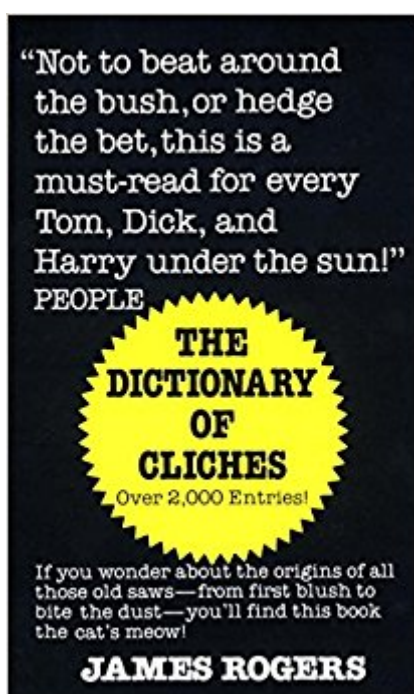


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# Dictionary Of Cliches: If You Wonder About The Origins Of All Those Old Saws--from First Blush To Bite The Dust--You'll Find This Book The Cat's Meow!



## Synopsis

"The best kind of reference book--one that amuses as it instructs. I fell for it hook, line, and sinker." CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER RIN A NUTSHELL, here's a terrific A TO Z listing of the meanings and origins of over 2,000 common or particularly interesting cliches for everyone who delights in the pleasure of words.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The best kind of reference book--one that amuses as it instructs. I fell for it hook, line, and sinker." CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER RIN A NUTSHELL, here's a terrific A TO Z listing of the meanings and origins of over 2,000 common or particularly interesting cliches for everyone who delights in the pleasure of words.

The Dictionary of Cliches offers the most thorough treatment yet published of all those trite but apt sayings we use all the time but rarely stop to consider.

I have a number of books similar to this - I enjoy reading on the origins of some of the idioms and cliches, etc. in our language. This is not one of my favorites. It is well-organized (alphabetical) but many of the entries are incorrect (the author was especially ignorant of many of the phrases that originated on sailing ships of the British and American Navies of yesteryear) and attributed those to civilian-based origins, and many other sailing ship phrases were ignored (example: Getting Down to Brass Tacks, Four Sheets to the Wind, etc). This book might be valuable to easily look up a phrase

that you hear and are curious about but the information may or may not be complete or accurate. I also found that I lost interest very quickly in reading it (cover to cover) - unlike other similar books, such as the Imponderable series of books by author David Feldman - those were fun to read and reasonably well-researched. I would suggest potential readers look elsewhere than this book, but maybe that's just me.

This book was a blast. I left it out on the coffee table and my roommates would pull it out and attempt to use obscure cliches in sentences without anyone noticing. It actually became a game in the house and shared tons of laughs while learning some cool out-of-date cliches. 10/10 would recommend.

This is a great party book and was given to a friend who is not from the USA. They enjoyed learning about American English cliches.

This informative, well-researched and amusing reference explains the meaning, origin and subsequent usage of over 2000 cliches, sayings and expressions made familiar through their continued, and sometimes exaggerated, use. It's a wonderful resource for writers, researchers and editors, for trivia enthusiasts, and for people who just love words, language and slang. Each entry in this comprehensive collection is presented in a paragraph-length format, and is written in a clear, concise and humorous style that invites browsing, but is also appropriate for easy consultations, for which an index of cross-references is also included. Here you'll find the well known "head over heels," "fit as a fiddle" and "right as rain" and also the not so common "eager for the fray" and "Simon pure." Although not all the cliches ever used are contained in this volume, it is by far the most complete compilation of its kind available on the market today. Overall, this book is a delightful trip of exploration and discovery into the treasury of our language's most colorful remarks.--Reviewed by M. E. Volmar

Great and a good buy.

fun book!

While a few of the 'clichés' are interesting, most of them are so obvious, anyone could figure it out. A couple examples from the book: "His days are numbered - Fate is closing in on him; his death is

near" and "Second to None - as good as any competitor." The author cites the first time the phrase was supposedly used. I've found other books on this topic to be much more interesting.

Daughter-in-law from another land is becoming familiar with American clichés and sayings, loved getting this book. We have a lot of these and many are often misquoted. This provides a nice resource to get the full meaning of phrases with national but often times, local variations. In her occupation as writer and editor for a exported magazine, she often runs across clichés whose full meaning is not obvious.

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