

# The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary



# The Unabridged Devils Dictionary

**Didier Musso**



## **The Unabridged Devils Dictionary:**

**The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary** Ambrose Bierce, 2010-09-15 If we could only put aside our civil pose and say what we really thought the world would be a lot like the one alluded to in *The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary* There a bore is a person who talks when you wish him to listen and happiness is an agreeable sensation arising from contemplating the misery of another This is the most comprehensive authoritative edition ever of Ambrose Bierce's satiric masterpiece It renders obsolete all other versions that have appeared in the book's ninety year history A virtual onslaught of acerbic confrontational wordplay *The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary* offers some 1 600 wickedly clever definitions to the vocabulary of everyday life Little is sacred and few are safe for Bierce targets just about any pursuit from matrimony to immortality that allows our willful failings and excesses to shine forth This new edition is based on David E Schultz and S T Joshi's exhaustive investigation into the book's writing and publishing history All of Bierce's known satiric definitions are here including previously uncollected unpublished and alternative entries Definitions dropped from previous editions have been restored while nearly two hundred wrongly attributed to Bierce have been excised For dedicated Bierce readers an introduction and notes are also included *Ambrose Bierce's Devil's Dictionary* is a classic that stands alongside the best work of satirists such as Twain Mencken and Thurber This unabridged edition will be celebrated by humor fans and word lovers everywhere

*The Devil's Dictionary* Ambrose Bierce, 2021-03-16T22:46:04Z Dictionary n A malevolent literary device for cramping the growth of a language and making it hard and inelastic This dictionary however is a most useful work Bierce's groundbreaking *Devil's Dictionary* had a complex publication history Started in the mid 1800s as an irregular column in Californian newspapers under various titles he gradually refined the new at the time idea of an irreverent set of glossary like definitions The final name as we see it titled in this work did not appear until an 1881 column published in the periodical *The San Francisco Illustrated Wasp* There were no publications of the complete glossary in the 1800s Not until 1906 did a portion of Bierce's collection get published by Doubleday under the name *The Cynic's Word Book* the publisher not wanting to use the word *Devil* in the title to the great disappointment of the author The 1906 word book only went from A to L however and the remainder was never released under the compromised title In 1911 the *Devil's Dictionary* as we know it was published in complete form as part of Bierce's collected works volume 7 of 12 including the remainder of the definitions from M to Z It has been republished a number of times including more recent efforts where older definitions from his columns that never made it into the original book were included Due to the complex nature of copyright some of those found definitions have unclear public domain status and were not included This edition of the book includes however a set of definitions attributed to his one and only *Demon's Dictionary* column including Bierce's classic definition of A the first letter in every properly constructed alphabet Bierce enjoyed quoting his pseudonyms in his work Most of the poetry dramatic scenes and stories in this book attributed to others were self authored and do not exist outside of this work This includes the prolific *Father*

Gassalasca Jape whom he thanks in the preface jape of course having the definition a practical joke This book is a product of its time and must be approached as such Many of the definitions hold up well today but some might be considered less palatable by modern readers Regardless the book s humorous style is a valuable snapshot of American culture from past centuries This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project which produces free public domain ebooks *The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary* Ambrose Bierce,1906 Ambrose Bierce s classic collection of witty and satirical asides arranged alphabetically as a dictionary is presented here in full Known as a hero for his actions in the American Civil War Bierce distinguished himself later in life as a barbed commentator who would turn his ire to all sorts of topics Today most of his journalism and opinion pieces are consigned to obscurity Lasting fame however was gained from the Devil s Dictionary wherein Bierce redefines popular terms in a deeply sardonic even bitter manner Bierce had a painful experience fighting where he lay wounded for hours upon a hellish battlefield He watched men slaughter one another like animals and this horrific experience changed his outlook forever Bierce viewed mankind and life through a cynical lens and it was this outlook that lost him many friends He achieved final notoriety when in 1913 he disappeared without trace and was never found The Devil s Dictionary is as the title suggests full of dark and devilish humor For instance it describes the Adam s Apple as a protuberance on the throat of a man thoughtfully provided by Nature to keep the rope in place and marriage as a state of temporary insanity only cured by the passage of time Such brief cutting asides are perfect for occasional reference when one is in the mood for dark wit Underpinned by brevity and a keen sense of the ironic this book is a satiric masterwork and a perfect introduction to the author Few of the definitions feel dated or rooted in their time Bierce composed his satirical dictionary over decades in the late 19th and early 20th century Later writers such as H L Mencken admired and took inspiration from Bierce s many barbs and he remains admired to this day [The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary](#) Ambrose Bierce,2013-08-06 The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary is a virtual onslaught of acerbic confrontational wordplay offering some 1 600 wickedly clever definitions to the vocabulary of everyday life Little is sacred and few are safe for Ambrose Bierce targets just about any pursuit from matrimony to immortality that allows our willful failings and excesses to shine forth The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary a satirical book first published in 1911 offers reinterpretations of terms in the English language which lampoon cant and political doublespeak The Devil s Dictionary has inspired many imitations both in its day and more recently Recent examples include The Computer Contradictionary Ambrose Bierce was an iconoclastic literary genius and The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary a compilation of his satirical definitions is a true American classic Some may find Bierce sexist nationalist and racist but most readers will enjoy his malevolent skepticism and underlying rage against hypocrisy Only two years after The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary was published in 1911 Ambrose Bierce disappeared after setting off for Mexico to join Pancho Villa s rebels against the corrupt dictatorial regime of Porfirio Diaz His legacy is memorable *THE DEVIL'S DICTIONARY - Ambrose Bierce* Ambrose Bierce,2020-08-02 The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary

offers some 1 600 wickedly clever definitions to the vocabulary of everyday life Little is sacred and few are safe for Bierce targets just about any pursuit from matrimony to immortality that allows our willful failings and excesses to shine forth If we could only put aside our civil pose and say what we really thought the world would be a lot like the one alluded to in The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary There a bore is a person who talks when you wish him to listen and happiness is an agreeable sensation arising from contemplating the misery of another This is the most comprehensive authoritative edition ever of Ambrose Bierce s satiric masterpiece It renders obsolete all other versions that have appeared in the book s ninety year history *The Devil's Dictionary of Ambrose Bierce - Complete and Unabridged - Special Edition* Ambrose Bierce,2010 Begun in a weekly paper in 1881 Bierce s dictionary contained the sardonic definitions published by Ambrose Bierce as The cynic s word book in 1906 **The Devil's Dictionary:Classic Edition(Annotated)** Ambrose Bierce,2021-06 The Devil s Dictionary is a satirical dictionary written by American Civil War soldier journalist and writer Ambrose Bierce consisting of common words followed by humorous and satirical definitions The lexicon was written over three decades as a series of installments for magazines and newspapers **The Devil's Dictionary** Ambrose Bierce,2020-08-23 If we could only put aside our civil pose and say what we really thought the world would be a lot like the one alluded to in The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary There a bore is a person who talks when you wish him to listen and happiness is an agreeable sensation arising from contemplating the misery of another This is the most comprehensive authoritative edition ever of Ambrose Bierce s satiric masterpiece It renders obsolete all other versions that have appeared in the book s ninety year history A virtual onslaught of acerbic confrontational wordplay The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary offers some 1 600 wickedly clever definitions to the vocabulary of everyday life Little is sacred and few are safe for Bierce targets just about any pursuit from matrimony to immortality that allows our willful failings and excesses to shine forth [The Devil's Dictionary \(EasyRead Super Large 18pt Edition\)](#) Ambrose Bierce,2022 **The Devil's Dictionary** ,1943 **The Devil's Dictionary** Ambrose Bierce,2012-03 The Devil s Dictionary is a virtual onslaught of acerbic confrontational wordplay offering some 1 600 wickedly clever definitions to the vocabulary of everyday life Little is sacred and few are safe for Ambrose Bierce targets just about any pursuit from matrimony to immortality that allows our willful failings and excesses to shine forth The Unabridged Devil s Dictionary a satirical book first published in 1911 offers reinterpretations of terms in the English language which lampoon cant and political doublespeak The Devil s Dictionary has inspired many imitations both in its day and more recently Recent examples include The Computer Contradictionary Ambrose Bierce was an iconoclastic literary genius and The Devil s Dictionary a compilation of his satirical definitions is a true American classic Some may find Bierce sexist nationalist and racist but most readers will enjoy his malevolent skepticism and underlying rage against hypocrisy Only two years after The Devil s Dictionary was published in 1911 Ambrose Bierce disappeared after setting off for Mexico to join Pancho Villa s rebels against the corrupt dictatorial regime of Porfirio Diaz His legacy is memorable **The Devil's Dictionary-(Annotated)**

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