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## PALINDROMANIA: DON'T NOD

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In this article, the reader is invited to complete the following palinromic sentences (with all vowels except Y identified). Each palindrome is clued by a rhymed couplet, and capitalized words are labeled with an asterisk. Answers can be found in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

- 1. -E -00-- A --A-- -A--A-\* -00-, E-?
  A serpent hole?
  Bypass it, Dole
- 2. -A- -O -AI- A -IA-O--? A-! Oh, families, are you now undone? No girl engaged? Not even one?

Mixed tubers in a jumbled heap--Can we be sure that they will keep?

- 4. -O- -I- -A-A\* -A-O- O- A -A-A-. -I- -O-? It's strange that neither star Chose to paddle thar
- 5. '-A-\* -A- -U-- --U- -A- -A-"Rah! Rah!" the blunt hawks loudly bellow, Discomfiting the simple fellow
- 6. -E -E- -A- A--E-- A -A- (-E -E-) When judging tubers, one's allowed A friend or two, but not a crowd
- 7. --U-- A-E -E-A-\* -U--Bugs, low down, Zap Lone Star town
- 8. --O--- -A- -A-- -I- --A- -A-- --O---Half asleep, my rookie aide Cautiously unsheathed his blade
- 9. E-I- -A- E-E -A- -I-E Now would it not be wise to vent Before one's energy is spent?

- 10. -A\* --O-- -U-- A- A ---U- --O-, -A-\* Pay arms toll? Mom's in control
- 11. -O-- E-U-- -U-E --O-We get swill From the Hill
- 12. -A-, I -A-E- -E-A- I- A.-.\* Hey, pal, when I first awake, I find some coffee hard to take
- 13. --A- "A" -O- O-O- O- A- A--Ah, that glorious mountain dream! Here is my primary scheme
- 14. A- A -A-E, -E--A-E -A--E-\* E-A -A-A When challenged, try to find the facts Regarding Jimmy's thoughts and acts
- 15. -A--\* -EE-- A --EE-- -A-The school-book lamb, now tired and old,

Finds his mistress leaves him cold

I am indebted to the editor for suggesting some of the couplets.

## FIRST ANNUAL WILLARD R. ESPY LIGHT VERSE COMPETITION

To commemorate a modern master of light verse, Light: The Quarterly of Light Verse is establishing the Willard R. Espy Light Verse Competition. This shall be in any of the traditional light verse forms (epigram, ballade, villanelle, limerick, clerihew, river rhyme, double dactyl, etc.), but may include any verse that contains rhyme and meter. The length limit is 40 lines, and the deadline July 1 of each year, beginning in 2000. There may be only one entry per contestant. First Prize is \$150, Second Prize \$100, and Third Prize \$50; two Honorable Mentions will receive copies of The Best of an Almanac of Words at Play (reviewed in November 1999 Word Ways). All entries must include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Winners will be published in the Spring issue of the following year. Send entries to: The Willard R. Espy Competition, Light Quarterly, PO Box 7500, Chicago IL 60680.