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Have a Nice Day- No Problem! A Dictionary of Clichés

Christine Ammer

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Christine Ammer : Have a Nice Day- No Problem! A Dictionary of Clichés before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Have a Nice Day- No Problem! A Dictionary of Clichés:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Been waiting for this I love these quip-pets of old By Karla Harper Been waiting for this I love these quip-pets of old. i always wondered where some of those old sayings came from. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A superb, readable reference work! By E. Fagan As odd as this may sound for a reference work, I found (continue to find) this book a joy to read. Ammer covers almost every known cliché, always aptly noting whether they are currently in use or on the way out ("obsolescent"). Her style is breezy literary at the same time, her research into origins is impressive and entertaining. This is a book I often take off my shelf - not only for clarification of clichés that wing my way, but for sheer readability. Quite a feat! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Informative but dull By A Customer Informative, yes. This "dictionary" lists 3000 worn out phrases that writers ought to avoid. It gives a contemporary definition of each along with an historical background. The cover design and title suggest that the book would also provide some entertainment. It does not.

The newest, biggest, and most informative collection of clichés. With 3,000 clichés, this new title in the Plume Books for Word Watchers series goes from square one to the last word on the subject. Among the many pleasures of this fascinating compendium of nearly 2,500 mini-essays is its exploration of their origin and history.

From Library Journal A labor of love by a lexicographer and reference editor, this book examines some 3000 familiar expressions. First, a plain meaning is given for a term, like "singularly rare" for scarce as hen's teeth . Next follow informed remarks on history (sink or swim began as float or sink), though, as the author notes, the derivation of many cliches is unclear. Whether a cliché is still popular or fading is also noted. Examples of use in sources both famous (the Bible, Shakespeare, O. Henry) and obscure (S. Ford's *Inez and Trilby* , 1921) are generous, but out of context these snippets give little feel for actual use. Entries are on average longer than those in Eric Partridge's *Dictionary of Cliches* (Routledge, 1978. 5th ed.) or *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* (HarperCollins, 1989. 14th ed.). Recommended for random dipping or quick reference.- William A. Donovan, Chicago P.L. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.