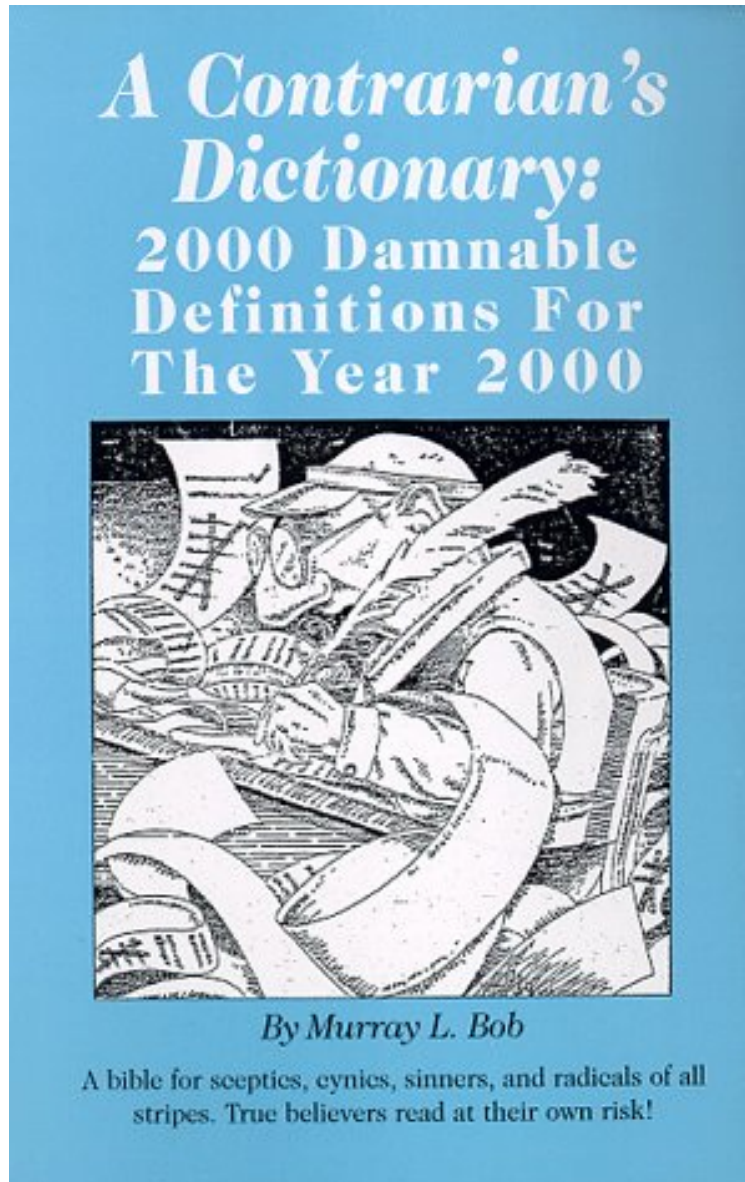


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A Contrarian's Dictionary: 2000 Damnable Definitions for the Year 2000

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Murray L. Bob, Bob L. Murray, Wilhelm Busch : A Contrarian's Dictionary: 2000 Damnable Definitions for the Year 2000 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Contrarian's Dictionary: 2000 Damnable Definitions for the Year 2000:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Smart and funny as hell By A Customer Startling quips and wry observations from a world-weary observer of the human condition. Bob has rescued wit from near extinction and used its power to skewer the absurdities of modern existence. A delightful read on many levels.

A 200 page dictionary containing 2,000 definitions for contrarians, sceptics and realists. The viewpoint is iconoclastic and the style is satiric. The goal is to "define" terms, names, and euphemisms in an amusing, pithy way. Many of the entries are topical and quotable. All (with the exception, perhaps, of half-a-dozen) are original. Most of the entries are one-, two-, and three-liners, although a few are longer. Inspired by Ambrose Bierce's classic, "Devil's Dictionary," this is a book that will make the reader think - and smile. Topics covered include: politics, economics, religion, psychology, film, the theater, literature, philosophy, New Age, management, media, personalities, and entertainment. Many of the definitions are accompanied by marvelous illustrations by the greatest cartoonist- caricaturist who ever lived, Wilhelm Busch. A bible for sceptics, cynics, sinners, and radicals of all stripes. True believers read at their own risk!

From the Publisher There are many books of quotations, but virtually all ransack the writings of dead authors or plunder one another. This book is original and would be fun for anyone to read, but may be of particular use to speakers, writers, toastmasters. It makes a wonderful book for anyone who's "heard it all and had it up to here." It would be in place in home, office, or library, on a bedside or pottyside table and can be read straight through or a bit at a time, re-read and serve as a source for reference or revelry. The fact that the terms defined are very up-to-date - referring to personalities, events, and situations in the news, gives the book broad and immediate appeal. On the other hand, many entries cover topics of on-going interest. [See excerpts] Comments received from notable readers of "A Contrarian's Dictionary": "A pleasing mixture of good thinking, good writing and good fun. I recommend it," Thomas Szasz, M.D., author of "The Myth Of Mental Illness." "Much of it is hilarious; and the epigrams are thoughtful and to the point," Jacob Suhl, editor, *Dinge der Zeit*. "I like it," Edward Hoagland, author of "The Snow Leopard" and "The Tugman's Passage." "Thank you very much for your very well produced book. I dip into it from time to time and find it very amusing," Stan Trevor, poet. From the Author In order of importance, my intention is, first, to make you smile inwardly if not outwardly and then to make you think. Not every definition will do both (some may not do either), but I'd like to believe that most readers will do at least one or the other, most times. If you laugh out loud, it will be a bonus. If your life is changed, it will be a miracle - and I don't believe in miracles. But, if some of the definitions cause you to say, "Aha" or to view a thing from a fresh perspective, they will have done their job - which is to tickle or provoke. Some definitions are pure wordplay - nonsense, kidding around. So what? Shakespeare was the Pontiff of Pun. If he could do it, surely we pygmies can. Since the greatest joy contrarians can have is to communicate with others of their ilk, please let me know how you feel about this book, after you have read it. About the Author A librarian-administrator, consultant, writer, and teacher for 44 years, Murray L. Bob is a committed contrarian - or a contrarian who ought to be committed - depending on your point of view. Father of three, grandfather of two, he, his wife and their dog live (or some facsimile thereof) in a relatively remote region of Western New York. Like Stendhal, Bob expects his writing will be appreciated 100 years after his death - which is why he will have his brain cryogenically preserved in single-malt scotch.