



# Bees' Knees and Barmy Armies: Origins of the Words and Phrases We Use Every Day

*Harry Oliver*

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**Bees' Knees and Barmy Armies: Origins of the Words and Phrases We Use Every Day** Harry Oliver

What makes someone "pleased as punch?" Why is New York City called "The Big Apple?" And what does it mean to escape by the "skin of your teeth?" Every day speech is peppered with hundreds of phrases and expressions, but rarely are their origins contemplated. This intriguing survey delves deep into the history behind hundreds of common words and turns of phrase and uncovers their fascinating and amusing sources. From ancient idioms to up-to-the minute lingo, this is the perfect resource for etymologists and language-lovers alike.

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