

THE ETERNAL FEMININE

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Careful observers of the word scene have long known that some of the simplest English words can be anagrammed or rearranged to form feminine first names. Thus, STINKER is a rearrangement of KIRSTEN, the word TOASTER may be transposed into ROSETTA, LEARNED is an anagram of DARLEEN or DARLENE, and INTERNEES converts into ERNESTINE. (Parenthetically, the word LEARNED may also be rearranged to form a masculine name, LEANDER, but we don't want to think about that just now.)

With the exercise of a modest amount of ingenuity, some words can even be transformed into two different girl's names. As examples, we can adduce YAM, which produces both AMY and MAY, or ARMY, yielding MARY as well as MYRA, or MANOR, an anagram both of NORMA and of MORNA. (Again, we note with dismay, the word MANOR is flexible enough to give us a couple of masculine names, RAMON and MORAN, in addition to the feminine ones, but we instantly shy away from the thought.)

Enough of these samples. Listed below are 25 English words, terms, or phrases. Each one lends itself to transmutation into at least two different feminine first names. In a few instances, three or even four different such names may be found by the diligent searcher. All of the names are taken from popular dictionaries or books listing names for new parents to bestow on babies. How many of the 55 concealed names can you spot? Score yourself as follows: 25, average; 30, good; 35, very good; 40, excellent; 45, superior; 50 or more, out of this world! For answers, see Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

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| 1. A DENIAL | 14. HEAT ODOR |
| 2. AIRMAN | 15. I.E., LENA |
| 3. ALAN! ROD! | 16. ILEAC |
| 4. A LIVER | 17. LINDA LEE |
| 5. ALONE | 18. LOANER |
| 6. ANILE | 19. NAILAGE |
| 7. BESAIL | 20. RAIDS |
| 8. BLAME | 21. RAILMEN |
| 9. CLARO | 22. REAL CALM |
| 10. CREOLIAN | 23. SO MALE! |
| 11. CRIMEA | 24. TEASER |
| 12. EL RENO | 25. THREES |
| 13. ERIC! AL! | |