

Some Words to the Wise

Sixty More Adventures in Logology For the Connoisseur

Steven Kahan

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A *Word Ways* book review by Karen Farrell, Indianapolis, Indiana

In this sequel to *May I Have a Word With You?* Kahan “presents a potpourri of perplexingly pleasing linguistic, lexical, and orthographic puzzles designed to challenge even the expert wordsmith.” Many are new, while others have been published in *Word Ways*. From the pages of the dictionary this long time college mathematics professor deftly gleans striking letter patterns and combinations and presents quizzes and solutions for the solver who enjoys wordplay. Kahan is a longtime contributor to the *Journal of Recreational Mathematics* and edits the Alphametrics column.

A sample follows in **SWEETHEART WORDS**::

SWEETHEART, a term that evokes tender thoughts of love, is interesting from a logological point of view as well. Specifically, it consists of three consonant pairs interspersed with two vowel pairs. Listed below are the definitions of a score of ten-letter words that have been dubbed *sweetheart words* because they, too, exhibit this curious alternating pattern. To facilitate your search, the first and last letters of each targeted sweetheart word have been supplied. The remaining eight are yours to discover. [See Answers and Solutions]

1. relentless pursuer (B-----D)
2. members of the aristocracy (B-----S)
3. surface on which dough is kneaded (B-----D)
4. moment of discontinuity; tennis term (B-----T)
5. woven carpets (B-----S)
6. those who drive others (C-----S)
7. tribal leaders (C-----S)
8. private lounges adjacent to legislative chambers (C-----S)
9. lower surface of an automobile (F-----D)
10. lives aimlessly or irresponsibly (F-----S)
11. heavy outer garments (G-----S)
12. densely foliated forests (G-----S)
13. most peevish (G-----T)
14. most didactic (P-----T)
15. decrees in advance (P-----S)
16. checks a manuscript for possible errors (P-----S)
17. driving forces (S-----S)
18. fast water conveyances (S-----S)
19. edible delicacies (S-----S)
20. celebrations that occur every three years (T-----S)

To order please contact Steve Kahan at skalpha1@aol.com or in writing to 78-51 220th St., Hollis Hills, New York 11364. Copies are \$15 each plus \$1.95 shipping and handling with discounts available for orders of 3 or more.