

ASIAN MORMONS

STUART KIDD

Blue Mountain, New South Wales, Australia

Editor's Note: In the August 1992 and February 1994 Word Ways, Harry L. Stern presented a number of poems based on transpositions of friends' names, and in August 1994 Susan Thorpe followed up with a poem on her name. Here is a further example of this genre.

During a recent protracted (yes, they measured me for and from all sorts of angles) hospital stay, I got to know a fellow patient and discovered we shared a love for poetry. We critiqued pieces of each other's work, and he actually wrote a quite insightful poem about me. One sleepless night I felt like reciprocating, but decided to restrict myself to literature rather than maths at this juncture, and so wrote one on him, as it were. Searching for an appropriate title, I decided to try anagramming his name, and was pleasantly surprised to find lots of alternatives, from which I finally chose "Nor Am I Samson". I was now in the happy situation of being possessed of more than 300 anagrams of my friend's name, and decided to construct a further opus from some of these, more under the influence this time of Amuse, than a Muse. The following is my resultant humble offering. It comes with his kind permission (and, I suspect, a secret desire for the attendant fame and glory throughout the worldwide [oops] worldwide Word Ways community).

Now, with 101 different permutations before you, who can discover my dear, patient friend's name?

O man in morass
Aims nor moans
Anosmia's morn
Main son roams:
"So a man's minor?
Moon ran amiss?
Norm is a mason,
Man, I'm so sonar.

Moan sirs, moan
Moan in morass
Nor miss a moan
On 'A minor' mass
Nor moan amiss:
Moan as is norm,
Moan so in arms;
Oasis, man--morn!

Sam roams on in
Roamin' Samson,
Roam in on mass
Roamin' masons
O, moans arm sin,
No mass in roam;
I'm a no-arms son,
I'm arson's moan.

Nor am I Samson.
'Samson, Armoni.'
I ram no Samson
Sin on, roam, Sam.
I'm oarsman, son:
I ran Moon Mass,
Moon's marinas--
I man Mars soon.

"O, is man on Mars?"
 Moon's aims ran.
 Son, I am on Mars,
 Mars is no moan....
 Roos maim Nans,
 Nans maim roos:
 Sam mars onion,
 Onions ram Sam!

Armoni Samson
 (A minor Samson),
 Marion Samson
 ('Iron Ma Samson'),
 Omiran Samson
 Imrano Samson
 Ronami Samson
 (Miss Non-Aroma)
 O Samson, ram in,
 Ram onion mass!

[Omar's Mansion,
 A mass-room inn
 --Or as in Mosman,
 (O Mosman's rain!)
 'Moss Aroma Inn',
 In a man's rooms
 (Soon in Ma's arm)
 Simon Oarsman,
 Iron-Mama's son.]

"No arms as I'm on.
 Ma, mar sin soon."
 "Son, son, I mar Ma."
 "Maoisms or Nan?"
 "Mao rams son in
 (Main moron ass),
 Son ran Maoism
 (Moron in a mass!)"

"Is Roman man so?"
 No Roman amiss."
 "O Ma, Romans sin!
 No aims, Romans."
 "Mason's a minor
 Mason is Roman:
 'Roman sons aim--
 I'm a Roman's son.'"...

"No aims on Mars
 Son, arm aminos.
 Roam mansions,
 Omanis' manors.
 Aim on ransoms--
 I'm a ransom, son."

"Am in no morass--
 O, I'm sonar's man:
 No sonar maims
 A miss on a morn
 'Ransom aminos'!
 --I am noon's arms,
 Morns as I moan
 Ma, I mar no sons."

Mosman's on air:
 "Maori man's son..."
 "Samoan minors..."
 "Masai on morns..."
 --Insomnoramas!
 As I'm on as Mr. No,
 Mama's iron son,
 I moan 'norms' as
 Onanism roams--
 O, onanism mars,
 O! onanism rams
 Asian Mormons.

Non-Australians are reminded that roos are kangaroos, and that Mosman is a suburb of Sydney.