MADAM, I'M ADAM (SIR, I'M IRIS)

HOWARD RICHLER
Cote St. Luc, Quebec, Canada

Given names figure prominently in palindromic utterances. There are two main reasons for this. Many are quite short, and thus easy to manipulate palindromically. Also, a higher percentage of given names than ordinary English words end in the vowels A or I which serve as excellent palindromic connectors.

Some palindromic name sentences can be quite long. One of my favorites is "The Orgy", penned by Clement Wood which I first espied in The Word's Gotten Out by wordsmith Willard R. Espy:


Another naughty variation of libidinous group activity is found in Language on Vacation:

Dennis, Nell, Edna, Leon, Nedra, Anita, Rolf, Nora, Alice, Carol, Leo, Jane, Reed, Dena, Dale, Basil, Rae, Penny, Lana, Dave, Denny, Lena, Ida, Bernadette, Ben, Ray, Lila, Nina, Jo, Ira, Mara, Sara, Mario, Jan, Ina, Lily, Arne, Bette, Dan, Reba, Diane, Lynn, Ed, Eva, Dana, Lynne, Pearl, Isabel, Ada, Ned, Dee, Rena, Joel, Lora, Cecil, Aaron, Flora, Tina, Arden, Noel and Ellen sinned

The following collection features a variety of given names, one per palindrome. Many are classic (identified as originating with Leigh Mercer, Dmitri Borgmann, J. A. Lindon or Howard Bergerson). Some (asterisked) are my creation; others are by Jon Agee or by Steve Chism (in From A to Zotamorf).

A daffodil I doff, ADA (HB)
Madam, I'm ADAM
Last egg gets AL! (JA)
Flag ALF
So may AMOS (SJC)
ANNE, I stay a day in Sienna (LM)
There are easy to manage names than as excellent
my favorites in The Word's

ART names a base mantra*
DNA, BART - no contraband (SC)
No bra, BARB, on?*
Submarine, BEN? I ram bus*
BORIS, I rob*
CORAL sees a roc (JAL)
Poor DAN is in a droop (LM)
An adherent raps partner, eh, DANA?*
DANIEL did idle in ad*
Evade no one, DAVE*
DELLA called (SC)
DENNIS sinned
An aid, o DIANA
DON did nod*
Go, DONNIE re-in no dog?*
DORA sees a rod*
Stress ED? Not on desserts*
Too far, EDNA, we wander afoot (LM)
ELI, bomb Mobile*
Sail, ELIAS
Allegation: no, I tag ELLA*
EMIL's niece, in slime (JA)
EMMA, I am me
EVA, can I stab bats in a cave? (DB)
EVE damned Eden (mad EVE!) (HB)
Stressed, FLO? Wolf desserts*
Airy, snide GARY raged in Syria
E.g., roe, GEORGE*
An igloo pool, GINA (JA)
Draw, o HOWARD*
Sir, I demand - I am a maid named IRIS (LM)
'Tis IVAN, on a visit (LM)
Ma, JAN is in a jam*
"Ma," JEROME raps pot top, "Spare more jam!" (HB)
Pa, JON's no Jap*
Rise, take lame female KATE, sir
KAY, a red nude, peeped under a yak (JAL)
Anal was I ere I saw LANA (SC)
We'll led Dad tell LEW (DB)
MARGE, let's telegram
Ah, tramp MARTHA*
MARY bred a Derby ram (HB)
MAX, I stay away at six A.M. (HB)
Aha, MAY a Yamaha!
Revenge my baby, MEG? Never! (HB)
MEGAN, I win a gem*
O desirable MELBA, rise - do! (JAL)
"NAOMI, sex at noon taxes," I moan
DON, Satan sees NATASHA (HB)
God, NATE bit a Tibetan dog (DB)
Now, NED, I am a maiden won (LM)
NEIL, an alien (JA)
A tin mug for a jar of gum, NITA?
A global radar lab, OLGA (SC)
Evil OLIVE
Sit on a potato pan, OTIS (DB)
PAM, draw a ward map
 Murdered? No, PETER pondered rum*
Go date PIERRE; I pet a dog*
RENA, orgy-groaner*
Go, revive ROG*
RON, I'm a minor*
A new order began, a more Roman age bred ROWENA (DB)
"Not New York?" ROY went on (LM)
Harass selfless SARAH! (HB)
Ah, SASHA! (SC)
Anile SELINA
Eros? SIDNEY, my end is sore
No mists or frosts, SIMON (LM)
STELLA wondered: no wallets? (DB)
STEVE, were we vets?*
TED? a cadet (SC)
Sh! TOM sees moths (HB)
TRACY, no panic in a pony-cart (HB)
A nude, red UNA

Finally, a selection of palindromes involving two or more people.

DEB, BURT and NAT rubbed*
"SAL is not in?" RUTH asks. "Ah, turn it on, SILAS" (HB)
NORA asks AARON*
OTTO made NED a motto (JAL)
DEB, smash SAM's bed! (SC)
Draw DELLA too tall, EDWARD
NOEL, let's egg ESTELLE on (HB)
May RON dine on eels, LEE? No, ENID, nor yam
"Did IONE take KATE?" "No--I did" (DB)
AL lets DELLA call ED, STELLA (DB)
LEW, OTTO has a hot towel (DB)
ROG is as selfless as IGOR*
EMIL asleep, HANNAH peels a lime (DB)
GERT, I saw RON--or was it REG?*
Go date MYRA--MARY met a dog*
Did DEAN aid DIANA? ED did (DB)
"NORAH's moods," Naomi moans, "doom SHARON" (HB)
"Arise, RUSS," assures IRA*
NORMA, I am RON
Air OLGA, GLORIA*
No, HAL, I led DELILAH on (SC)
No, Miss, MARK rams SIMON*
GORDON did nod, ROG*
Ma, promote TOM or PAM*
OLEG, NADIA laid ANGELO*
SUE, TOM smote us (LM)
Dense KAREN (odd one) takes NED*
Sat in a taxi, left FELIX at ANITA's (JAL)

A. ROSS ECKLER
Morristown, N. J.

Although the telephones are suited for the deaf. The telephone equipment, which assigns two but requires mastering, means that a simple arrangement of numbers can be understood:

One way to use the alpha-numeric keypad is to use the alphabet and the ambiguity of the phonetic alphabet. For example, a ballonation of buttons on the keypad gives the user a way to compose a message. If the user provides a word, the telephone equipment will encode the word.

Of course, every user's needs, such as the ability to dial a specific number, is different. One way to solve this problem is to give a precise instruction. For example, the user might instruct the telephone equipment to dial a number in the 200 area (for example, 284-2004).*

How often must a user dial a phone number? Approximately every fourth phone number is dialed by one user. The most probable number is the 200 area (for example, 284-2004).*

The computer system requires five letters to retrieve them from a list of approximately 20,000. The greatest trouble arises when the list contains five letters; a special instruction is required.

The commonest instruction is: "Dial 284-2004.*"

Kucera and Francis (for example, 284-2004).*