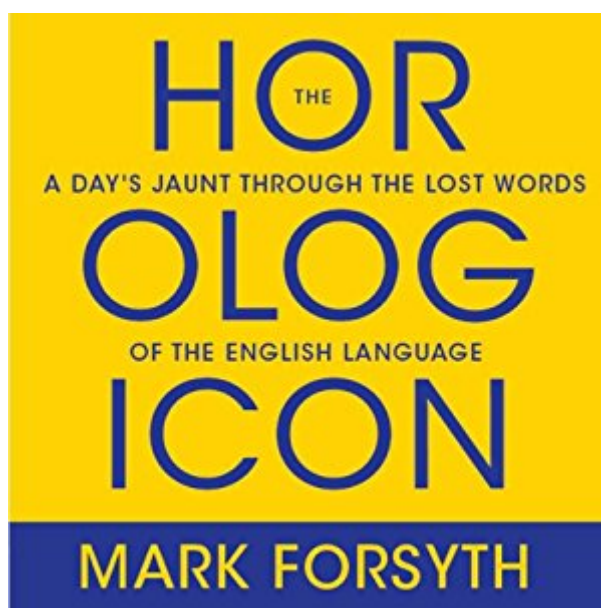




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# The Horologicon: A Day's Jaunt Through The Lost Words Of The English Language



## Synopsis

Do you wake up feeling rough? Then you're philogrobolized. Find yourself pretending to work? That's fudgelling. And this could lead to rizzling, if you feel sleepy after lunch. Though you are sure to become a sparkling deipnosopbist by dinner. Just don't get too vinomadedied; a drunk dinner companion is never appreciated. The Horologicon (or book of hours) contains the most extraordinary words in the English language, arranged according to what hour of the day you might need them. From Mark Forsyth, the author of the number-one international best seller *The Etymologicon* comes an audiobook of weird words for familiar situations. From ante-jentacular to snudge by way of quafftide and wamblecropt, at last you can say, with utter accuracy, exactly what you mean.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

an absolute delight to read, I was sharing it with everyone I know, that's how good it was.

This is a great read for anyone who loves words. A facinating and well written journey into the lost words of language. Thoroughly enjoyed reading it.

Some chapters are extremely funny - but you actually need to be in the right mood to enjoy it all.

A wonderful read regarding the history of words.

Are you looking for that wonderful gift to present to the individual in your life who appears to have swallowed a lexicon with their mornings repast, and have you been a bit tardy in getting said article? Well fret not here is an awesome nay, Brobdingnagian offering that could easily engender feelings of exuberance and even adoration from said recipient! In his preambulation Mark Forsyth states that this book is for those words that are.. "Too beautiful to live long, too amusing to be taken seriously, too precise to become common, too vulgar to survive in polite company, or too poetic to thrive in this age of prose." He goes on to say that these words languish away in old and arenaceous dictionaries, that these are the lost words and the great secrets of civilisations that can still be of use today. What sets this marvellous read apart from your standard lexicon is the method of recording used does not follow the A - Z format. In fact the writer states that by having words arranged alphabetically within a dictionary you render them useless as they bear no relation to their neighbouring words and are estranged from those words they share a relationship with (for example in the Oxford English Dictionary, wine and corkscrew are separated by seventeen volumes). This led the author after hours of rumination and a degree of puttering to fix upon the idea of using the medieval book of hours as his solution to this dilemma, in the process reinventing the reference book for the modern world and it's constant haste. With this method all one needs to do is to check the time of day via whatever clepsydra you prefer and then by referring to the correct page within this publication - suitable words should avail themselves for your use and the delectation of all within earshot. The Horologicon (or book of hours) is the partner to last years The Etymologicon, and like that wonderful book, uses Mark's Inky Fool blog, as it's reference point. Where as the previous work, threaded us through the strange connection that exist between words, The Horologicon, is literally a book of hours, charting the period from just before the moment day-raw streaks red across the sky and guiding us through the day and eventide up until Bulls-noon, where we, having wished bene darkmans to our loved ones, will hopefully be ensconced in our dreamery, asleep in those arms of Morpheus. This was a BBC radio 4 book of the week (read by Hugh Dennis) and was described as: "The Horologicon (or book of hours) gives you the most extraordinary words in the English language, arranged according to the hour of the day when you really need them. Do you wake up feeling rough? Then you're philogrobolized. Pretending to work? That's fudgelling, which may lead to rizzling if you feel sleepy after lunch, though by dinner time you will have become a sparkling deipnosophist. From Mark Forsyth, author of the bestselling The Etymologicon, this is a book of weird words for familiar situations. From ante-jentacular to snudge by way of quaafftide and wamblecropt, at last you can say, with utter accuracy, exactly what you mean." Disclaimer. "This is a

reference work. You should on no account attempt to read it cover to cover. If you do, Hell itself will have no horrors for you, and neither the author nor his parent company will accept liability for any suicides, rampages, or crazed nudity that may result." Mark Forsyth.

The Horologian: A Day's Jaunt Through the Lost Worlds of the English Language by Mark Forsyth  
You have to be a for-real Word Geek to enjoy this book but, if that's what it says on your T-shirt, you'll find a wealth of entertainment in Forsyth's eclectic rambles into and out of some of the most hidden, offbeat, hilarious, poignant and astonishing corners of the English Language.

I know it's weird, but I love words. I love to know word origins, and I could read or listen to books about words for hours. Mark Forsyth has written a fantastic book that not only makes me love etymology more, he keeps me entertained. Even if you are just casually interested in the meaning of everyday word usage, you'll love this book.

I loved this author's other language book, The Etymologicon, so once I heard about this one I knew I had to read it. This is a different sort of book though and doesn't quite hit the mark. The previous book, as the title suggests, is about the origins behind words, a topic I find fascinating. I like to know why we use words the way we do and how they evolved to current standards. This book though is less about origins, though some are included, and more about obscure and forgotten words for various things. Each chapter is linked to an hour of the day and things associated with that hour. It was a good way of tying together different words and worked well. Overall though this book just wasn't as interesting. There were a lot of funny words but there were also a great deal of words that were just a Latin version of an ordinary word. I find those rather boring as you can take almost any word and translate it into Latin. I'm more interested in the words that sprang from other sources. If you like language I'd still recommend this book but I think you'll have a more enjoyable time reading The Etymologicon.

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