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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wordcatcher

An Odyssey into the World of Weird and Wonderful Words

By Phil Cousineau

And now all these years later I have condensed and compressed those entries into this volume, Wordcatcher, in the hope of passing them on to other avid word hounds. To create my own “word-hoard,” in Tolkien’s utterly gorgeous description, I have used a simple standard. Each and every “headword” that is explored here evoked in me an “Aha!” when I first encountered it.

—From the Introduction

By exploring the delightful back stories of the 250 words in *Wordcatcher*, readers will be lured by language and entangled in etymologies. Author Phil Cousineau takes us on a tour into the obscure territory of word origins with great erudition and endearing curiosity. Reading and conversing shouldn’t be a strain and a struggle; they should be joys, ways to share and savor the conviviality of communication. The original sense of trivia was the enthusiastic trading of news at the crossroads, and with *Wordcatcher*, readers can pluck the jewels from Cousineau’s work to use on their own.

Phil Cousineau is an award-winning writer and filmmaker, teacher and editor, independent scholar and travel leader, storyteller and TV host. Currently the host of Link TV’s “Global Spirit” television series, Cousineau has published 26 nonfiction books and has 15 scriptwriting credits to his name. His books have been translated into nine languages. While moonlighting in a steel factory he studied journalism at the University of Detroit. Before turning to writing books and films full-time, Cousineau’s peripatetic career included stints as a sportswriter, playing semi-pro basketball in Europe, harvesting date trees on an Israeli kibbutz, painting 44 Victorian houses in San Francisco, and teaching screenwriting at the American Film Institute. For the past 25 years he has enjoyed his life-long dream of being a full-time freelance writer, filmmaker and sports coach.

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