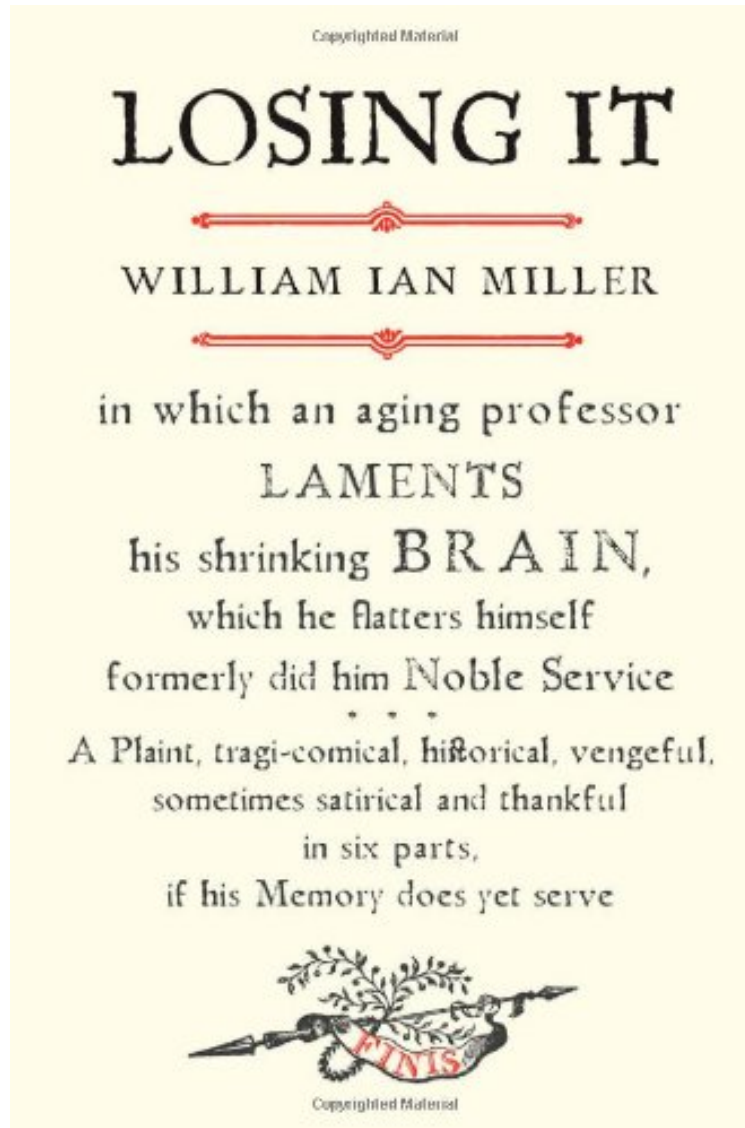


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Losing It: In which an Aging Professor laments his shrinking Brain...

William Ian Miller

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William Ian Miller : Losing It: In which an Aging Professor laments his shrinking Brain... before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Losing It: In which an Aging Professor laments his shrinking Brain...:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Better than the alternativeBy Joseph FargoAuthor and University of Michigan Law Professor aged 65 writes about aging. The book's full title: "Losing It- in which an aging professor

LAMENTS his shrinking BRAIN which he flatters himself formerly did him Noble Service--A Plaint, tragic-comical, historical, vengeful, sometimes satirical and thankful in six parts. if his Memory does yet serve" He believes that being optimistic and maintaining a positive attitude is a bunch of hooey, self-delusional crap sold by charlatans to those with shrinking brains (those who are aging). Funny, a little esoteric (know anything about ancient Norse mythology?), sometimes enlightening, but entertaining and an enjoyable read. My take- aging, according to the author is a miserable descent towards inevitable death.....but is preferable to the alternative!11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. unexpected pleasureBy smomWhat an unexpected pleasure! A serious book loaded with wit, wisdom and knowledge. Not my usual read, but I must say, I enjoy Mr. Miller's style and willingness to share his self examinations with us. Truly envy his students. Recommend to young and older, alike.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy GERALD RANHEIMA fine book ++++++

In *Losing It*, William Ian Miller brings his inimitable wit and learning to the subject of growing old: too old to matter, of either rightly losing your confidence or wrongly maintaining it, culpably refusing to face the fact that you are losing it. The "it" in Miller's "losing it" refers mainly to mental faculties—memory, processing speed, sensory acuity, the capacity to focus. But it includes other evidence as well—sags and flaccidities, aches and pains, failing joints and organs. What are we to make of these tell-tale signs? Does growing old gracefully mean more than simply refusing unseemly cosmetic surgeries? How do we face decline and the final drawing of the blinds? Will we know if and when we have lingered too long? Drawing on a lifetime of deep study and anxious observation, Miller enlists the wisdom of the ancients to confront these vexed questions head on. Debunking the glossy new image of old age that has accompanied the graying of the Baby Boomers, he conjures a lost world of aging rituals—complaints, taking to bed, resentments of one's heirs, schemes for taking it with you or settling up accounts and scores—to remind us of the ongoing dilemmas of old age. Darkly intelligent and sublimely written, this exhilarating and eccentric book will raise the spirits of readers, young and old.

"A stylish, effortlessly erudite and refreshingly clear-eyed essay about the dastardly — yet inevitable — fate of getting older."—Julia Keller, *Chicago Tribune*, Best Books 2011