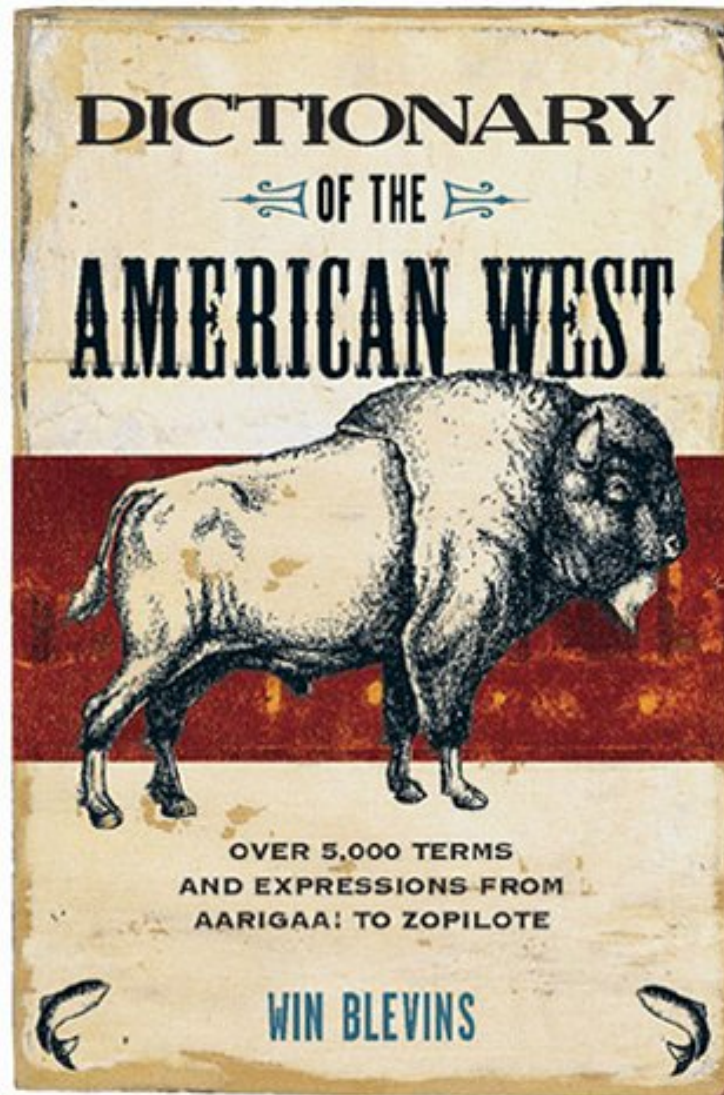


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## Dictionary of the American West: Over 5,000 Terms from Aarigaa! to Zopilote

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**Win Blevins : Dictionary of the American West: Over 5,000 Terms from Aarigaa! to Zopilote** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dictionary of the American West: Over 5,000 Terms from Aarigaa! to Zopilote:

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for a great word or phrase for my characters to use. This a great reference book for anyone writing about the Old West! 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. It's a fantastic piece of work. By John Hamilton I just downloaded the Kindle version of this book. It's a fantastic piece of work, very comprehensive, with pronunciation guides and origins and combinations. Even the introduction is fascinating, with updated usage recommendations on vexing words such as squaw, Anasazi, and Indian/Native American. An excellent resource for Western writers, or anybody wishing to know more about the unique lexicon of the American West. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A lot of Fun To Read. By Karen Mercury OK, this book is a lot of fun to plain sit down and read the whole way through. His recent addition of Alaska as "The West" is a bit weird, and my only other complaint would be that once in awhile he'll add something that seems arbitrary, like some surfing term. There are maybe only 5 surfing terms in the whole book--why not all 100 of them, as they \*are\* arguably "Westernisms"? I guess when I think "The West" I think "The Old West," as in, prior to 1900. Also for research purposes he usu. doesn't mention the year a word was coined, and he does rely a lot on novelists, so if you plan to use this book for actual historical research, you'll need to double-source every term you might want to use. Other than that, it's plain old fun to read... He tells a lot of stories in the definitions and is obviously having a lot of fun.

Booksellers of the West, listen up: we're betting a California C-note that all you top hands will want a war bag full of Win Blevins's revised and expanded Dictionary of the American West, the only book this side of the Mississippi to embrace the full West in all of its cultural richness. Anyone who loves language will revel in the words, stories, and lore found in this uncommon resource, with over 5,000 words that honor the colorful history of the West and bring the region's present day to vivid life.

From School Library Journal YA-A lively collection of 5,000 Western terms and expressions from "a-coming and a-going" to Zuni. Based on earlier dictionaries of the area but enhanced by the inclusion of such groups as "women, Indians, Mormons, Hispanics, blacks, French Canadians..." the volume contains mostly short definitions of a few lines, but some are more lengthy and include quotes and anecdotes as well as pronunciation guides and cross references. This will be useful for readers of Westerns and for regional and local history collections. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Blevins is well known for fictionalizing the history of the American West in works like *Stone Song: A Novel of the Life of Crazy Horse*, but at the same time he is lauded for his accuracy. He maintains that, like any other subgroup in America, Westerners have a language all their own, and over time he has grown frustrated when his editors or readers did not understand his writing. The result is this dictionary, expanded and revised from the 1992 edition (*Facts On File*), which defines terms commonly used in the West. Many of the 5000-plus entries are new or rewritten, and the text pays greater attention to the Pacific Coast States, including Alaska. In addition, greater emphasis is placed on words from many of the minority groups influencing Western history, from Mormons to blacks, who are often overlooked in similar works. As a result, this dictionary is much more current than the venerable *Western Words: A Dictionary of the American West* (o.p.) or *Western Words: A Dictionary of the Old West* (Hippocrene, 1997), both by Ramon Frederick Adams. The engagingly written entries are arranged alphabetically and frequently include guides to pronunciation. Overall, an informative and entertaining work; recommended for public and academic libraries. Daniel Liestman, Kansas State Univ. Libs., Manhattan Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist This revised edition (the first was published in 1993) now includes more words from Alaska and the Pacific Coast states as well as new Indian terms. Some 250 entries are new, and numerous others have been rewritten. RBBCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved