

NOT LYING ABOUT *-ly* WORDS

J. JAMES MANCUSO
Niskayuna, New York

Once you learned a little blurb
That to form a new adverb,
You only had to add "-L -Y."
But therein lay a little lie.

I say indeed, I don't imply:
On this long list you can rely.
These **adjectives** that I've let fly
Are **never adverbs** on the sly-
(not even in July):

Beastly, bodily, and burly,
Comely, costly, courtly, and curly,
Gentlemanly, godly and girly,
Jolly, wobbly, woolly, and pearly,
Slovenly, sprightly, sickly, and surly,
Smelly, snively, snarly and snurly.

Dastardly, deadly, elderly, and friendly,
Ugly, ungainly, ungodly, unfriendly.

Stately, shapely, smily and silly,
Snuggly, chilly, wily, and hilly.

Frilly, measly, and mealy
Both steely and stealy.

Neighborly, fatherly, and brotherly,
Unneighborly, sisterly, and motherly.

Fleshly, goodly, heavenly, and holy,
Husbandly, kingly, knightly, and knolly,
Homely, likely, lively, and lowly,
Unlikely, unlovely, unruly, unholy,
Princely, queenly, and roly-poly.

Lonely, lovely, manly, unearthly,
Matronly, portly, priestly, and earthly.

Seemly, unseemly, slatternly, untimely.
Wifely, womanly, worldly, and timely.

So, there you have them, by gosh and by golly.
Now never believe all that fool-hearted folly
that every word that ends in "-L -Y."
is an adverb; that's simply a lie.