

COOL WORDS
— FOR —
GAMERS

CREIGHTON BROADHURST



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To all those gamers who share my love of bizarre words—enjoy!

It is the spirit of the game, not the letter of the rules, which is important.

Gary Gygax, 1979

Preface

I think it's fairly safe to say, I have a love for strange, underused and/or archaic words. The first roleplaying game I ever played was Basic D&D, but I really cut my gaming teeth on 1st Edition Advanced Dungeons and Dragons. My first gaming book was the *Player's Handbook* and soon afterwards the *Dungeon Master's Guide* was mine.

Both books, obviously, were written by the great man himself, Gary Gygax. I immersed myself in both—they are probably my most beloved gaming books. A huge part of my love of those books is the language Gary used. He certainly didn't dumb things down. I've since learnt that sometimes he utilised strange words for character names often suitable to the character's class and personality. Gary was awesome.

As an 11-year-old I had no clue what most of the words meant—although I could guess. I had, for example, no clue what verisimilitude was, but I did know—thanks to Gary—my campaign had to be absolutely stuffed full of the stuff. (In fact, verisimilitude may be my favourite cool gamer word.)

And thus began my love affair with strange, little-used words.

Writing these lists had a particular challenge I had not encountered for many years. When I first started using computers in the “old days”, sometimes the spellcheckers weren’t very good. Well, when proofing this book I was beset by “spelling errors.” It seems, not a lot of the words herein appear in Word’s dictionary. (Have no fear, I have lodged a strongly worded complaint with Microsoft.)

I hope, as an aside, my extensive and rigorous editing has been up to the challenge of eradicating all spelling errors and making sure I have spelled all the cool words correctly. However, keep in mind some of the words herein are spelt different in UK and US English.

(And, finally, if you should find yourself out and about without this book—and suddenly in need of an odd or archaic word—all these words herein are available on my blog.)

I hope you enjoy this book and that you get to use some of the words herein during your next gaming session!

Creighton

July 2017, Torquay

ONE

Abnormous - Autarchy

Abnormous misshapen

Abstemious sparing, especially in the context of food and drink

Acclumsid numbed, paralysed or clumsy

Acopon a soothing slave, poultice or plaster to relieve pain

Adumbrations to produce a faint image or resemblance; to foreshadow; to darken or conceal partially

Adust dried or darkened by heat; scorched, burned; *archaic* gloomy in appearance or mood

Adventitious coming from another source and not inherent or innate

Adyton a restricted area within a temple

Aeaeae magic

Agathokakological with a mingling of good and evil

Agonous struggling, engaged in mortal combat

Agruw to horrify, to cause shuddering

Aleberry ale boiled with spices, sugar and sops of bread

Amanuensis one employed to write from dictation or to copy manuscript

Amorphous lacking a definite shape

Anabiosis revival after apparent death; reanimation after a coma so deep all vital signs have become imperceptible

Anfractuious (or Anfractuouse) winding; mazy; full of turnings and winding passages

Antaeian mammoth; having superhuman strength

Antediluvian of the ages before the biblical flood; old-fashioned

Antiphonal a musical or other sound effect that answers or echoes another

Apoplectic furious

Arras a wall hanging, particularly a tapestry

Ataballes kettledrums

Atavistic a primitive characteristic that was present in an ancestor, but which has not occurred in intermediate generations

Augar to foretell or predict the future (particularly from omens)=

Autarchy unlimited rule; autocracy

TWO

Baetyl - Bulse

Baetyl a sacred meteoric stone. These stones were thought to have life and were sometimes set up underneath holy trees.

Bailiwick The area over which a bailiff has jurisdiction

Balderdash stupid or illogical talk

Baleful harmful, menacing or vindictive

Bangstry masterful violence

Beek to bask in the sun or before a fire

Bellibone a lovely maiden; a pretty lass

Benighted either lacking in cultural, moral or intellectual enlightenment; being overtaken by night

Blonke a large, powerful horse

Blutter to blurt out

Bole trunk of a tree

Bombast pretentious inflated speech or writing

Brangle to squabble or brawl

Breedbater a person or something that creates strife; a mischief maker

Brool a low, deep humming; a murmur

Bucolic of the countryside or country life; rustic

Bulse a package of diamonds or gold dust

THREE

Cache - Cyclopean

Cache a hidden store of provisions, weapons, treasure etc.

Callithump a noisy, boisterous band or parade

Callimastian having beautiful, well-shaped breasts

Calumny the malicious utterance of false charges or misrepresentation

Canaille the masses; a mob, rabble

Capacious capable of holding much

Celerity swiftness, speed

Chaffer haggle, exchange, barter

Chamfrain the frontlet of an armed horse for a feudal knight, often engraved with designs

Chthonic of or relating to the underworld; infernal

Cloyer a pickpocket's accomplice or the one who intrudes into a bunch of thieves to claim a share

Colloquy a formal conversation or conference

Concatenate to link together in a series or chain

Congruous being in agreement, harmony or correspondence; conforming to the circumstances or requirements of a situation; marked or enhanced by harmonious agreement among elements

Contemn to view or treat with contempt; scorn

Coruscate to give off or reflect light in bright beams or flashes; sparkle

Coruscating to emit sparkles of light; sparkle

Cosh a small cottage, hut

Coterminous having a common boundary

Coven a meeting of witches

Crapulous marked by intemperance especially in eating and drinking; sick from excessive indulgence in liquor

Croodle to creep close; a faint humming, the low music of birds

Cuckold a man whose wife has committed adultery

Cupidity inordinate desire for wealth; avarice, greed; strong desire; lust

Cyclopean having the kind of masonry used in preclassical Greek architecture, characterised by large undressed blocks of stone

FOUR

Daedal - Dyad

Daedal skilful, artistic; intricate; adorned with many things

Dandiprat a silly little fellow or urchin

Darg a day's work

Dark Lantern a lantern with a shutter device enabling its light to be hidden

Darraign prepare someone to fight; to fit someone out for battle

Dehiscent a rupture or splitting open of an organ or structure to discharge its contents

Delitescence hidden, concealed

Devilshine demonic power or skill

Digladiation a combat with swords; any quarrel or contest

Dilatory tending or intended to cause delay; characterised by procrastination; tardy

Dimpse the dimming of daylight, twilight

Dingle a shaded dell, a hollow between hills

Disputatious inclined to dispute; provoking debate; controversial

Doughty hardy, resolute

Dragoman a professional interpreter or guide

Drawcansir someone who kills or injures both friend and foe

Dretch to torment, or to be troubled in sleep

Dringle to waste time in a lazy manner

Drong a narrow lane or alley

Drossell a slut, hussy

Duffer dull or incompetent person

Dumple to bend or compress into a dumpy shape

Dun a brownish-grey colour

Dweomercraeft juggling, the magic arts

Dyad a group of two; couple

FIVE

Edacious - Eyethurl

Edacious voracious, greedy

Egregious exceptional

Eldritch weird or hideous

Elegy a mournful poem or song; a lament for the dead

Embonpoint plumpness of person; stoutness

Emprise a chivalrous or daring enterprise; adventure

Enchiridon handbook

Enervate to deprive of strength and vitality

Ennead a group of nine

Ensanguined to cover or stain with blood

Enscroll to enchant or bewitch

Ephemeral short-live, lasting but a day

Escutcheon shield, especially a heraldic one that displays a coat of arms

Evanescent fleeting, vanishing, impermanent

Exoteric intelligible to outsiders

Eyethurl window

SIX

Faffle - Fustian

Faffle to blow in sudden gusts, to stammer or fumble

Fage to coax, flatter and beguile

Famulus a medieval sorcerer's assistant

Fanger a guardian, one who protects, as do fanged animals

Farouche sullen or shy

Farraginous consisting of a confused mixture; formed of various materials in no fixed order or arrangement

Fary a state of consternation, tumult

Fatidical having the power to foretell future events; prophetic

Febrile of or relating to fever; feverish

Fecund fertile; intellectually productive

Fetor (or foetor) an offensive, stale or putrid odour

Firefanged scorched, overheated and producing a singed taste or smell

Flagitious atrocious, heinous or appalling wicked

Flerd deceit, fraud

Flexuous having curves, turns or windings; lithe or fluid in action or movement

Fliperous a proud gossip, a prattler

Flosh a swamp or stagnant pool overgrown with weeds

Flummery meaningless flattery

Fnast to pant, snort

Fonkin a little fool

Foozle to manage clumsily; to bungle

Fop a man who is excessively concerned with fashion and elegance

Fopdoodle a simpleton; an insignificant fool

Formicate swarm like ants

Frowsy musty, stale; having a slovenly or uncared-for appearance

Frush to crush, strike, break

Fulgent shining brilliantly; gleaming

Fulsome excessive; cloying through surfeit

Fulvous dull brownish yellow; tawny

Fustian ridiculously pompous, bombastic or inflated language

SEVEN

Gadzookery - Gwenders

Gadzookery the use of archaisms

Gallimaufry a hodgepodge; jumble; confused medley

Galoot loutish, clumsy oaf

Gambrinous drunk, full of beer

Garb attire

Garboil turmoil, commotion

Gardyloo In Old Edinburgh, a warning cry before throwing dirty water from windows into the street

Garrulousness given to constant chatter; talkative, wordy or diffuse

Gibbous (of the moon or a planet) more than half but less than fully illuminated

Glabrous without hair or similar growth; smooth

Glaucous of a pale yellow-green colour; of a light bluish-grey or bluish-white colour; having a powdery or waxy coating that gives a frosted appearance and tends to rub off

Gleed squint-eyed, one-eyed; also crooked

Gleep skill (slang) *or* purloin, filth, rifle (steal) *or* wow *or* to shoot a small droplet of spit through the teeth

Gloaming twilight or dusk

Globose spherical

Glop to swallow greedily

Gnap to bite in a snapping way

Graff to dig

Gralloch the entrails of a deer; the act of disembowelling a deer killed in a hunt

Gride to scratch, scrape or cut with a sound that grates upon the ears

Gruntle to put in a good humour

Gundygut a glutton

Gwenders a disagreeable tingling from the cold

EIGHT

Ha-Ha - Horripilation

Ha-Ha a sunken trench or ditch not visible until one steps into it

Halcyon peaceful, gentle and calm

Harbinger a person or thing that announces or indicates the approach of something

Hardhewer a stonemason

Harridan a scolding old woman

Haucepy a trap for wild animals, especially wolves

Hautain proud, arrogant

Henchperson close and trusty follower

Heptarchy government by seven rulers

Heterarchy government by strangers or foreigners

Highfalutin high-flown, pretentious (of language)

Hircine goatish, lewd

Hirsute covered with hair; plant covered with long but not stiff hairs; animal having long, thick or untrimmed hair

Hoary having grey or white hair; white or whitish-grey in colour; ancient or venerable.

Hoddypeak a simpleton, fool or blockhead

Hoodpick a miser or skinflint

Horripilation a technical term for goose flesh (the bumpy condition of the flesh induced by cold, fear etc.)

NINE

Icchen - Istink

Icchen to move or stir

Ichor the fluid said to flow in the veins of the gods or sometimes of dragons; a foul-smelling watery discharge from a wound or ulcer

Ignis Fatuus will-o'-the-wisps

Ilk a type, class or sort

Illecebrous attractive, alluring

Indefectible not capable of being faulted; not liable to defect, flaw or failure

Ineffable too great or intense to be expressed in words; unutterable; too sacred to be uttered

Indescribable indefinable

Ineluctable inescapable

Inexplicable unexplainable

Infrendiate to gnash teeth

Insensate lacking sensation or consciousness

Intumescence swelling

Inveigle to lead or persuade by cleverness or trickery; cajole

Inveterate firmly established by long persistence; confirmed in a habit

Invidious incurring or tending to arouse resentment, unpopularity

Iridescent glittering with rainbow-like colours

Irrefragable impossible to refute; impossible to break or alter

Istink to smell

TEN

Jabber - Jugulation

Jabber to speak or say rapidly, incoherently and without making sense

Jape a prank or joke

Jiggumbob a trinket or knick-knack; an indistinct thing

Jingo a loud and bellicose patriot

Jocund marked by or suggestive of high spirits and lively mirthfulness

Jubbe a large vessel for liquor

Jugulation interruption of the progress of a disease by dire measures, i.e. throat-cutting

Juvement aid, help

ELEVEN

Kakistocracy - Killcow

Kakistocracy government by the worst citizens

Keak to cackle

Ken the range of vision; sight, view; the range of perception, understanding or knowledge

Kerfuffle disturbance, fuss

Kexy dry, juiceless

Kidliwink a beer shop

Killbuck a fierce-looking fellow

Killcow a braggart, swashbuckler or bully; a murderous fellow, a butcher

TWELVE

Labile - Lustration

Labile unstable, liable to change

Lambent flickering softly over a surface; glowing with soft radiance

Landcheap a fine paid to the lord of a manor when leaving his land

Languid drooping or flagging; sluggish in character or disposition; lacking force or quickness of movement

Legerdemain sleight of hand

Leman paramour, lover

Lennow flabby, limp

Leprously having leprosy; relating to or resembling leprosy

Lesion scratch, cut, bruise, abrasion or sore

Lickerish greedy, desirous; lecherous

Lickspigot one who fawns or behaves in a servile manner; also lickspittle, lickdish

Limaceous slug-like

Linkboy a boy that carries a torch to accommodate passengers with light

Lithe bending readily; pliant; limber; supple; flexible

Lopholt a refuge or place of safety

Lordswike a person who deceives their lord; a traitor

Lubricity lasciviousness, lewdness, oiliness

Lucifugous avoiding daylight

Lucubration laborious intellectual effort

Lucubration laborious work, study, thought etc.

Luculent clear in thought or expression

Lupine having the characteristics of a wolf

Lurdane dull and lazy

Lustration ritual purification by ceremonial washing or sacrifice

THIRTEEN

Magniloquent - Mystagogue

Magniloquent speaking in or characterised by a high-flown often bombastic style or manner

Magsman a swindler (or an 8th-level thief in AD&D)

Manse the house provided for a minister

Mantic of or relating to the faculty of divination; prophetic

Marcid exhausted, withered, wasted away

Marmoreal of, or relating to, or suggestive of marble or a marble statue especially in coolness or aloofness

Mausolea plural of mausoleum

Mendacious given to or characterised by deception or falsehood or divergence from absolute truth; the tendency to be untruthful

Mendicant a less common word for beggar

Meshugener a foolish or crazy person

Mettle vigour and strength of spirit or temperament

Miasma noxious atmosphere or emanations

Mnemonic assisting or designed to assist memory

Mobard clown, boor; a term of contempt

Moil to work hard; drudge; to be in continuous agitation

Morology nonsense; mere foolishness

Mubblefubbles a depression of the spirits for no reason; melancholy

Mucilaginous sticky, viscid; of, or relating to, full of, or secreting mucilage

Mulwine a drinking bout

Mumper a beggar, one who sponges off others

Mycoïd like a fungus

Mystagogue one who instructs in mystical or arcane lore and doctrines

FOURTEEN

Nascent - Nyle

Nascent starting to grow or develop, being born

Necrology a list of people recently dead

Necromorphous feigning death to deter an aggressor

Necrophagous that which eats dead or decaying animal flesh

Nefandous unspeakable, unutterable, appalling

Nescience lack of knowledge, ignorance

Niddering infamous, base or cowardly

Nihilism a complete denial of all established authority and institutions

Nithe envy, hatred

Noisome (especially of smells) offensive, harmful or noxious

Nubile ready or suitable for marriage by virtue of age or maturity; sexually attractive

Nudnik a person who is a bore or nuisance

Nugatory of little value; trifling

Numinous divine

Nycterent one who hunts by night

Nyle fog, mist

FIFTEEN

Objurgate - Ossify

Objurgate chide, scold, upbraid vehemently

Objurgation a harsh rebuke

Obnubilate becloud, obscure

Occultation bring hidden from view

Oenomel a beverage made of wine and honey

Oligophrenia feeble-mindedness

Oneiric of or relating to dreams; dreamy

Ongle claw

Opalescent having or emitting an iridescence (displaying a spectrum of colours that shimmer and change due to interference and scattering as the observer's position changes) like that of an opal

Oracular resembling an oracle (as in solemnity of delivery); of, relating to, or being an oracle

Ordure excrement, dung

Oscular of or relating to a mouth-like aperture

Ossify to convert or be converted to bone

SIXTEEN

Pact - Pusillanimity

Pact an agreement or compact between two or more parties, nations etc.

Paean a hymn sung (in ancient Greece) in thanksgiving or praise to a deity

Paggle to bulge or hang loosely

Palfrey a small horse fit for ladies; it is always distinguished in old books from a warhorse

Pancart a placard with public notices

Parlous full of danger or risk; hazardous

Pelf money, riches

Peregrination an excursion especially on foot or to a foreign country; journey

Perfidy treachery

Perspicacious of acute mental vision or discernment; keen

Philotomy love of honour

Picaroon a vagabond

Piteous exciting or deserving pity

Ploddeill a band of cudgelers

Poop-Noddy a fool or simpleton

Popinjay a strutting supercilious person

Poriomania wanderlust

Portentous of momentous or ominous significance; miraculous, amazing or awe-inspiring; self-important or pompous

Prescience foreknowledge of events; divine omniscience; human anticipation of the course of events; foresight

Profane having or indicating contempt, irreverence or disrespect for a divinity or something sacred; coarse or blasphemous

Pusillanimity characterised by a lack of courage or determination

SEVENTEEN

Quag - Quixotic

Quag a boggy place

Quaggle a quivering, as of jelly (run a gelatinous cube encounter, just to use this word!)

Quar to choke or fill up a channel or passage

Quetch to moan or twitch in pain; to shake

Quisquous perplexing, puzzling

Quop to throb, palpitate

Quixotic capricious, unpredictable

EIGHTEEN

Rake - Rutterkin

Rake a dissolute man; one in fashionable society

Rampallion a bold, forward, rampant or wanton woman

Reckoning the act of counting or calculating

Redivivus restored to life, or to full liveliness

Redmod hasty, rash

Redolent having a pleasant smell; fragrant

Refulgence shining, brilliant or radiant

Remontado someone who has fled to the mountains and renounced civilisation

Rheum watery discharge from the eyes or nose

Rife abundant, common, prevalent

Rime frost formed by the freezing of water droplets into fog onto solid objects

Rixle to rule, have dominion

Roaky hazy, nebulous, not clear; pertaining to the voice, meaning hoarse or thick

Ruction a noisy fight

Rugose full of wrinkles

Rutilant glittering or glowing with reddish light

Rutterkin a swaggering gallant or bully (or a 2nd-level assassin in AD&D)

NINETEEN

Sacerdotal - Sybaritic

Sacerdotal of or relating to priests or a priesthood

Sanded half-dead

Sanguine cheerful and confident; optimistic; ruddy complexion; blood-red

Satrap a provincial governor; a subordinate ruler

Saurian of or resembling a lizard

Scabrous roughened because of small projections; indecent or salacious

Scelestious wicked

Scion a descendant or young member of a family

Score twenty

Scrivener a copyist of documents

Sempiternal of never-ending duration; eternal

Shab to get rid of

Shibboleth catchword, slogan; a widely held belief or truism; a custom or usage regarded as distinctive of a particular group; a city in Gran March (with a different spelling!)

Simulacrum any image or representation of something

Skosh a small amount; a bit or smidgeon

Skulduggery dirty work

Sloomy lazy, dull, sleepily

Slough to cast off or become cast off; to crumble slowly and fall away

Sobriquet a descriptive name or epithet; nickname

Sockdolager something that settles a matter; a decisive blow or answer; finisher; something outstanding or exceptional

Somnolent drowsy, sleepy; causing drowsiness

Sphragistics study of engraved seals

Spiss thick, dense

Spittle an almshouse or hospital for lower-class indigents and lepers where they were housed but not necessarily cured

Spuddle to assume airs of importance without reason; to make trifles seem important

Squamous covered with or formed of scales

Squiddle to waste time with idle talk

Suggilate to beat black and blue; to bruise

Suggill to beat black and blue; to defame

Superjacent lying above or upon

Supernal divine, celestial; from above or from the sky

Suppositious fraudulently substituted

Susurrant gentle whispering and rustling

Sward a stretch of turf or grass

Swerved to become troubled, gloomy

Sybaritic (from sybarite) a devotee of luxury and sensual vices

TWENTY

Tablinghouse - Tutmouth

Tablinghouse a gambling house

Tabescent wasting or withering away

Tantivy in a headlong dash; at a gallop

Tatterdemalion a ragged person whose clothes are nearly in tatters

Temerarious marked by temerity; rashly or presumptuously daring

Temerity rashness or boldness

Tenebrous gloomy, shadowy or dark

Terpsichorean of or related to dancing

Thaumaturge a wonder-worker, a miracle man or magician

Theeked thatch, cover

Theoplasm the stuff of which gods are made

Theow a servant, slave

Theurgy describes the practise of rituals sometimes seen as magical

in nature performed with the intention of invoking the actions or evoking the presence of one or more gods

Thew a muscle or sinew, especially if strong or well-developed

Thigging begging

Thurification the act of burning incense or of filling a room with the fumes of burning incense

Torpid apathetic, sluggish

Torpor a state of mental and motor inactivity with partial or total insensibility

Transmogrify to change or alter greatly and often with grotesque or humorous effect

Trantles articles of little value

Trenchant keen, sharp; vigorously effective and articulate

Threnody a song of lamentation for the dead; elegy

Truandal beggars or camp followers

Turbary the ancient right to cut turf, or peat, for fuel on a particular area of bog

Turngiddy dizzy

Tutmouth having protruding lips or a projecting lower jaw

TWENTY-ONE

Ug - Utile

Ug fear, dread

Uliginous growing in muddy, oozy or swampy places; slimy, muddy

Ululation howling or wailing

Umbral shade, shadow; a phantom or shadowy apparition

Uncouth strange or clumsy in shape or appearance; lacking in polish or grace; awkward and uncultivated in appearance, manner or behaviour; rude

Ustulate scorched

Usury the practise of loaning money at an exorbitant rate of interest

Utile useful

TWENTY-TWO

Vainglory - Vulnerary

Vainglory boastfulness or vanity

Vapid bereft of strength, sharpness, flavour etc.; boring or dull

Vapulation flogging

Variiegated having discrete markings of different colours; various, diverse, varied

Varlet low, menial scoundrel

Vaticination prediction; act of prophesying

Vecke an old woman

Vellication a twitching or convulsive movement

Veneficial acting by poison or poisoning; acting by or used in witchcraft or sorcery, as for instance a witch's brew

Venenate to poison

Venery sexual indulgence

Verisimilitude the appearance of being true

Vermicular resembling a worm in form or motion; of, relating to, or caused by worms

Verminous of, or relating to, or caused by vermin; infested with vermin

Vitious corrupt; wicked, vicious; opposite of virtuous

Vituperate to abuse or censure severely or abusively

Vulnerary used for or useful in healing wounds

TWENTY-THREE

Waghalter - Wurp

Waghalter a rogue likely to swing from the gallows (or in AD&D a 3rd-level assassin)

Waif a person, especially a child, who is homeless, friendless or neglected

Waxen made of, treated with, or covered with wax

Weal sound, prosperous or healthy state

Wean a child

Wedbedrip an agreement under which a feudal lord's tenant was bound to provide him with a day's reaping from the tenant's land

Welkin a sky with woolly clouds

Welter to roll about, writhe or wallow; to surge, heave or toss; to lie drenched in liquid (especially blood); a confused mass

Whelve to turn something over and hide something beneath it or to bury something

Whifling an insignificant creature

Whimling a weak, childish person

Whippersnapper intrusive young upstart

Whiteliver a coward

Whoopubb a hubbub

Widdershins in a left-handed, wrong, or contrary direction; counter clockwise

Wong meadowlands, common land

Woup a hoop or ring, especially of plain metal, unset with stones

Wurp a stone's throw; a glance of the eye

TWENTY-FOUR

Xanthous - Zounds

Xanthous relating to, or designating races with yellowish hair and light complexion

Yare ready; dextrous; eager

Ycore chosen, elect

Yemeles careless, negligent

Yethhounds a pack of phantom hounds pursuing a lady

Yetter a caster of metal

Zaftig having a full rounded figure; pleasingly plump

Zenith the highest point; the point on the celestial sphere vertically above an observer

Ziggurat a type of rectangular temple, tower or tiered mound

Zounds a mild oath indicting surprise, indignation

TWENTY-FIVE

Gary's Clever Names

As I mentioned in the Preface, Gary had a proclivity for PC and NPC with hidden meanings in their names. Nowhere is this more evident than in the classic modules *GI-3 Against the Giants* and *DI-2 Descent into the Depths of the Earth*. Below, I've listed out the meanings of the various pre-generated characters' names from those modules in alphabetical order.

Beek Gwenders of Croodle

This half-elf ranger's name means:

- **Beek** to bask in the sun or before a fire
- **Gwenders** a disagreeable tingling from the cold
- **Croodle** to creep close; a faint humming, the low music of birds

Cloyer Bulse the Magsman

This human thief's name means:

- **Cloyer** a pickpocket's accomplice or the one who intrudes into a bunch of thieves to claim a share
- **Bulse** a package of diamonds or gold dust
- **Magsman** a swindler (or an 8th-level thief in AD&D)

Darg Blonke

This grey elf fighter's name means:

- **Darg** a day's work
- **Blonke** a large, powerful horse

Faffle Dwe'o-mercraeft

This human magic-user's (slightly worrying) name means:

- **Faffle** to blow in sudden gusts, to stammer or fumble
- **Dweomercraeft** juggling, the magic arts

Fage the Kexy

This grey elf cleric's name means:

- **Fage** to coax, flatter and beguile
- **Kexy** dry, juiceless

Flerd Trantle

This human cleric's name suggests he might be having a crisis of faith:

- **Flerd** deceit, fraud
- **Trantle** article of little value

Fnast Dringle

This wood elf fighter/magic-user's name means:

- **Fnast** to pant, snort
- **Dringle** to waste time in a lazy manner

Fonkin Hoddypeak

This high elf fighter/magic-user's name is ironic as he had an intelligence of 15:

- **Fonkin** a little fool
- **Hoddypeak** a simpleton, fool or blockhead

Frush O'Siggill

This human fighter's name means:

- **Frush** to crush, strike, break
- **Siggill** I couldn't find a definitive meaning for this word, but it looks like a variant of "sigil" to me.

Gleep Wurp

This human magic-user's name means:

- **Gleep** skill (slang) *or* purloin, filth, rifle (steal) *or* wow *or* to shoot a small droplet of spit through the teeth
- **Wurp** a stone's throw; a glance of the eye

Keak Breedbate of Nithe

This gnome fighter/thief' was clearly not a particularly nice person:

- **Keak** to cackle
- **Breedbate** a person or something that creates strife; a mischief maker
- **Nithe** envy, hatred

Philotomy Jurament

This human paladin's (near perfect) name may contain a spelling mistake!

- **Philotomy** love of honour
- **Juvement** aid, help

Redmond Dumple

This dwarf fighter's (brilliant) name means:

- **Redmod** hasty, rash
- **Dumple** to bend or compress into a dumpy shape

Rocky Swerked

This human cleric's name means:

- **Roaky** hazy, nebulous, not clear; pertaining to the voice, meaning hoarse or thick
- **Swerked** to become troubled, gloomy

Shab Heanling

This half-elf thief's name means:

- **Shab** to get rid of
- **Heanling** a humble or base person

Ycore Rixie

This grey elf fighter/magic-user may be suffering from delusions of grandeur:

- **Ycore** chosen, elect
- **Rixle** to rule, have dominion

TWENTY-SIX

Further Reading

If you are interested in strange and/or archaic words, I strongly recommend the books below:

The Superior Person's Book of Words: Peter Bowler

The Superior Person's Second Book of Words: Peter Bowler

More Weird and Wonderful Words: Erin McKean

Poplollies & Bellibones: Susan Kelz Sperling

Acknowledgments

I couldn't finish this book without thanking Gary Gygax for my abiding, life-long love of roleplaying games. I was lucky enough to meet Gary several times and he was a thoroughly decent chap.

My abiding memory of Gary comes from Gen Con UK 1999, when he came up to me and said, "Hey Creighton, do you think we can get some people together for a game?" I remember thinking, "Sure. I expect I could rustle up a couple of thousand people!"

I don't think it is a stretch to say he has had more influence on my life than anyone except my close family.

Thank you, Gary.

About the Author

Creighton lives in Torquay, England where, apparently, the palm trees are plastic and the weather is warm. He shares a ramshackle old mansion with his two children (“Genghis” and “Khan”) and his patient wife. Famed for his unending love affair with booze and pizza he is an enduring GREYHAWK fan.

An Ennie Award winning designer (*Madness At Gardmore Abbey*) Creighton has worked with Expeditious Retreat Press, Rite Publishing, Paizo and Wizards of the Coast.

Publisher at Raging Swan Press, he believes in the Open Gaming License and is dedicated to making his games as fun and easy to enjoy as possible for all participants. Reducing or removing entry barriers, simplifying pre-game prep and easing the GM's workload are the key underpinning principles of the products he now releases through Raging Swan Press.

You can read his thoughts on game design at his blog.

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Also by Creighton J. E. Broadhurst

Gloamhold

Glowing amid dark rumours and terrible stories of desperate adventure, death, betrayal and glimmering treasures squat the unutterably ancient halls of Gloamhold. This crumbling, benighted, haunted dungeon complex of unknown, but undeniably vast, extent is buried deep within the grim and brooding spray-drenched headland of the Mottled Spire. It is a place of legends, madness and death. Within this towering, wave-lashed shard of limestone lies the labyrinthine passageways and chambers of Gloamhold's outer reaches and, beyond them, the benighted precincts and canals of the legend-shrouded Twilight City.

Gloamhold is an old-school system neutral megadungeon.

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The Lonely Coast

The furthest flung outpost of a mighty kingdom, turbulent waters and forbidding, trackless forests separate the folk of the Lonely Coast from the gaudy lights of civilisation. Pirates and slavers ply the southern storm-tossed waters while goblins and other foul things creep through the gloom of the Tangled Wood that seemingly chokes the forgotten holds and sacred places of the Old People. Deep within the forest, a narrow, rock-choked defile piled deep with shadow cuts through a nameless range of rugged, tree-shrouded hills birthing dark, fearsome legends of terrifying monsters and glittering,

doom-laden treasures. The perils of the Lonely Coast are legion and thus there is always a need for those with stout hearts and skill with blade and spell or for those merely hungry for glory to defend humanity's most tenuous enclave.

The Lonely Coast is a free mini-campaign setting designed for use with the Pathfinder Roleplaying Game, but compatible with all editions of the world's most famous role-playing game.

Read More

And more!

You can check out all of Creighton's books at Raging Swan Press's website.