



# **Americanisms: The Illustrated Book of Words Made in the U.S.A.**

*Gary Luke, Susan Quinn*

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Since the first settlement at Jamestown, Americans have been busy inventing new words and phrases for the English language. Some of them, like "beauty parlor," are prosaic, while others, like "quickie," hint at the scandalous. This book salutes a wide range of these "Americanisms," with 125 examples. Each entry includes a definition, a brief etymology, and an example of the word in context. Each also comes with a literal or interpretive archival photograph that acts as comic counterpoint. Words include "lowbrow," "cheapskate," "electrocute," "hippy," and "ghostwriter." From "Afro" to "zipper," this intriguing and witty gift book is sure to delight and divert word lovers everywhere.

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