

FLEDGE LEDGE EDGE

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This edition does it for our introduction of elfish wordplay forms, bringing the list to forty. Although there are far more, it's time for solo flight, the ledge edge is fledged, and the sky grows dark with flapping things headed south. (Mom?!) To help you through this sad departure, I've included several wordplays you can add to and work on until They come back.

1 LOGODEFINITIONS:

Logogenesis: Neologism vervention expredicting subjectefinition; can be glossalient or logolax (adj).

Logolax (n): Enfluancer of logogenesis; flexicon effulgenerator. Comply zultzin a vocquacious pomposite rathan effinct brevits.

Logogenetic: Your mother, your grandmother, and your great-grandmother said YES! You probably will, too.

2 BOUSTROPHEDONIA:

A goy from Estonia,
,tsaE raf ro raen eht ton
who writes boustrophedonia
.angolab fo lluf si
But if your P.O.'s Ansonia
!ay enohp--etirw t'nod ,.Y.N

3 CHIASMUS: The Western outlok on life translated to the literary structure of a phrase or a story: beginning, middle (apex, climax, turning point), end. All along the way, going there and coming back, there are parallels. Was that clear?

Once upon a time the universe began with one heckuva thwang (bright beginning, promise of heroic destiny). Lots of little particles swooped up with other particles and they zoomed along as if it could go on forever (author's authority; irony). They didn't realize they were motors, not engines, and their electric cords only ran so far (foreshadowing, antitype). Just when they had gone so wide and so high nothing could stop them (hubris, by which the hero is blamed for bringing on the fate intended by the author from opening word), they, like, HIT SOME KIND OF WALL! (apex, turning point) AND IT HURT LIKE ALL GETOUT AND THEY STOPPED MOVING AHEAD! AND they were losing their hair and going bald as babes, and when they saw the dentist it wasn't for cavities anymore (antitype, parallel). They didn't like to admit it (heroic defiance, mortal stupidity), but they were actually now going backward (denouement). And as they slid from low to low, they met up with all those little particles they had passed by, lo those many years ago.

(come-uppance downer, catharsis for reader). Because what goes up must come down (Western worldview), and watch whose fingers you tread on the rungs of the ladder of success (author's suck-up to prevailing ethos-morality: eye on the market). All these specks were glomming together, helpless to prevent it, and not knowing where they were going. And neither do I (author's trashbin; ms thwangs).

4 SWITCHEROOS: Many forms, but the most notorious are what editors pull on writers. (Many Great American Novels have been written, but you've seen only the edited versions.) Still, once in a while, a writer owes his skin to a wise redactor. Imagine if the following hadn't been

Saved By The Blue Pencil

The Adventures of Tom Axer (Twain)
 The Battle Hymn of the Federal Bureaucracy (Howe)
 The Walrus and the Harpoonist (Carroll)
 Turtle, Turtle, Burning Bright (Blake)
 An All Hallow's Eve Ditty (Dickens)
 Under the Blighted Chestnut Tree (Longfellow)
 Les Malcontents (Hugo)
 Bunny Hop (Updike)
 The Back-up Third Baseman in the Beans (Salinger)
 The Undressed and the Dear Departed (Mailer)
 Willie Dick (Melville)
 A Little Indigestion (Sartre)
 The Guy Next Door (Camus)
 Amnesia (Proust)
 The Legerdemainist of Oz (Baum)
 To Kill a Parakeet (Lee)
 I Know I Left Paradise Around Here Somewhere (Milton)
 The Hamlet (Shakespeare)
 The Fall of the House of Smith (Poe)

Still In Need of Blue Penciling
 (substitute or add "Under The Sheets" in these song titles)

I've Got You...	[Under My Skin]
Dancing...	[In The Dark]
I Enjoy Being...	[A Girl]
Smoke Gets...	[In Your Eyes]
Dream A Little...	[Dream Of Me]
Anything You Can Do I Can Do...	[Better]
I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right...	[Outa My Hair]
'S Wonderful, S'...	[Marvelous]
The Girl From...	[Ipanema]
Born...	[Free]

5 CRYPTOGRAMS: Awphlstwoez--isw yswrut nopz.
 Don't despair; this took the editor hours...with a computer, yet. But if you give up, see Answers and Solutions.

6 CIPHERS Crypto-codes, usually by replacing letters with numbers or other letters. The Book of Jeremiah has a well-known one, the Atbash Cipher, and if you still haven't figured out the name of the Essenic Teacher of Righteousness (Fledge Ledge Edge, November 1996), here are two more clues: (1) The Atbash Cipher splits the Hebrew alphabet into two sections (the letters of the second half substitute for those in the first, and the name of the cipher tells you in what direction), (2) one of the heroes of the Essenic "Assumption of Moses" is Taxo, spelled "Tchw" or (to help you a little) "Tchzw" in Hebrew--and like "Maath" it's not a name. Decipher it, and you have the second half of the Teacher's name.

Hebrew Alphabet:

1. a	12. l
2. b	13. m
3. g	14. n
4. d	15. s
5. h	16. a
6. v,w	17. ph
7. s,z	18. s
8. ch	19. q
9. th	20. rh
10. y,j,i	21. sh,s
11. k	22. t

The first half of the name is in Fledge Ledge Edge, February 1997.

7 CRYPTO-VERSE: Did Francis Bacon write Shakespeare's plays? His name's letters sometimes appear acrostically. Anagrams, ciphers, and expanding patterns of syllables and words are some other code devices. Whatever it looks like, this will, I am sure, tell you who really wrote Shakespeare's works.

Who, the spectral author gasps,
Has ever poisoned sweeter tea?
Knives, his pens and jack's colt, he!
Search the poem-plays; this you'll grasp:
Each code's a lie! -- rhyme, tell my plea --
Rout the last thief; honor me.

You thought that was too easy? Better look again. And again. And again. Etc. To score, see Answers and Solutions.

8 CALENDAR VERSE: In August? For some, it's about that time. If '97 is one of those endless years, and not a single New Year's Resolution lasted, you're not alone:

JAN of EBbed sMARTs APRoned I'M AYing JUNK! St. JULian's tAUGht
aSEptically-dOCTored NOVenas and DECades -- I ought!

9 RHOPALIC: Should be called wax words; either in syllable or letters, they wane not. And this one's drippy!

Of golden yesterdays unforgotten, exceptionally ineradicable,
underestimatedly verisimilitudinous,

I am one very happy person, tearful, grinning, counting memorably
tape-tied yesteryears unstitchedly needlepointed.

10 CLERIHEW: Irreverent memorial in unscanned quatrain:

Francis Bacon

Rose up pale and shaken,

And wrote, he insists,

This.

Well, though rhopalics never wane, columns do. The F.L.E. Elf, Scarfin' Fatback or Barfin' Scatback or whatever his name is, has flown south, too. For a while we'll say goodbye to you. (That rhymed, unscanned, like a clerihew!)....Someone stop me!

A DICTIONARY OF JAPANESE LOANWORDS

This 231-page book by Toshie M. Evans, published in hardcover by Greenwood Press for \$75 (ISBN 0-313-28741-4), lists approximately one thousand words and phrases, each with definition, etymology and illustrative quotations, that have crossed over from Japanese into English. Some words come over directly. Many of these--kamikaze, sushi, kimono, judo--will be familiar to Word Ways readers, but more-highly-specialized ones also appear. Did you know that karoshi is "death from overwork", or nemawashi is "efforts made behind the scenes prior to a vote or a debate for securing a consensus"? Everyone knows of the 5-7-5 syllabic structure of haiku, but who has heard of the 5-7-5-7-7 renga? Other words--low profile, bullet train--have been translated into English before assimilation. A few commemorate Japanese originators--Suzuki method, Yagi antenna, Yukawa force. This dictionary also yields insight into Japanese customs and culture: one is struck by the number of entries relating to the martial arts, and bemused by the observation (under manga) that Japanese men read 320-page comic-strip books at the rate of 16 pages per minute. Even more startling is the assertion that "recent studies [alas, not documented] report that Japanese is the second most productive source of new loanwords to English"!