

TRANSPLANTS

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It was contemplating the logological consequences of the term 'heart transplant' that gave me the idea for a whole new form of wordplay. I have already produced three distinctly different objectives all based upon the same technique and, doubtless, others can be devised.

The common technique is the transfer, one at a time, of letters from one word to another whilst ensuring that all words which arise in the course of play are valid. The natural consequence is two columns of words as one pursues the objective.

1. ORGAN TRANSPLANT A word such as HEART is transplanted letter by letter from the 'donor' to the 'patient'. The first example is a spectacular failure in which the patient died at the later stages of the operation. In this the letters are extracted in the ideal sequence of H,E,A,R,T. The second example is a success but the sequence (H,T,R,E,A) is not ideal.

DISHEARTEN		CENT		DISHEARTEN	IS
detainers	(H)	tench		detainers	(H) his
strained	(E)	thence		nearside	(T) this
tinders	(A)	encheat		aniseed	(R) shirt .
teinds	(R)	?		sained	(E) theirs
dines	(T)	entrechat		dines	(A) hastier

Note that in the first example I reject CHATEREN as a possible R-transfer word. Whilst CHATER is an obsolete form of CHATTER, the OED carries no citation which would validate such an inflected form. Can you discover a valid transposal of these same letters?

2. LOGICAL TRANSPLANT This is in the Carrollian tradition of word surgery whereby the objective is the making of a witty statement. The first example shows how a TUTOR turns a LAD into an ADULT; the second how BEAUTY turns SEX into EXTASY.

TUTOR	LAD	BEAUTY	SEX
trot	laud	beaut	sexy
rot	ADULT	tube	yaxes
		bue	EXTASY

3. DOUBLE TRANSPLANT This minimal columnar transfer of letters illustrates the type of transplant with the greatest potential of the three. Note that letters are switched from either column. Although the darker recesses of the OED were plundered to achieve the effect, I am

certain that many such double transplants can be produced using quite ordinary words. Apart from simply making words change places, such possibilities exist as the creation of synonyms of the original words. Is anyone interested in exploring the transplant potential?

HATE	LOVE
ate	hovel
late	hove
valet	hoe
vale	hote
ovale	the
LOVE	HATE

TAKE A LOOK AT A GOOD BOOK

This is the title of Steve Kahan's third collection of alphametic puzzles. Published in paperback by Baywood for \$15.95 (ISBN 0-89503-142-6), it contains a wide variety of standard alphametic puzzles, including ones that are numerically true as well (THIRTEEN + FIFTEEN + FIFTEEN + TWO + TWO + TWO + TWO + ONE = FIFTY-TWO). There is the occasional logological tidbit as well: fill in the consonants in well-known word pairs such as --I-E and --E-U-I-E; find words containing trigrams observed on license plates, such as joDHPur for DHP or aFGHan for FGH; enjoy two dozen classic anagrams from Howard Bergerson's book *Palindromes and Anagrams*. By the way, the title of the book is itself an alphametic: 3895 + 8 + 1009 + 83 + 8 + 2006 = 7009.