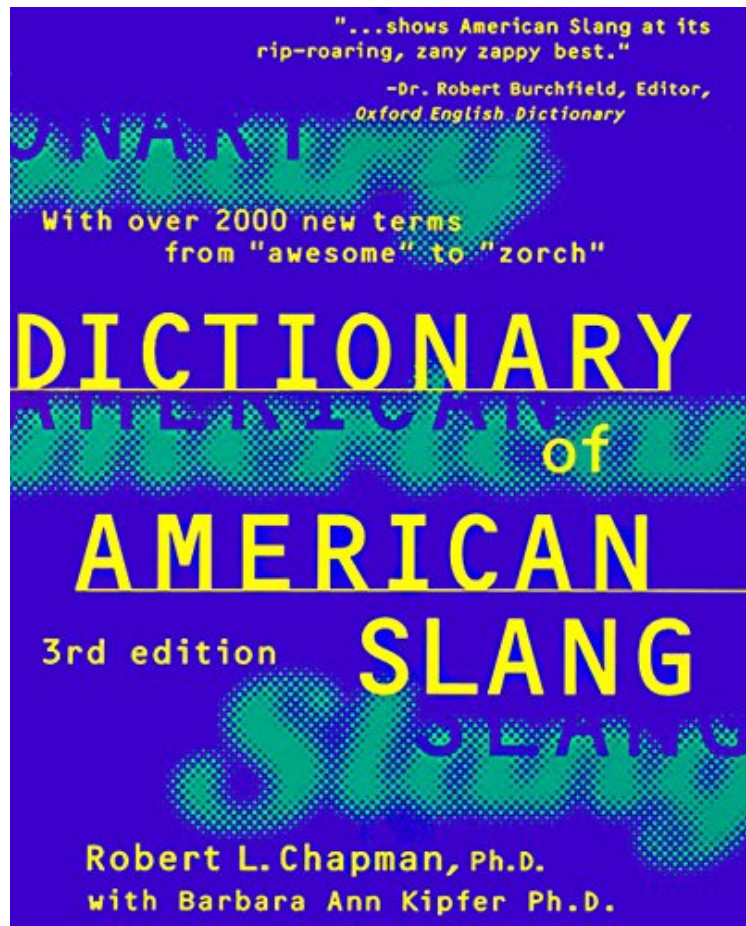


The Dictionary of American Slang

Robert L. Chapman

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Robert L. Chapman : The Dictionary of American Slang before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Dictionary of American Slang:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Far F***ing Out, ManBy Laura P. SchulmanWow, man, this is a really neat book. It is kinda heavy, like, it takes two dudes or chicks to lift it, but that's, like, your karma, man, if you always get heavy s*** thrown at you. You're like, a Scorpio with a moon in Cancer, right? Thought so.OK, the real review. I got this book to do research on 1960's and '70's slang, because I am writing a memoir and for some reason the hippie lingo has left me. I was hoping the book would be organized by time periods: 1900-1910, 1910-1920, sort of like that. But instead, it's organized alphabetically. I suppose that would make it easier for someone who had a word like "hooligan" that they wanted to know the meaning and etymology of. That does make sense, seeing as it's a dictionary. But it didn't really meet my needs. I don't think that's the book's fault--it just isn't exactly what I need.I would think that if someone were reading a 20th century book that had a lot of slang in it, and they were born any time from the '80's on, that a dictionary such as this one would be very helpful.But I find it extremely entertaining, since I

love words and write a lot; so I manage to hold it up somehow, and read it at bedtime. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It has a lot of stuff. By alius I am not qualified (academically) to rate this product, but from my perspective with English as my second or third language, it helps me understand some of the "gibberish" in movies, on TV and in contemporary American prose. Amazing how it has grown in content since I last bought this dictionary! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good dictionary, poor reference for origins. By Jonsku This dictionary is good for defining various slang words and provides dates for when the term(s) was used. I was hoping for more history/background/origins of the words and phrases, which this does not provide in the detail I would have desired.

Originally published in 1960, *The Dictionary of American Slang* is widely regarded as the standard in its field. Expanded and completely updated, this third edition contains more than 19,000 terms of representing the variety and vigor of American slang, from the most widely acceptable to the taboo, and covering all periods of American history -- from the gypsies, soldiers, railroad workers and cowboys of the 19th century to more modern spawning grounds such as the rock 'n' roll world, the corporate sector, African-Americans, gays and lesbians and many more. Intimately connected with the fringes of our culture and responding with vigilance to new developments in technology, slang is the fastest changing part of our language. This new edition considers the subcultures that have emerged in the wake of the past decade's technological and communication advances, including the advent of computer usage at home and in the workplace and the explosion of the Internet and the World Wide Web. With more than 2,000 new terms, the Lexicon of the '90s is recorded here in definitive detail. Like previous editions, this edition features pronunciation guides, word origins, examples of appropriate usage as well as a helpful highlighting system that lets you know which terms should be used with caution, and never in polite company. Both as important archive of the way America is really talking and a lot of fun to read, *The Dictionary of American Slang* will prove to be an invaluable companion in keeping up with the dauntingly jargon-filled, quickly evolving language of today.