

Fort Collins Editor Publishes Original Palindrome Collection

Fort Collins, CO, September 1, 2021 — Editor Ray N. Franklin has published a collection of new and original palindromes by a slate of UK and US authors. The book, “Cia So Manic in a Mosaic,” contains 134 palindromes. A palindrome is a phrase or sentence that reads the same forward and backward. The title of this anthology is a palindrome.

While many people are familiar with older palindromes such as “Taco cat” or “A Toyota,” this collection features palindromes previously unpublished, except for a small number appearing on Franklin’s website, Palindromedary.us. The authors wrote every palindrome specifically for this new anthology.

“I’m very pleased with this collection,” Franklin said. “The works include some truly absurd, and even surreal, expressions. Great palindromes make liberal use of absurdity and humor.”

In addition, the collection includes a story about each palindrome. The authors composed these stories to explain what the palindrome means to them, how they got the idea, and how they were able to construct the symmetrical prose. Each author also has a few words to say about themselves and their lives.

“Cia So Manic in a Mosaic” aims to increase the number of English palindromes. It’s a competition of sorts with Spanish-speakers, who have written over 232 thousand palindromes. Known English palindromes number around twelve thousand. Towards that goal, the book includes a chapter about how to write palindromes.

The chapter uses many examples, all original palindromes. It dissects each one, detailing the start from a single word, and all the steps that follow. Eventually, each example ends with a finished sentence having perfect letter symmetry.

The mirror symmetry of palindromes puts them into a category of prose called constrained writing. Many writers have applied similar constraints on their stories. Some works manage to avoid all use of the letter E or S. Palindromes also come in different forms, including the palindromic palindrome and the word-unit palindrome.

A palindromic palindrome is a palindrome written only with palindromic words. Here’s an example from “The Dictionary of Wordplay” by Dave Morice. “Bob sees Nan; Nan sees Bob.” The sentence has the same letter symmetry as a regular palindrome and each word is also a palindrome.

Word-unit palindromes use words in a symmetrical arrangement. The letters don’t have symmetry, but the words do. For example, “King, are you glad you are king?” This question begins and ends with the same word, king. The word “glad” appears only once because it is in the exact middle.

Some word-unit palindromes can be quite long. The best illustrate a strange and surprising twist. The first half tells a story that reaches a conclusion at the middle. The second half, using the same words in reverse order, tells a very different story. The whole story often ends with a big surprise that reverses the

situations revealed in the first half.

“Cia So Manic in a Mosaic” is available as a low-cost Kindle ebook on Amazon.

About Franklin's Palindromedary and Big Leaf, LLC

Big Leaf, LLC publishes Franklin's Palindromedary, a unique reference for people who love wordplay and want to write palindromes. The website <https://palindromedary.us/home> offers the Palindromedary reference and an online tool called Palindrome Composer. Anyone may register on the website and access these tools at no charge. Big Leaf, LLC is registered in the state of Colorado.

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