

***May I Have A Word With You?***  
***Sixty Adventures in Logology For The Connoisseur***

Steven Kahan

Esskay Publishing Company, Hollis Hills, New York 2009

A *Word Ways* book review by Karen Farrell, Indianapolis, Indiana

In the introduction to this volume Kahan notes “the devilishly deceptive conundrums contained between its covers are anything but run-of-the-mill word puzzles.” Many are new, while others have been published in *Word Ways*. From the pages of the dictionary this long time college mathematics professor deftly gleans striking letter patterns and combinations from many of the entries. To ‘challenge your mental acuity’ the author presents several quizzes and complete solutions for the solver who enjoys the excitement of wordplay.

Kahan is a longtime contributor to *Journal of Recreational Mathematics* and edits the Alphametrics column.

A sample from his puzzles follows:

**FRUITS AND VEGGIES**

You might not immediately recognize these twenty-one words because the name of a fruit or vegetable has been removed from each one of them. A *sloe* stroll down the produce aisle in your local supermarket might help you to produce (sorry!) the items that need to be restored. *Orange* you excited by the prospect? Then *lettuce* commence with the festivities!

- |             |          |          |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| 1. APANCE   | 8. IM    | 15. SFUL |
| 2. AR       | 9. LE    | 16. SKER |
| 3. AUN      | 10. MAN  | 17. SKIN |
| 4. BER      | 11. MER  | 18. SLY  |
| 5. BOCK     | 12. MINT | 19. SUB  |
| 6. GR       | 13. RAP  | 20. URE  |
| 7. IDOSCOPE | 14. RY   |          |

(See Answers and Solutions)

To order please contact Steve Kahan at [skalpha1@aol.com](mailto:skalpha1@aol.com) or in writing to 78-51 220<sup>th</sup> St., Hollis Hills, New York 11364. Copies are \$15 each plus \$1.95 shipping and handling with discounts available for orders of 3 or more.