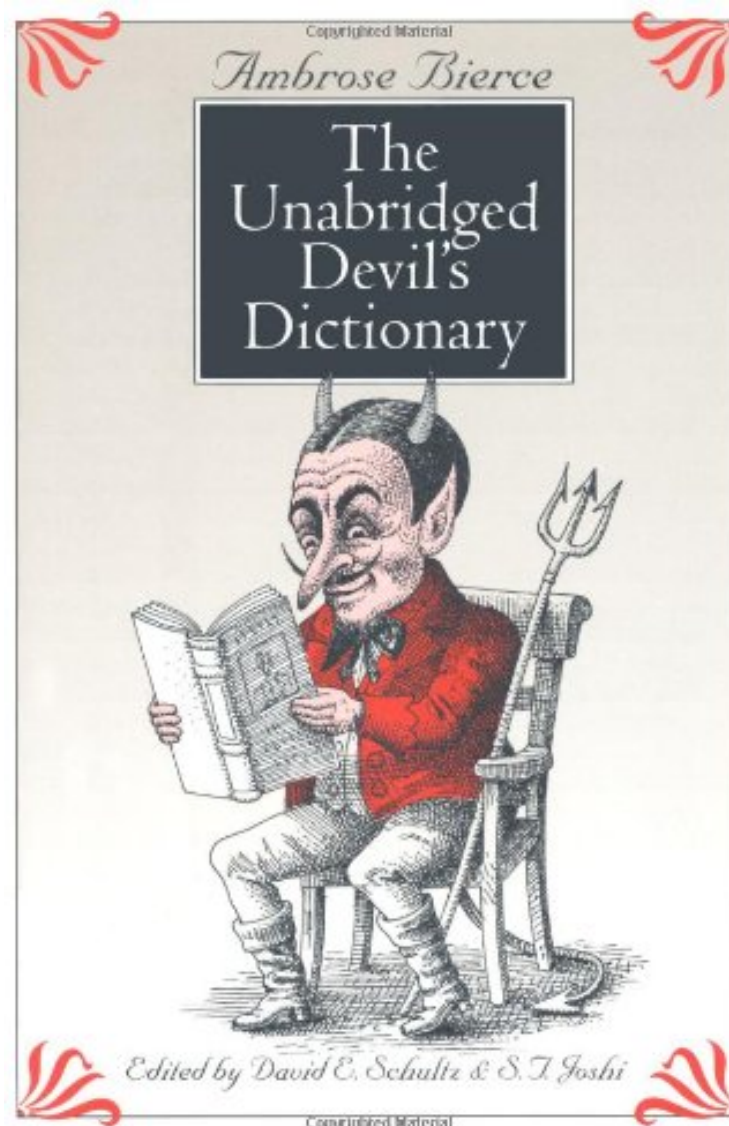


(Online library) The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary

## The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary

*Ambrose Bierce*

*DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#2085289 in Books University of Georgia Press 2000-07-01Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x 1.27 x 6.00l, #File Name: 0820321966404 pages | File size: 52.Mb

**Ambrose Bierce : The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fun For Those With a Dark Sense of HumorBy Robert BoltonAlthough Ambrose Bierce is little known today, there was a time when he was among the most widely read authors in America. His main claims to fame are his short stories, such as "The Damned Thing" or "An Occurrence at

Owl Creek Bridge," that have been adapted for television, but he got his start with the Devil's Dictionary. In the newspaper columns compiled into his book, he would provide a widely known word and then give a humorous definition (e.g. "Marriage (n.) A household consisting of a master, a mistress, and two slaves, making in all, two."). Frequently, he would also append a piece of humorous verse to the definition as well. While some have not aged well, one of Bierce's wisest decisions was to avoid making them too closely connected to the events of his day. Someone in 1890 could read one with a knowing laugh in the same sense as a man in the 2010s could. One of the problems with editions prior to this one, however, was the frequent inclusion of definitions erroneously attributed to him. While there is nothing wrong with a reader coming up with their own, occasionally these would have Bierce's name attached and people would assume they were his. Unsurprisingly, most of the attributed ones were of lesser quality. The editor of this volume, S.T. Joshi, probed through prior editions published during Bierce's lifetime and reviewed all of the extant newspaper columns to determine which were actually his. In some cases, this resulted in forgotten ones being rediscovered. It helps that S.T. Joshi is one of the preeminent horror fiction scholars in the United States and has already worked on some of Bierce's other material. On the whole, this is a great book that displays an amused, cynical worldview. Bierce often manages to take a sacrosanct idea and make it appear ludicrous in a single sentence. Although over a hundred years have passed since its initial publication, the Devil's Dictionary is still a great read. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A most accurate guide to human affairs in general. By Schechter. Even after the end of the Industrial Revolution, two world wars, the rise of computers the technology associated with them, the terrorist strikes on 9-11, 7-7, etc., The Unabridged Devil's Dictionary still holds much truth in its definitions. Bierce, being the unalloyed cynic that he was, not only was aware of the high standards of conduct that humanity could hypothetically achieve ( which he relentlessly upheld himself) but also how consistently people fail in their efforts--or, more commonly, don't even try. As a guide to the human condition, Bierce's dictionary is unmatched. There have been several imitations of his dictionary, but none have equalled it thus far. It should be required reading for every 6th-grade student in the United States. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. New format, seems a very complete collection. By xxxxxx. This version appears to have all the definitions, from several of Bierce's editions that were in an old edition from the late 60's or so, in a very usable format. Still hilarious, in a "spooky" way. And they still hold true!

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 Devils 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 Bierces satiric masterpiece. It renders obsolete all other versions that have appeared in the books ninety-year history. A virtual onslaught of acerbic, confrontational wordplay, The Unabridged Devils 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. Joshis exhaustive investigation into the books writing and publishing history. All of Bierces 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 Bierces Devils 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.

Bierce was America's first realist writer, but, unlike realism's later practitioners, he knew something about reality it's really funny. (P. J. O'Rourke) This carefully edited manuscript will add immeasurably to Bierce studies. (Joseph B. McCullough University of Nevada-Las Vegas) This is a work of genuinely impressive scholarship and will undoubtedly become the authoritative text for Bierces Devils Dictionary. (Thomas V. Quirk University of Missouri-Columbia) Splendidly produced. (London Times Literary Supplement) A compilation of all of Bierce's satirical definitions published over a forty-year period, this latest version of the Dictionary ('A malevolent literary device for cramping the growth of a language and making it hard and inelastic') merits a wide readership both within and without the Academy ('A modern school where football is taught'). (American Literary ) Most readers and biographers have agreed with Schultz and Joshi that The Devil's Dictionary is 'quintessential Bierce.' For the serious student of Bierce's diabolical lexicon, their beautiful new edition . . . will be a delight. (Sewanee ) About the Author Ambrose Bierce (1842-1914?) was one of nineteenth-century America's most renowned satirists. The author of short stories, essays, fables, poems, and sketches, he was a popular columnist and wrote for several San Francisco and London newspapers during his forty-year journalism career. David E. Schultz is a technical editor. He is coeditor, with S. T. Joshi, of both "A Sole Survivor," a collection of Bierce's autobiographical writings, and "Lord of a Visible World," an autobiography-in-letters of H. P. Lovecraft. S. T. Joshi is a freelance writer and editor. He is the editor of "The Collected Fables of

Ambrose Bierce" and author of "H. P. Lovecraft: A Life."