



The Dord, the Diglot, and an Avocado or Two: The Hidden Lives and Strange Origins of Common and Not-So-Common Words

Anu Garg

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From the creator of the popular A.Word.A.Day e-mail newsletter

A collection of some of the most interesting stories and fascinating origins behind more than 300 words, names, and terms by the founder of WordSmith.org.


Did you know:

There's a word for the pleasant smell that accompanies the first rain after a dry spell? *Petrichor*, combining *petros* (Greek for *stone*) and *ichor* (the fluid that flows in the veins of Greek gods).

An *illeist* is one who refers to oneself in the third person.

There's a word for feigning lack of interest in something while actually desiring it: *accismus*.

For any aspiring *deipnosophist* (a good conversationalist at meals) or devoted *Philomath* (a lover of learning), this anthology of entertaining etymology is an ideal way to have fun while getting smarter.

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