topics such as: what's under Amanda's piano, her writing rituals, her playing background, the first songs, high school and college life, her first real show, how she met Brian, recording, creating the artwork, etc. Towards the end of this intro, there is a very detailed section about the sheet music itself. There are notes to the player (and vocalist) that says: "This music is meant to be more of a set of helpful hints than a doctrine. I felt the need to make my own handwritten notes, because typing them in would have been cumbersome and unnatural. The essential thing the player must keep in mind is that the music is changeable. These songs are chord-based, with melodies and discernable hooks and parts, but it is not necessary to play or voice things as they are shown.

In fact, you would be playing the music most faithfully if you did not. When I play these songs live, the only thing that generally stays consistent is the bass, and even that can hop from one octave to another. For the more classically-trained, this may seem like an impossible nightmare, but I urge you to experiment. For the sight-reading impaired (like myself) this should be liberating. When I buy books of sheet music, I follow the guitar tabs instead of the piano music, and improvise the rest.

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