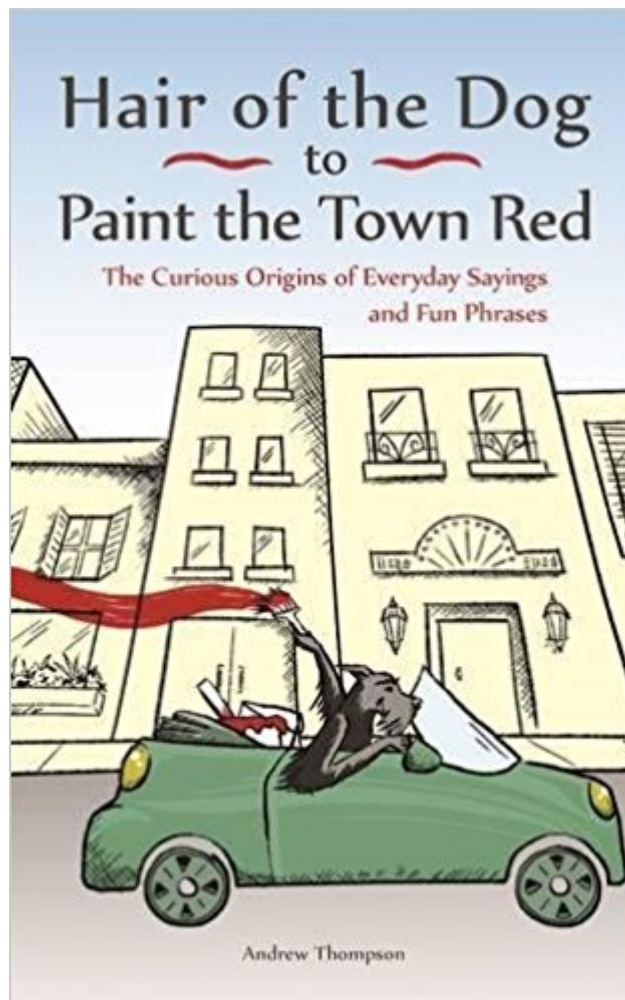




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Hair Of The Dog To Paint The Town Red: The Curious Origins Of Everyday Sayings And Fun Phrases



Synopsis

400 intriguing, entertaining, and often hilarious etymological journeys English is filled with curious, intriguing and bizarre phrases. This book reveals the surprising, captivating and even hilarious origins behind 400 of them, including: *Read between the Lines* *Cat Got Your Tongue?* *Put a Sock in It* *Close, but No Cigar* *Bring Home the Bacon* *Caught Red-Handed* *Under the Weather* *Raining Cats and Dogs* Perfect for trivia and language lovers alike, this entertaining collection is the ultimate guide to understanding these baffling mini mysteries of the English language.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Andrew Thompson practices law but his obsession with finding out the truth about aspects of the world that we take for granted has led him to accumulate a vast body of knowledge which he has at last distilled into book form.

This would be a perfect book to buy for someone who has everything. It is filled with many fun facts as to the origin of things we say and have no idea where or when they originated in the English language. Some of these I knew what they meant but had no idea how they came about; such as *at loose ends*; or *raining cats and dogs*. There are 15 chapters covering all kinds of subject areas. Areas are Nautical, Sports and Games, Work, Trades and Money, Military Matters, The Political Realm, That *„cs* Entertainment, Ancient times, People and Names, Literature, Culinary Delights, Biblical Times, Law and Order, Animal and

Nature, Til Death Do Us Part, and Miscellaneous Matters. Its fun easy reading and could be a great coffee table or a bathroom book. I would like to see my junior high and high school grandkids read it. I think they would get a kick out of it.

This is a great bathroom book, or really a great coffee table book as well. It's packed with the etymology of many common phrases, and many phrases that I had never even heard of before. Each phrase is defined, given in context, and explained from its humble origins to its modern usage. The writing is funny and clear, and it's always fun to see what you'll come across when investigating such sayings as 'God Bless You' or the rarer 'Bold as Brass.' There isn't the most depth in these descriptions, but that's not really what it's for. Put it somewhere where people will pick it up and glance at it. It will certainly entertain.

You can't be this book and that's coming from someone who didn't understand the title of this book. This book is amaaaazing! It's a wealth of information with some common (to most) phrases and gives insight to all of those endless sayings our parents seem to have a plethora of. I love the way the book identifies the meaning as well as uses it in context, quite often, the two are not one and the same. This book is a must have for anyone who enjoys a good time and likes to expand their thought. This book is always a good read but particularly after a few glasses of wine, I highly recomend it when reading this book. It's funny what you learn from this book. We all use know the ropes, but few of us know it originates from sailing, it makes sense once you stop to think about it - as do most of what's in this book, but they're still fun to learn about. I do wish there was some rhyme or reason the order of the sayings but other then that, I would highly recommend this book to anyone - oin fact i'd recommend two. You will want to keep one and give another as a gift!

I love a little bit of linguistic history, but sometimes when I look up the origins of a phrase I get taken down a lot of "well maybe this, maybe that" routes. This book is a lot easier to pick up and browse through, since the author has simply picked the most agreed-upon or most likely sources for the phrase. It's also organized by type of source--ie, by phrases that come from nautical terms. I had no idea how many common phrases refer to ship parts! The book is fun to flip through and who knows when the knowledge will come in handy, since I do love to go to pub trivia. :)

I loved this because of one thing- ok wait, two things. I loved that the explanations were short- I don't want to read a three page history for each one, which I have seen before (maybe on

wikipedia? I don't know). The second thing- that it was listed by type! I had an argument with my husband on where "cherry-picking" came from- he said sports, and I said that did not sound correct- I was thinking a farming phrase - but unfortunately it isn't a listed. In any case, while I was looking for it, I found Taking a Piss, which I had always wanted to know- and it was in culinary delights!! I was pretty amazed to see how old some things were that are still in use- it would make a fun gift for someone learning English who really wanted to sound fluent.

For kids, but I got a kick out of it.

Thompson does it again, this is a brilliant read and very funny. The book contains explanations of every day phrases and fun facts on a variety of topics such as biblical, sports, money, military matters and many more. It's suitable for all ages as it's very well written and informative. Best of all, you will find yourself smiling and chuckling whilst learning some interesting stuff. I would highly recommend this book as it's the best in this genre. Tommy Boy

What a great book this is. It's like it was written for me. It has clear and concise explanations for every phrase you've ever heard of, all set out in categories that breaks it up and makes it easy to read. It's the perfect book to read in one go or to dip in and out of as a reference book. I've read a few books like this in the past, but this is far and away the best I've read. Great work.

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