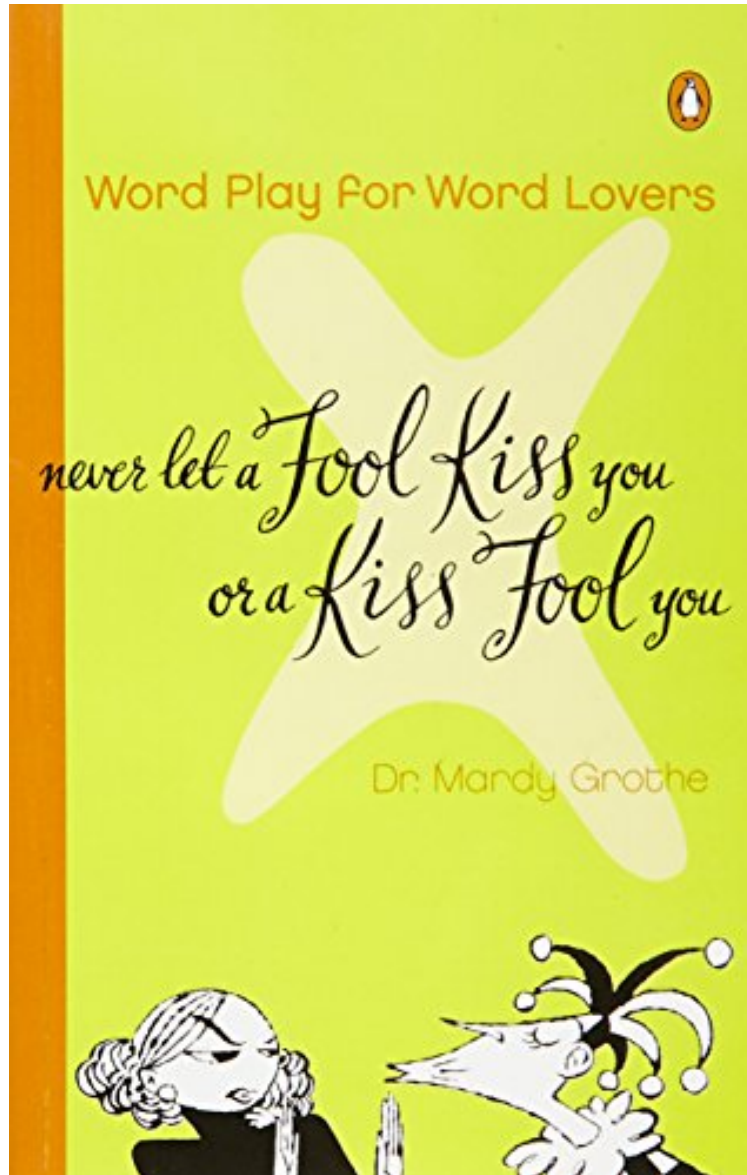


Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You

Mardy Grothe

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Mardy Grothe : Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not worth the price By David L. Molnar This book is merely a collection expressions loosely categorized as chiasmus. There is little to no scholarly discussion of origins nor is any historical context provided. I am extremely disappointed. Embarrassed to have sent a copy to a friend before I

previewed it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Do we create our experiences or do our experiences create us? By Inkhorn As Dr Grothe explains William Safire introduced the term contrapuntal to describe this reversal of the order of words, using an ABBA form, although there are more elaborate ones. The more common description is chiasmus. For example Kennedy said: Let us never (A)negotiate out of (B)fear, but let us never (B)fear to (A) negotiate. You can probably remember the more famous Kennedy quote. Joseph Kennedy also had a quote: 'When the going gets tough, the tough get going.' The Mark Twain quote: "It's not the size of the dog in the fight, it's From the TaoTe Ching: Wise men don't need to prove their point, Men who need to prove their point aren't wise. If you're like me, you will really enjoy this, and learn how to construct your own memorable little quotations. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The same joke over and over forever. By rwx The same joke over and over forever.

What do Mae West, John F. Kennedy, Victor Hugo, and H. L. Mencken have in common? They all indulged in chiasmus—a literary device in which word order is reversed to hilarious or poignant effect. When Mae West said, "It's not the men in my life, it's the life in my men," she was using chiasmus; when John F. Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," he was doing the same. Dr. Mardy Grothe has compiled hundreds of examples of chiasmus in this whimsically illustrated collection, bringing this witty and thought-provoking device out of obscurity and into the public imagination.

.com When John F. Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," he wasn't just stirring the hearts of millions of young Americans, he was also engaging in a little-known form of wordplay called chiasmus. Dr. Mardy Grothe has plumbed the depths of this form for years and catalogued hundreds of examples from ancient times to the present, in *Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You* (title courtesy of Joey Adams). All it takes is a repeated statement with two elements transposed between them—e.g., fool and kiss—and you get a powerful, often humorous, rhetorical prop. Collected in chapters like "Chiasmus for Lovers" and "Chiastic Compliments and Insults," the wisdom of the ages shines in gems such as Cicero's "It is as difficult for the good to suspect evil as it is for the evil to suspect good." Even better is Grothe's running commentary on the form and its masters and the often-biting humor found in the classics, for instance Dr. Johnson's "Your manuscript is both good and original; but the part that is good is not original, and the part that is original is not good." Fortunately for us, the good doctor wasn't referring to *Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You*, which is as fun to read as a reference as it is to refer to a reader. --Rob Lightner "There is plenty of delight in this overdue collection." —Houston Chronicle
About the Author Mardy Grothe, Ph.D., is a psychologist, marriage counselor, and management consultant. Coauthor of three business books, he has been extensively interviewed on radio and television, on topics from problem bosses to the art of the insult. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts.