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The Etymologicon: A Circular Stroll Through the Hidden Connections of the English Language

By Mark Forsyth



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Do you know why...

...a mortgage is literally a death pledge? ...why guns have girls' names? ...why salt is related to soldier?

You're about to find out...

The Etymologicon (e-t?-mä-lä-ji-kän) is:

*Witty (wi-te): Full of clever humor

*Erudite (er-?-dit): Showing knowledge

*Ribald (ri-b?ld): Crude, offensive

The Etymologicon is a completely unauthorized guide to the strange underpinnings of the English language. It explains: how you get from “gruntled” to “disgruntled”; why you are absolutely right to believe that your meager salary barely covers “money for salt”; how the biggest chain of coffee shops in the world (hint: Seattle) connects to whaling in Nantucket; and what precisely the Rolling Stones have to do with gardening.



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The Etymologicon: A Circular Stroll Through the Hidden Connections of the English Language By Mark Forsyth Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #24516 in Books
- Brand: Berkley Trade
- Published on: 2012-10-02
- Released on: 2012-10-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.80" h x .70" w x 5.10" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 304 pages

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Review

“The stocking filler of the season...how else to describe a book that explains the connection between Dom Perignon and *Mein Kampf*.”--*The Observer*

“Crikey...this is addictive!”--*The Times*

“Mark Forsyth is clearly a man who knows his onions.”--*Daily Telegraph*

About the Author

Mark Forsyth is a writer, journalist, proofreader, ghostwriter, and pedant. He was given a copy of the Oxford English Dictionary as a christening present and has never looked back. He is the creator of The Inky Fool, a blog about words, phrases, grammar, rhetoric, and prose.

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