

The New York Times Everyday Reader's Dictionary of Misunderstood, Misused and Mispronounced Words

Edited by Lawrence Urdang

Science News Books

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A treasury of fancy five-dollar words for language lovers, word buffs and polysyllabic people everywhere. Since its appearance a decade ago, The New York Times Everyday Reader's Dictionary of Misunderstood, Misused and Mispronounced Words has gone through dozens of printings on its way to becoming a lexicographic classic. It is a dictionary minus the mundane, a rich distillate of difficult words, including definitions and guides to pronunciation. It will appeal to all those who long to sound like William F. Buckley Jr., or just plain love language and words. Whether you have ever committed barratry cuddled with a clowder or worried about glabrousness in your family, you'll find hours of browsing pleasure in this enchiridion of sesquipedalian items. - from the publisher

"School and public libraries and some academic libraries will do well to consider Urdang's book — if not as a first source to turn to or as an essential purchase, surely as a supplementary tool. In addition, its portability, stylistic simplicity and legibility will attract users put off by other dictionaries."

— Reference Books Bulletin

ANXIETY By DONALD W. GOODWIN

The problem of anxiety is an elusive one, capturing the attention of philosophers, social scientists, psychologists and many others. This book pulls their disparate theories and findings together, along with the recent scientific discoveries about the brain and the changes in the system for classifying psychiatric disorders. Enriched by many examples of interesting experiments and clinical cases, this book gives a broad overview of the nature of anxiety and describes in detail the eight anxiety disorders, from separation anxiety to agoraphobia to post-traumatic stress disorder. The book distinguishes between fear — a response to a concrete, knowable danger — and anxiety, which is diffuse, vague. Fear is sometimes useful, Goodwin writes; anxiety, as he defines it, never is. Some thirteen million Americans suffer from anxiety disorders. Patients and their families, counselors and health care professionals and anyone with an interest in psychopathology will appreciate this account of the types of anxiety disorders, their causes and the available treatments.

"A succinct, informative and amusing volume that provides a comprehensive approach to the understanding and treatment of anxiety and the phobias. It is eminently readable, requiring little in the way of technical scientific background; indeed the historical and literary anecdotes are presented with such clarity and enthusiasm that the reader is drawn along by the author's fascination and knowledge of his subject."

Peter C. Whybrow, Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania

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