

AMBROSE BIERCE

THE
Devil's
Dictionary

'An American classic'
Sunday Telegraph

Illustrated by

RALPH STEADMAN

The Devil S Dictionary

Ambrose Bierce



The Devil S Dictionary:

The Devil's Dictionary (or The Cynic's Wordbook: Unabridged with all the Definitions) Ambrose
Bierce, 2013-08-20 This carefully crafted ebook The Devil s Dictionary or The Cynic s Wordbook Unabridged with all the Definitions is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents The book is a classic satire in the form of a dictionary on which Bierce worked for decades It was originally published in 1906 as The Cynic s Word Book before being retitled in 1911 A number of the definitions are accompanied by satiric verses many of which are signed with comic pseudonyms It offers reinterpretations of terms in the English language which lampoon cant and political double talk as well as other aspects of human foolishness and frailty The definitions provide satirical witty and often politically pointed representations of the words that it seeks to define The Devil s Dictionary has inspired many imitations both in its day and more recently Ambrose Gwinnett Bierce 1842 1914 was an American satirist critic poet editor and journalist Bierce became a prolific author of short stories often humorous and sometimes bitter or macabre His dark sardonic views and vehemence as a critic earned him the nickname Bitter Bierce The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary Ambrose Bierce, 2001-12-01 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, 1945 The Devil's Dictionary (EasyRead Super Large 18pt Edition) Ambrose Bierce, 2022 **The Devils Dictionary** Ambrose Bierce, 2018-07-09 The Devils Dictionary By Ambrose Bierce Regarded as one of the most influential American journalists of the late 19th and early 20th century Ambrose Bierce was the Civil War veteran who was best known for his stories of the American Civil War and for his satirical witticisms Written over several decades The Devil s Dictionary is the ultimate collection of his lexicon of satirical definitions Bierce s earliest known definition was first published in 1867 Over the next several decades he would add numerous definitions to his

satirical essays in his weekly columns *The Town Crier* and *Prattle* and in his personal letters These definitions were first collected in book form in 1906 as *The Cynic's Word Book* and later expanded as *The Devil's Dictionary* in 1911 Not a real dictionary but rather a lampoon of the English language *The Devil's Dictionary* provides satirical witty and often politically pointed representations of the words that it seeks to define Regarded by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration as one of The 100 Greatest Masterpieces of American Literature *The Devil's Dictionary* is a unique masterpiece of cynical wit This edition is printed on premium acid free paper We are delighted to publish this classic book as part of our extensive Classic Library collection Many of the books in our collection have been out of print for decades and therefore have not been accessible to the general public The aim of our publishing program is to facilitate rapid access to this vast reservoir of literature and our view is that this is a significant literary work which deserves to be brought back into print after many decades The contents of the vast majority of titles in the Classic Library have been scanned from the original works To ensure a high quality product each title has been meticulously hand curated by our staff Our philosophy has been guided by a desire to provide the reader with a book that is as close as possible to ownership of the original work We hope that you will enjoy this wonderful classic work and that for you it becomes an enriching experience

The Devil's Dictionary Ambrose Bierce, 1911

The Devil's Dictionary Ambrose Bierce, 2021-04-17 *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 (Large Print) Ambrose Bierce, 2014-04-07 *The Devil's Dictionary* was begun in a weekly paper in 1881 and was continued in a desultory way at long intervals until 1906 In that year a large part of it was published in covers with the title *The Cynic's Word Book* a name which the author had not the power to reject or happiness to approve To quote the publishers of the present work This more reverent title had previously been forced upon him by the religious scruples of the last newspaper in which a part of the work had appeared with the natural consequence that when it came out in covers the country already had been flooded by its imitators with a score of cynic books *The Cynic's That* and *The Cynic's t* Other Most of these books were merely stupid though some of them added the distinction of silliness Among them they brought the word cynic into disfavor so deep that any book bearing it was discredited in advance of publication Meantime too some of the enterprising humorists of the country had helped themselves to such parts of the work as served their needs and many of its definitions anecdotes phrases and so forth had become more or less current in popular speech This explanation is made not with any pride of priority in trifles but in simple denial of possible charges of plagiarism which is no trifle In merely resuming his own the author hopes to be held guiltless by those to whom the work is addressed enlightened souls who prefer dry wines to sweet sense to sentiment wit to humor and clean English to slang A conspicuous and it is hoped not unpleasant feature of the book is its abundant illustrative quotations from

eminent poets chief of whom is that learned and ingenious cleric Father Gassalasca Jape S J whose lines bear his initials To Father Jape s kindly encouragement and assistance the author of the prose text is greatly indebted A B *The Devil's Dictionary* ,1943 *The Devil's Dictionary* Ambrose Bierce,2016-01-08 AUTHOR S PREFACE The Devil s Dictionary was begun in a weekly paper in 1881 and was continued in a desultory way at long intervals until 1906 In that year a large part of it was published in covers with the title The Cynic s Word Book a name which the author had not the power to reject or happiness to approve To quote the publishers of the present work This more reverent title had previously been forced upon him by the religious scruples of the last newspaper in which a part of the work had appeared with the natural consequence that when it came out in covers the country already had been flooded by its imitators with a score of cynic books The Cynic s This The Cynic s That and The Cynic s t Other Most of these books were merely stupid though some of them added the distinction of silliness Among them they brought the word cynic into disfavor so deep that any book bearing it was discredited in advance of publication [The Devil's Dictionary \[Facsimile Edition\]](#) Ambrose Bierce,2008-06 The Devil s Dictionary by Ambrose Bierce is a satirical book first published in 1911 It offers reinterpretations of terms in the English language which lampoon cant and political double talk The Devil s Dictionary has inspired many imitations both in its day and more recently Recent examples include The Computer Contradictionary and The Devil s Dictionary X **The Devil's Dictionary Illustrated** Ambrose Bierce,2020-09-13 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 Bierce s witty definitions were imitated and plagiarized for years before he gathered them into books first as The Cynic s Word Book in 1906 and then in a more complete version as The Devil s Dictionary in 1911 Initial reception of the book versions was mixed In the decades following however the stature of The Devil s Dictionary grew It has been widely quoted frequently translated and often imitated earning a global reputation In the 1970s The Devil s Dictionary was named as one of The 100 Greatest Masterpieces of American Literature by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration 1 It has been called howlingly funny 2 and Wall Street Journal columnist Jason Zweig wrote that The Devil s Dictionary is probably the most brilliant work of satire written in America And maybe one of the greatest in all of world literature [The Devil's Dictionary](#) Ambrose Bierce,2021-01-08 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 Devil's Dictionary-(Annotated)** Ambrose Bierce,2020-09-20 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:Classic Edition(Annotated Edition)** Ambrose Bierce,2021-11-24 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

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The Devil's Dictionary.: Satirical Dictionary Ambrose Bierce, 2019-01-25 The Devil's Dictionary is a satirical dictionary written by American Civil War soldier wit 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 Bierce's witty definitions were imitated and plagiarized for years before he gathered them into books first as The Cynic's Word Book in 1906 and then in a more complete version as The Devil's Dictionary in 1911

The Complete Original Devil's Dictionary Ambrose Bierce, 2009-04-28 Ambrose Gwinnett Bierce was an American editorialist journalist short story writer and satirist Today he is best known for his short stories An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge and his satirical dictionary The Devil's Dictionary The dictionary offers reinterpretations of terms in the English language and also which lampoon religious and political doublespeak Examples LAWYER One skilled in circumvention of the law FUTURE n That period of time in which our affairs prosper our friends are true and our happiness is assured

The Devil's Dictionary Ambrose Bierce, 2022-10-05
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