

REED BELL / REBELLED

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The zealous logophiles who follow the Word Ways banner are known to be very susceptible to following a different drummer. While pursuing an elusive word through the dictionary, our interest is often detoured into areas completely foreign to the original search. Let's face it -- none of us is completely immune to this!

So, I invite you to suffer through the most recent vagary that has afflicted me. Start by selecting an eight-letter word -- a common one, such as might appear in Webster's Pocket Dictionary. Divide the word in the following manner: XX/XXXX/XX. Once so divided, the middle four letters should form a common four-letter word, and the opening and closing letters then brought together should form a second four-letter word -- all letters remaining in the same relative positions, not transposed. (Members of the National Puzzlers' League will recognize this as a Word Deletion.)

The two four-letter words are finally arranged to form a more-or-less logical phrase. Alas, this is not always possible -- take the word REBELLED, which can be divided into REED and BELL, but placing these two together does not produce a meaningful phrase (other than some zany using them as the title of an article). Let's try again. RECENTLY gives birth to CENT and RELY, and DE-FRAYAL will produce FRAY and DEAL. Got it?

Below, I offer a list of personal definitions. Each loosely paraphrases a phrase comprised of two four-letter words. You have the task of deriving the two four-letter words, plus the eight-letter word out of which they were formed.

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| 1. transmitted small coin | 9. final wharf |
| 2. genuine glove for catcher | 10. you stockings! |
| 3. salver for the brew | 11. scoff in fine style |
| 4. evil act | 12. sport involving fluff |
| 5. spoor of the wild game | 13. command flat-bottomed boat |
| 6. food vessel for midguts | 14. lateral rip |
| 7. impersonator passed on | 15. sacred tree dwelling |
| 8. muddy wound mark | |

I could go on -- but why hit a man while he's down? You've suffered enough to have gotten this far. Refer to Answers and Solutions at the end of the issue if you're stumped to any degree.