

Preface

Have fun every day. Create with a sense of play. Even if the day is gray You'll have joy along the way.

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HTML version updated more frequently.

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Quatrains

by Algot Runeman

Less than poetry, but more than prose. These short rhymes are some of those. Enjoy or not, it's up to you. Share your own work somewhere, too.

Quatrain is a poetic format, writing done in one or more rhymed, fourlined stanzas. Wikipedia has some information about the quatrain format. From time to time, the Qua train above picks me up and carries me along.

Words are a game. Sometimes I play alone, but you are welcome to play, too. Sharing is wonderful. You are welcome to incorporate these ditties in remix works. The license which applies to this writing is Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 which encourages reuse without need to seek permission. Your sole responsibility is to cite the author and source listed at the bottom of the page so that others can locate the original work. Remix in school. Remix in a newspaper. It is up to you. Use with a drawing or photo and post it on line (that Internet thing). Your use may take the work in a new direction which enhances its value for even more people to enjoy. Build from here or start over on your own. Make the world more interesting.

In addition to the pure fun of doing these quatrains and remixing them, there is support for remixing in activities like the National Writing Project Connected Learning MOOC (follow Twitter hashtag #clmooc). Finding out more about the Maker Movement and Open Educational Resources would make sense, too.

Author's Quatrain

To write may offer only pain. From it, little may I gain. Yet write I must. Doing it keeps me sane.

Email to Mhairi Simpson

Crass

I will not be crass Nor speak ill of the lass. Still I will admire The fine curve of her...hip.

Word of the Day March 31, 2015

Quodlibet

Archaic, arcane, These words are a pain. But quodlibet sustain. It pleases my brain.

Word of the Day March 24, 2015

Weather

This falling mist I do insist, When it is gone It won't be missed.

The mist did rout So should I shout? Bright sun today, Yet no hooray.

Spring isn't here Twenties, cold, clear. Winter's sort of cold This, too, gets old.

Let truth prevail Snow is my grail. Been great this year. New record here.

With summer, some High heat will come. Ninety plus, too hot For me. Snow not.

For @emoontx on Twitter - in sections. March 21-23, 2015

Neomenia

There is nothing zanier
Than the feast neomenia.
Rosh Codesh, the Law.
Trumpets, burnt lamb, no flaw.

Once a month with no delay. Stop to feast, not play. Music played to glorify Burned meat, God to supply.

Word of the Day March 20, 2015

Scuzz

The need always was A place to put scuzz. Often a bucket's The place you may tuck it.

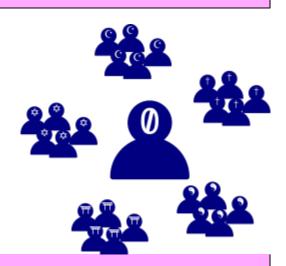
So do not aspire Scuzz to acquire. Once a scuzzbucket You later can't shuck it.

Repute will be ill. Society nill. All out of luck it Is life of scuzzbucket.

Word of the Day March 19, 2015

Nullifidian

Norm is no kid bein'. A lot of life he's been in. No random choice, He is nullifidian.



Word of the Day March 18, 2015

Farceur

Leslie Nielsen acted angry Or parts with suave demeanor. But after joining "Airplane!", he Will always be a farceur.

Word of the Day March 17, 2015

Listless

Listless and lazy. Everything hazy. Working it through. Tomorrow will do.

There's no need to rush. Anxiety, hush. Relax today. Tomorrow's okay.

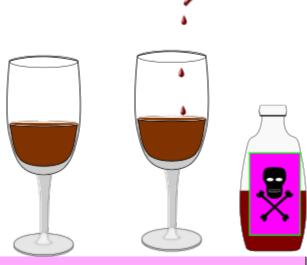
Word of the Day March 9, 2015

Nocuous

Drink it down, dear; no drop waste.
Bitter at the end, odd taste.
Nocuous draft, carefully placed
To send you off with painful haste.

My own quaff, taste lingers sweet. Same color, smell, liquor neat. You'll go. I'll stay. Your cash, my treat. Goodbye, you beast. In hell we'll

Goodbye, you beast. In hell we'll meet.



Word of the Day March 5, 2015

The Sound of Round

A shout, a curse We may rehearse While seldom voice A gentle verse.

I've rarely found Smooth sound of round While things too sharp My ears astound.

Weakness of the mind, perhaps, Holds hugs meaner than slaps. Still, scarce though they be, Grab tight the loving scraps.

Unpublished elsewhere, as yet. (March 4, 2014)

Semicolon - Punctuation on Grammar Day

Your thought I've stolen; "Punctuate correctly." Sentences connect, see? Appropriate, a semicolon.

Tweet to @wisekaren March 4, 2015

Though, maybe this works better.

Your thought I've stolen; "Punctuate correctly." Appropriate, a semicolon. Sentences connect, see?

Fortissimo

Cal told his joke
With voice fortissimo.
A jolly bloke,
Though very loud, you know.

Word of the Day March 4, 2015

Coiffeur

John takes good care to dress, but his hair is always a mess. No brush no comb can cure the disaster of his dome. Whether walking dog or even cat, John should always wear a hat. One thing that's very sure, John overpays his coiffeur.

Word of the Day February 28, 2015

Luxe

Benny Luck lives life luxe, Fancy cars and shiny trucks. He owes all his fancy life To his wife's abundant bucks.

Word of the Day February 26, 2015

Thrasonical

I don't mean to be thrasonical. I simply mean to boast. Breakfast making is my thing. I never burn the toast.



Word of the Day February 24, 2015

Jeunesse Dorée

Click, Clique. Money does the trick You're jeunesse dorée So we know you are okay.

No sorrow, no dismay. Black or white, no shade of gray. Success is guaranteed, Inherit parents' greed.

Think of others, if at all As losers, down the hall. In those classrooms known as shops They'll eventually grow your crops.

They'll fix your cars. Work in your bars. Deliver your oil For YOU they toil.

It is their lot
To take your snot
And make you happy
Though their pay is crappy.

Word of the Day February 21, 2015

Vestiture

Rush is such that in a clutch Just grab what's in the bedroom hutch. When that is old or very odd Our vestiture will cause a nod,

An eybrow raised, half-hidden snear. But that is not our biggest fear. What makes us start awake at night. Is that the style will become "right."

Word of the Day February 18, 2015

Ebullient

The notice has been sent. I'm feeling ebullient. I've made my case today. With no pesky shades of gray.

I love the snow, I do. Though I'm one of very few Who like it when it falls And, too, when the shovel calls.



Word of the Day February 16, 2015

Oscular

Valentine, Be mine. Oscular Prime time!

Kiss me now

You fool. We are out Of school.

Blizzard snow Will come Tomorrow KISS NOW!

Word of the Day February 14, 2015

Elocution

There must be a solution To Henry's elocution Which isn't very good, surprise! Stutters, ums, mumbles, sighs...

Word of the Day February 6, 2015

Doughty

Dotty was doughty. She was also dusty. Covered with flour Each and every hour.

Apprenticed to a Quaker Worked hard as a baker. Practicing her trade Bread dough she made.

Four AM routine
Disrupted by a scene.
Earthquake shook the bakery.
Doughty Dotty got doughy.

Word of the Day February 4, 2015

Esse

The essence of his esse Was that he was messy. If he washed his face He'd leave his hair in soggy strands. He was a sincere fellow. Girls all thought him mellow. To compensate for mess Extra hanky in their dress.

Word of the Day February 3, 2015

Alack

A lass cried "Alack!"
When her boyfriend didn't come back.
He'd gone to the store.
After that she lost track.

Word of the Day January 23, 2015

Peevish

"Positively peevish!"
He had only three fish.
So feelings were bad.
Worst catch he'd had.

Most days a champ, Best in the camp Now face those chumps He'd take his lumps.

Word of the Day January 18, 2015

Boodle

It came into John's noodle That he should grab his boodle Stick it in a bundle And from town he'd trundle.

The lawmen were too near now. Surrounded by their gear, wow! Rough justice they'd tender, Forcing his surrender.

Though he was without leisure, He buried deep his treasure. Much after his demise, Another'd find the prize.



Word of the Day January 8, 2015

Frug

Jenny watched the giant bug As it vainly tried to frug. Considering the execution She'd rather sit on a rug.

[The ODO pronunciation rhymes with bug, but I seem to hear something more like "froog" in my audible memory.]
[Wikipedia says "froog" too. Considering that, the quatrain above fails miserably.]

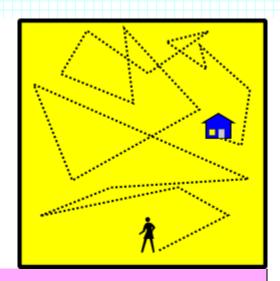
Bob gave his car a lube. And then he danced the frug. His hair was greasy, too. Pulled back in a snood.

"Froog" stumped me for good rhyming words. Sadly, the second quatrain fails again.

Word of the Day January 4, 2015.

Kittle

Betty Knittle was very little. She was also totally kittle. She drove her harried husband Till he shouted words with spittle.



Word of the Day January 2, 2015

Parody

"I'll take a pair o' deez." Sam spoke in parodies. His speech on normal days Impeccable in all its ways.

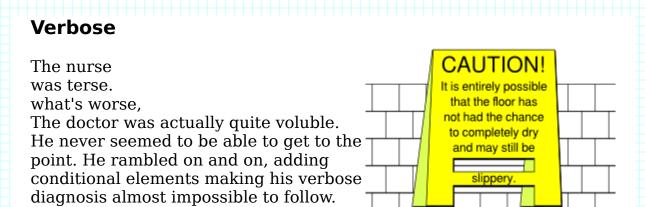


Word of the Day December 24, 2014

Terse

This verse is terse and worse, here comes the hearse.

A tweet - November 22, 2014



IBDoF Word of the Day November 22, 2014

Inanimate

I have no animus against the inanimate. But this morning, there's no excuse to be late.

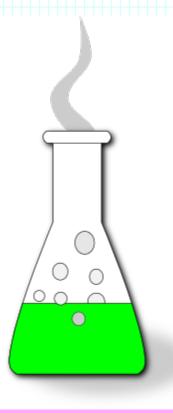
The clocks went back to standard, Jack. An hour more of sleep. You should be on track.



IBDoF Word of the Day November 2, 2014

Notional

Feelings far from emotional. My engagement is just notional. My heart's not full devotional. Flat. "Where's that potion, Al?"



IBDoF Word of the Day October 29, 2014

Oleaginous

At the beach we are lean, Wearing bikinis, very keen. Get the described scene? Now imagine us oleaginous.





IBDoF Word of the Day October 24, 2014

Impudicity

Sally stood. She looked good. She was no prude. She stood there nude.

Modesty aside. Stares taken in stride. Nothing to hide. Impudicity.



IBDoF Word of the Day September 18, 2014

Symphonic Zone

Submitting something significant. Something more than silly rant. Zero chance that it will really work. Zap. There, for one. Something scant.

Senses sharp, numerous thoughts in flux, Streamed ideas pass by like ducks. Zane Gray no source to help out this whelp. Zen, though, might be a little help.

Zoos pull together eclectic mix. Zebras, pythons and emu chicks. Such is the creative symphony. Small parts combine in sympathy.

The Daily Create #980

Allay

Set aside your worries. Let me allay your fears. Though your little mind scurries.

There should be no more tears.

Your mother's at your side.

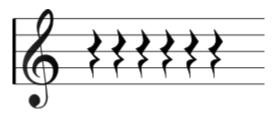
And Dad is down the hall. Safely here do you abide. No matter that you're small.

Though wind may howl and blow. The house is very strong. Tomorrow, dear, you'll see snow. And sing a happy song.

So close your eyes and sleep. And dream of cheerful stuff. Love wraps you and is quite deep. And that, son, is enough.

IBDoF Word of the Day September 4, 2014

[E.P.S at IBDoF asked if there was a score to accompany the poem. I replied.]



No hooray! No score to play. Nada, no way. Null, I say.

Allay away. Make no delay. Do wordplay. Allez, allez!



[E.P.S., Do you have a piano and a ream of blank score sheets handy?]

IBDoF Word of the Day September 4, 2014

Illusive

There is no intent to be abusive.
This word of the day won't be intrusive.
Though complete happiness will always be ellusive,
And the smile on my face will be illusive.



IBDoF Word of the Day August 25, 2014

Vituperate

Whether you're early or late We'll never, you, vituperate. Any contribution, fine A story long or single line.

If you wish to only read
To have your thoughts our hearts will bleed.
So join in and write today.
Hear all our cheers. Hip, hip, hooray!



IBDoF Word of the Day August 27, 2014

Hubris

Harvey harbored hidden hubris. He won't want you to know this. He fakes displayed humility As though just through will, it be.

IBDoF Word of the Day August 23, 2014

Inamorata

She knows disks of IDE or SATA. With RAID she's a total pro. She's my inamorata. A sysop, don't you know.

Tresses to her backside fall. Her tee shirts generously small. Everything about her Keeps me in her thrall.

IBDoF Word of the Day August 22, 2014

Abjure

I'm not feeling solemn. That is certain, sure. Lighthearted, I tell them. Nothing to abjure.

Tomorrow may be different. The morning may bring change. After all I've misspent. I'll want to rearrange.



IBDoF Word of the Day August 19, 2014

Semblance

With simple hope we scheme. Pretend we are a team Is that all that I can ask, Only semblance, just a dream?

IBDoF Word of the Day August 4, 2014

Apposite

Molly had an appetite. She ate anything in sight. Until the tragic night That the door became too tight.

She started on a diet Just so she could try it. The apposite plan, apply it. Her success, you can't deny it.

Hank, the tank, was not an apposite example, but an opposite one. He's now 600 pounds. Zounds!

IBDoF Word of the Day July 28, 2014

Setose

Hirsute Mary, Hairy Harry, Almost setose, Bound to marry. [Pity their children.]

IBDoF Word of the Day July 24, 2014

Asperity

Imogen aspired to asperity. Her work was not for charity. Her laugh had no hilarity. She dearly craved barbarity.

IBDoF Word of the Day July 21, 2014

Acrid

Acrid in her scent, On perfume she had not spent. Acid personality Living alone came naturally.

IBDoF Word of the Day July 20, 2014

Callow

There was a boy named Quallo Who was recognized as callow. He thought himself real deep But was, for sure, quite shallow.

IBDoF Word of the Day July 19, 2014

Mogul

Mark wanted to be a mogul But he had no show pull. His movies were weak No script, so to speak.

He kept at his trade. Improved what he made But nothing got better 'Till the academy's letter.

He had been selected To have work protected From copyright infringers With tools from digital ninjas.

The trouble with that, Fewer people sat To endure his stuff Yeah, life is sure tough.

IBDof Word of the Day July 15, 2014

Grammarian

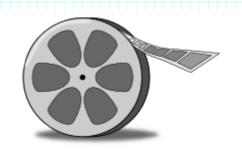
Take care when you are marryin'
In case she's a grammarian.
Mean "I shall" and "I will" when you say "I do."
Then anything she asks, be sure you follow through.

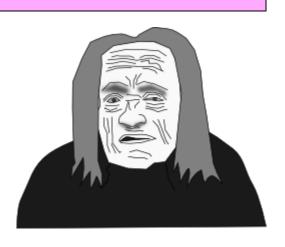
IBDof Word of the Day July 12, 2014

Ornery

Alf's wife was ALWAYS ornery.
Alf always at pub at the corner, see?
She grimaced and frowned;
The scorn was real loud without even a sound.

Alf shrugged and slipped out. He'd have just one stout. Be back in a flash With just a little less cash.





The a nap would be nice. His second best vice. The wife could pound sand. Isn't life grand?

IBDof Word of the Day July 1, 2014

Inkling

Sally had an inkling
Sue would do a rink thing.
She had no anticipation
The horse stuff was so stinking.

IBDoF Word of the Day June 28, 2014

Frowzy

Lookin' lousy, Feelin' frowzy, All my days I spend so drowsy.

A nap can aid, But then I've stayed Asleep through dinner, My goals betrayed.

So take a shower And shave for power. Go out to party Don't waste an hour.

IBDoF Word of the Day June 19, 2014

Acquiescent

To stay in this frame Keep playing the game? No worries mate. It's really been great!

A month or a year Sell off your gear.



Go out as you came Nothing to claim.

Clearly senescent. Also acquiescent. End coming near. No need to fear.

Oh, hell no! Not ready to go. If it happens at all. You bet I will squall.

IBDoF Word of the Day June 18, 2014

Glib

Since my comments are glib And I'm inclined to fib, It should be no surprise Another wins the prize.

Natick Patch June 16, 2014

Gray

Words at play, Have fun today. The skies are gray, but we're OK.

WotD Natick Patch May 28, 2014



May Be

It may be May. As the calendars say. It already has been hot, But today it sure is not.

in an email to my granddaughters, Savannah and Sadie May 18,2014

Mage

Horace slowly turned the page, He was learned as a sage. There was no sense of awe That he was also quite the mage.

He kept lions in a cage. To show off on the stage. Doing a trick with the saw. And a girl of younger age.



IBDoF Word of the Day April 21, 2014

Kerf

When you go out and try to surf.
The things you do should cut a kerf
Into the wave you slice, although,
The cut's not straight but curved, you know.

Kali Anastasi, as the Greeks say On Easter, when spring gains sway. Or celebrate the passing over Or just enjoy the sun in Dover.

Cut yourself some slack. Lighten loads from your back. It is Sunday after all. Enjoy family dinner and all.

Tomorrow, unless you're in Boston, You'll calculate the cost, an' Return to Monday's work. Unless you're just a jerk.

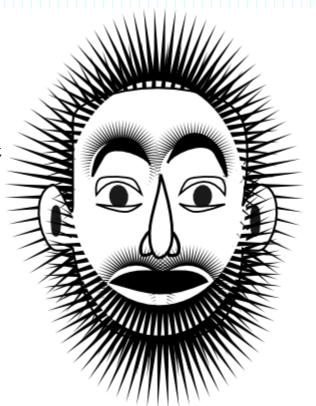
IBDoF Word of the Day April 20,2014

Hispid

Hairy Harry married hirsute Mary. Their kids came soon. They didn't tarry.

They all were bushy, bearded, scary.

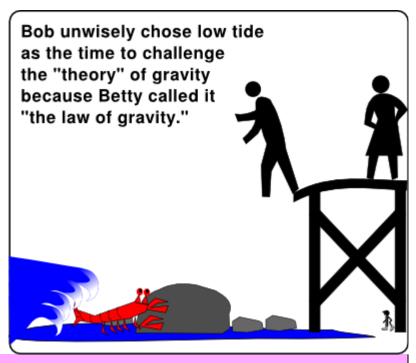
Most lacked hispid bristles, except for Larry.



IBDoF Word of the Day April 11, 2014

Casuist

My ideas may be specious.
With reasoning that's blurred.
And yet you must acknowledge
No casuist, absurd!



IBDoF Word of the Day March 15,2014

Dulcify

Sugar is sweet and is cheaper than honey, And dextrose from corn costs still less money. So make a decision and choose your bad habit. Dulcify your way, but there's no need to blab it.

IBDoF Word of the Day March 9,2014

Tryst

You ought never trust To the promise of tryst. You may hope if you must But may not insist.

Your lover's first kiss Is never the best. Mere start is a miss Lest follows the rest.

Laundry loads, splinters False starts and failed schemes Warm hugs through long winters Reaching grandchildren's dreams.

IBDoF Word of the Day January 24, 2014

Teeter

On the Brink

She teetered and quivered. While walking she shivered. She sacrificed for fashion. Seeking to stoke his passion.

He strode along eagerly. His arm offered rightly. She clung, nay she hung. To socially move up a rung.

Her heels tapped and clacked, Practiced walk, straight tracked. The dinner was planned And she'd give him her hand.

Her answer would be quick To the offered treat and not trick. If he asked to marry. To answer she'd not tarry.

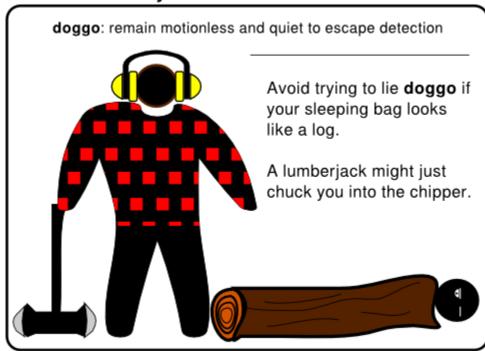
The future'd be bright
If after tonight
She was his one love.
His wife - and his one love.

IBDoF Word of the Day January 16, 2014

Doggo Word of the Day:

Joe tried to just lie doggo. In bag just like a log. Oh, But then the jacks of lumber Grabbed him up from deepest slumber.

The whine of the huge chipper



And ears covered, looking hipper, Masked Joe's screams of terror. His squirms forstayed grave error.

Joe resolved to do his future eco-activism upright, waving his arms and wearing bright orange overalls.

IBDoF Word of the Day January 14, 2014

Bemoan

You've reached a point Life's out of joint. The past is gone. You're but a pawn.

The up is jigged. The game is rigged. Make final vow; Breathe deeply now.

Bemoan your fate. But it's too late. The damage done There's no more fun.

IBDoF Word of the Day January 8, 2014

Tine

Friends, there is no need to worry, Fear not the portents nor the signs.

With many branches, many tines, The next decision needs no hurry.

The road ahead has many forks, And picking one or choosing which Will keep me safely from the ditch Still well ahead of all you dorks.

IBDoF Word of the Day December 27, 2013

Obviate

Winner by Acclaim

No need to evaluate, To mark or to rate. He's simply too great. A judge we obviate.

IBDoF Word of the Day December 16, 2013

29



Hirsute

Harry wanted to marry His girlfriend, with stunning tresses, Carrie. They hugged and they kissed and frequently cuddled.

Getting beyond first base, Harry routinely struggled.

Carrie wasn't shy. That wasn't it.

With her kisses, she held back not one little bit.

But she wasn't about to remove her suit.

To reveal that she was seriously hirsute.

Harry persisted. Carrie resisted.

Harry persevered. Carrie was cheered.

She agreed to be married. Over threshold she was carried.

Now their toddlers' heads are curly, and they've started shaving early.

IBDoF Word of the Day December 4, 2013

Querulous

It doesn't pay to whine and say,
"I don't like this dinner."
You should not be so querulous.
No food at all will make you thinner.



IBDoF Word of the Day November 30, 2013

Gambado

Jocko jumped.
Nay, he leaped.
He soared with grand bravado.
His bound a fine gambado.

IBDoF Word of the Day November 27, 2013

Brilliantine

Louis was a brilliant teen. His friends all thought him really keen. But though otherwise very clean, He drowned his hair in brilliantine.

IBDoF Word of the Day November 23, 2013

Laager

Lukas limped toward the laager. Gone was his typical swagger. He'd visited the latrine After finishing his lager.

The wagons were close now.
Gotten lost, didn't know how.
A stumble, hand to the ground.
The lion's growl. His own final howl.

IBDoF Word of the Day October 17, 2013

Hypocoristic

Robert, Rob, Bob, Bobby. Hypocoristic games were his hobby. Longer, shorter, didn't matter. Even if the nickname didn't flatter.

Richard, Ricky, Richy, Dicky, Bob himself wasnt picky. Call him any, loser/winner. Just don't call him late for dinner.

IBDoF Word of the Day October 16, 2013

Digerati

Bill fawned over Ada, queen of the digerati. Kind to a fault, she never was snotty. Her skills with coding couldn't be better. She built a computer just to knit him a sweater.

IBDoF Word of the Day October 14, 2013

Aesthete

Pete was an athlete who wasn't a tiny bit effete.

Pete wasn't neat. With sweat, he did overheat.

Muddy from the rugby pitch, he often appeared to live in a ditch.

He yearned to be an aesthete, with love of art, he was replete.

IBDoF Word of the Day October 8, 2013

Ellipsis

You may expect a long discourse. To fill the time as you ride your horse. The problem is ellipsis, dear. The one which happens...

IBDoF Word of the Day October 2, 2013

Anaclitic

Freud was psychoanalytic.
Some patients, anaclitic.
His livelyhood depended on their needs
So wasn't he metaphorically parasitic?

IBDoF Word of the Day September 25, 2013

Luthier

Lorie loved Luther who lived to be a luthier. She told him she would love him, no strings attached. Luther longed for Lorie, too. But he couldn't quite get her attitude, no strings? How would that harmonize with his daily work?

Ted thought tunes should be tootier. His passion, making brass. He gave Luther grief with full measure of sass. Lorie, caught in the middle, Didn't know whether to blow or continue to fiddle.

She sat in her settee. And drank her chinese tea. Should she become unstrung, And just give the whole thing up as too much cacophony, and dump both men to go to a nunnery?

IBDoF Word of the Day August 24, 2013

Roué

In foul juices was he stewin'. Early work forgotten. Roué!" shouted women. He ended life in ruin.

IBDof Word of the Day - August 19, 2013

Patois

Rejoice and raise your lusty voice. Sing the song both loud and long. Show your spirit's very strong. Formal or patois, your choice.

IBDoF Word of the Day - August 11, 2013

Extortion

Theo was a thug.
Theo, always smug,
Got his daily portion
Through regular extortion.

IBDoF Word of the Day - August 8, 2013

Sysadmin Day

There is no doubt. Shout, yes shout it out. Unsung sysadmins Know what it's all about.

Google+ Comment - July 27, 2013

Drunkard's Trope

Harry had the tendency to tope. He had trouble on the slope. To travel either up or down. He had to hold the rope.

IBDof Word of the Day - July 24, 2013

July 24th

Rain on my lawn. Humidity, gone. Expecting new weather? Summer's not done.

Tweet and Google+ - July 24, 2013

Baby Royal

A baby! A baby! Brits run around like crazy. If I cared, I'd be ensared. But I think I'm just too lazy.

Tweet - July 23, 2013 -- ;-) [humor]

Olfaction

All factions stood silently outside the plant. No conversation was necessary.

The overwhelming smell assaulted all whose [b]olfaction was ordinary. The mayor looked around and everyone signed assent. The old factory had to go to give the town a better scent.

IBDoF Word of the Day - July 23, 2013

Widget

I thought I had a widget. Keytap with stray digit. Must learn not to fidget. Now friends say, "He's an idjit!" Tweet - July 22, 2013

Dingle

And my spurs went jingle, jangle, jingle As I rode my horse into the dingle. The path was narrow. A file would need to be single.

IBDoF Word of the Day - July 21, 2013

Monocular

Pirate Pete attacked the pleasure boat fleet. He was so bold, never had been beat. He gazed through his spyglass, Looking for a likely lass.

He didn't use binoculars; his patch made that silly. A monocular sufficed, but sounded too frilly. He swung himself onto the last of the craft. Sending shivers through the crew, he menacingly laughed.

IBDoF Word of the Day - June 20, 2013

intemperate

Irene incessantly imbibed the local malt, Her days filled up with alcohol assault. Intemperate choices and habits bad, Will a future day, make someone sad.

IBDoF Word of the Day - June 08, 2013

Rorty

Shorty, turning forty, loved his party. He and friends were intentionally rorty. He sang and danced and ate quite hearty. Then he drank 'till midnight, not coffee, nor tea.

IBDoF Word of the Day - June 02, 2013

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