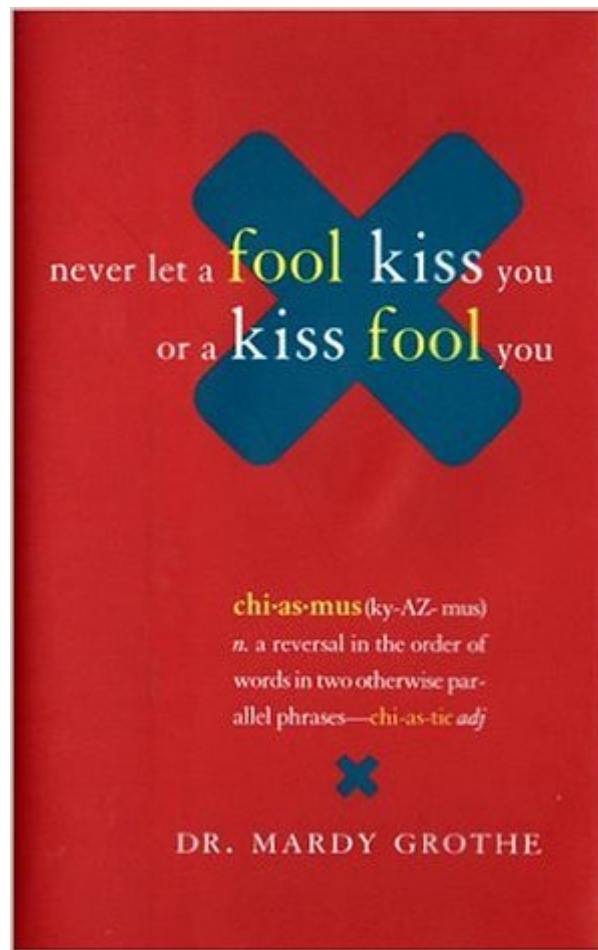


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# Never Let A Fool Kiss You Or A Kiss Fool You : Chiasmus And A World Of Quotations That Say What They Mean And Mean What They Say



## Synopsis

Engaging new territory for word lovers, speech makers, and party show-offs--this quotable collection enshrines a classic linguistic trick. Pardon me--do you know what chiasmus means? Here's a hint: Mae West used chiasmus in her signature line "It's not the men in my life; it's the life in my men." So did John F. Kennedy: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Language maven Dr. Mardy Grothe discovered that many of the world's great wags and eloquent orators have been virtual masters of chiasmus--Churchill, Wilde, Shaw, Ben Franklin, Samuel Johnson, and Shakespeare, to name just a handful. In this unprecedented and quotable collection, he assembles the best examples of chiasmus ever written or spoken. Not since the oxymoron, the palindrome, or *An Exaltation of Larks* has there been a whole new category of wordplay so likely to fire the public imagination. In the tradition of *Woe Is I* and *The Transitive Vampire*, *Never Let a Fool Kiss You...* will make chiasmus a household word and help you wax profound in the company of the greatest wits of all time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. Mardy Groethe not only introduced me to the literary device of chiasmus, but completely engaged and entertained me with his book on the subject. The book is truly a joy! Dr. Groethe's chiasmi span from old to new, from light to meaningful, from humorous to serious. He shows how chiasmus are used by everyone: from poets to politicians, from writers to actors, from coaches to philosophers. Adding to the book is how Dr. Groethe organizes it, essentially enabling the reader to find a chiasmus for any occasion. It's no surprise to me that "Never Let A Fool Kiss You..." is the 8th

best-selling quotation book in .com's history (as of 1/10/00) and going strong! A new lover of chiasmus, I visited Dr. Groethe's website immediately after reading his book and signed up to receive free daily chiastic quotes directly from him!

What a great little book. If you like wordplay, philosophy, history and pop culture, you'll love reading chiasmus quotes from then and now. Chiasmus stretches and delights the mind. I bought the book as a guide to my teenage daughter...you know...for the kissing part, but it has also become a delightful source of information as well as entertainment. We have fun trying to make up our own chiasmus lines. If you subscribe to Groethe's weekly Chiasmic Quotes...you'll discover a new puzzle and anecdote. It always gives a moment of thought or mirth; giving new pleasure to the announcement to 'you've got mail'.

There are books that you can really get into, and there are books that really get into you. Dr. Mardy Grothe's "Never Let a Fool Kiss You or a Kiss Fool You" is one of the latter. It is a book to be savored like a hearty soup. If you encounter the book or the wonderful web site [chiasmus.com](http://chiasmus.com) as I did, you will come in the door not knowing what a "chiasmus" is, and afterwards you will find examples everywhere. You will even start making them up. There are books one reads for information and others one reads for pleasure. This book is wonderfully informative. As for pleasure, that word is too bland to describe the delights in store for the reader. The knowledge of chiasmus will expand and stretch you, helping you see things you never saw before and challenging you to think in ways you've never thought before. God bless you, Mardy Grothe, for the gift of this book!

This is one of the more fun books that I've ever read, I found myself sitting up all night looking at the different phrases in the book, and working to restrain myself so that it wouldn't be over too soon. The sheer amount of chiasmus that is assembled in this book is very impressive, and it makes for a very fun read. I would recommend it to anyone who likes words or chiasmus.

Dr. Grothe's book is a joy to read. He says in his book that it is written for the intellectually curious with an interest in words, language and quotations. If this definition comes even close to who you think you are, this book is for you. It is best read at a slow reflective pace like a fine wine or a good cup of tea. As Grothe quotes Brougham "It is well to read everything of something and something of everything." This book offers you something of everything in its completeness of categories and everything of something in its love of chiasmus. What a gem!!!

To think that Dr. Grothe found the word chiasmus and wrote a book about it is unbelievable. He obviously enjoyed the writing and the research. How did he find all the quotes and express them in such an enjoyable and organized way? His book kept me reading, reflecting, and noticing chiastic quotes everywhere. This book and word should be required reading for English 101. Thanks to Dr. Grothe for a refreshing text for word lovers!

I consider myself fairly intelligent, yet had never heard of a chiasmus. When I learned of them through this book, you can't imagine the fun I had trying to create them commuting to and from work. I imagine I will someday be able to start presentations with quotes that I made up that fell into this category - which isn't conceit, but rather thanks to the author for writing this book.

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.

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