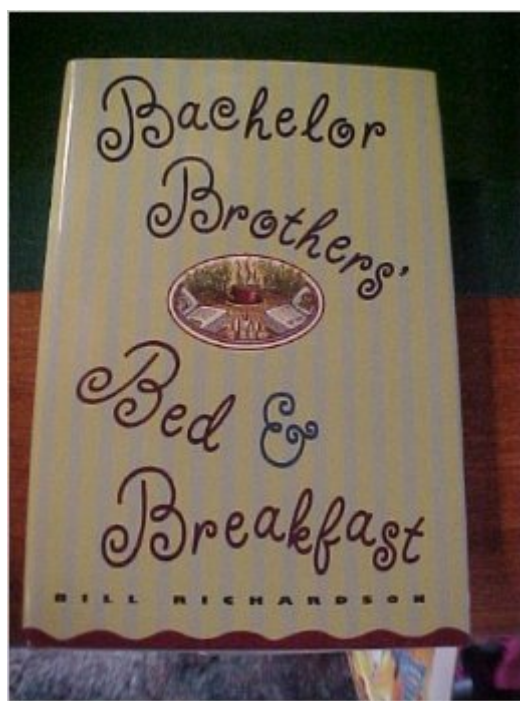


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# Bachelor Brothers' Bed & Breakfast



## Synopsis

A pair of endearingly eccentric bachelors--in their fifties, and fraternal twins--own and operate a bed & breakfast establishment where people like them, the "gentle and bookish and ever so slightly confused," can feel at home. Hector and Virgil think of their B&B as a refuge, a retreat, a haven, where folks may bring their own books or peruse the brothers' own substantial library. An antic blend of homespun and intellectual humor, Bachelor Brothers' Bed and Breakfast is a place readers will want to return to again and again.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Press; 1st U.S. ed edition (August 15, 1996)

Language: English

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Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (68 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #804,840 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #142 in [Books > Travel > Food, Lodging & Transportation > Hotels & Inns](#) #2848 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Humor](#) #4374 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Satire](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is a charming little book that centers around twin brothers, Hector and Virgil, 50-something bachelors who run a Bed & Breakfast in a remote island location. Though word-of-mouth, they have attracted a customer base consisting entirely of fellow bibliophiles, and thus reading is a central theme throughout the novel. The book is written as a series of reflections: each chapter is narrated by either Hector, Virgil, or one of their guests, whose musings make up the B&B's unique guest book. The brothers relate stories of their unconventional childhood with their single mother and MIA father as well as offer present day anecdotes about their entertaining guests, neighbors, and pets. Also interspersed throughout the book are recommended reading lists such as "Hector's List of Favorite Authors for the Bath." This quirky, whimsical novel is ideally suited to be a reading group selection and likely to be enjoyed by any book lover.

The Bachelor Brothers Bed & Breakfast remains one of my top five books. The sequel falls right

behind it, and in fact, is even funnier than the first. U.S. readers may not be familiar with Mr. Richardson who is well known across Canada as one of the funniest and most interesting of the talk show hosts on C.B.C. radio. The novel has, I think, a Canadian quality to it, but in all respects, any lover of books, good humour, and excellent writing will enjoy this book. It is not a "deep" read but still witty, thoughtful, and by no means "fluffy". Bill Richardson has been referred to as a Canadian Garrison Keillor. The comparison is likely not incorrect, but from my perspective, Richardson is much funnier. Buy BOTH this book and the sequel (don't wait because you will indeed want to read the next one) for a fun, enjoyable read!

This is such a wonderful book! It was one of the few books that I've read that I actually laughed out loud. The best part is when I tried to describe it to others, the characters seemed even more eccentric and loveable, even though the people I was telling it to thought it sounded insane. Richardson writes in a gentle way, never knocking you over the head with his attempts to be witty or clever. Who can't read the chapter about the disastrous Halloween party without doubling over? All in all, a wonderful, fun book for a rainy Sunday afternoon.

Much of the joy of the first book was that the stories were told with such a light touch and in such different voices that you could almost believe they were true. Virgil and Hector, while iconic, could almost be real, and I loved them for it. In this second book, the humour is broader but I ceased to believe. The first book has characters, the second caricatures. The difference is disheartening. I laughed, but didn't love.

I love Bill Richardson! I just caught up with the Bachelor Brothers; it is rare for me to laugh out loud while reading, but this book and one of its sequels had me roaring. All I could think was, "How can I start a similar bed and breakfast?" It is touching, funny, literate -- a real bibliophile's delight. Nuts to Kirkus Reviews for not liking the lists (bathroom reading, bathtub reading, etc.); I was very grateful for them. Hector and Virgil rock!

I was browsing the local (independent) bookstore shelves the other day and this little gem veritably leapt off the shelves into my hand. I read over the back cover and was sufficiently intrigued to carry it to the till and purchase it. I must say it's one of the best buys I've made in a long time. This book has been described as whimsical - I find this little paperback a work of comic genius. It is no surprise to me that it was awarded the Stephen Leacock Award... it's a well deserved win. The

ever-endearing Canadian charm that holds us in high esteem about the world shines through this brilliant penning. It is laugh-out-loud funny... particularly the eccentric Mrs. Rochester. One of my fave sections of the book is the birthday serenade by bagpipes. Thankfully I hadn't finished my coffee and needed a toilet break whilst reading that segment. Brilliant writing and my kudos to Mr. Richardson. I look forward to reading more of his work. 'Bachelor Brothers' has instantly become one of my all-time favorite novels. Can't recommend this title highly enough!

I picked this book up off the shelf of the library partly because I could not find anything better to read. What I found was a treasure. I don't know why this book isn't better known. I laughed out loud in quite a few parts. It was refreshing to find a book that was funny and smart without being vulgar and too cynical. (Not that cynical is such a bad thing.) Anyway, I can't wait to read the sequel. Being a bibliomaniac myself, I was delighted with the snippets of poetry and book lists in between. You've got to read this. If you like this, you might try P.G. Wodehouse or James Herriott.

For those of us who do not prefer to read grizzly horror novels, but instead clever, amusing stories that de-stress us on work breaks or ease us gently into sleep....this is a great book! I've read it four times - and it has become a bedside favorite. Ignore the cynical Kirkus review above...everyone I know has loved this book and has passed it along to a friend.

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