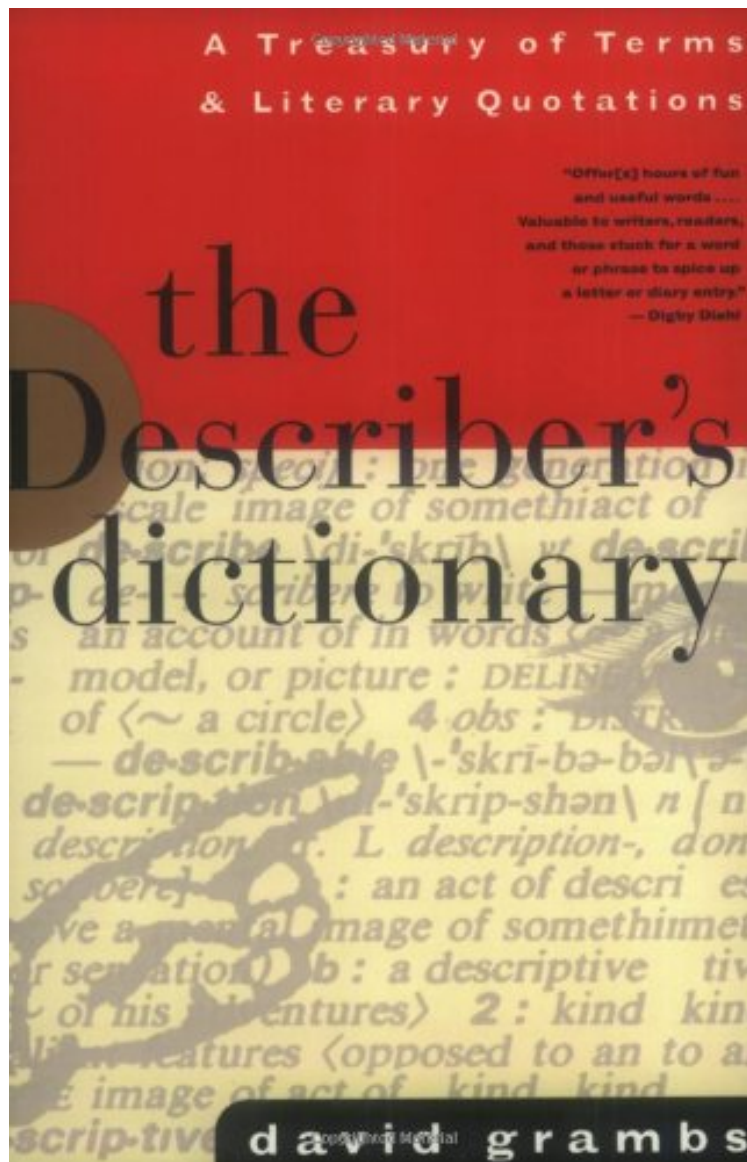


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## The Describer's Dictionary: A Treasury of Terms Literary Quotations (Treasury of Terms and Literary Quotations)

David Grambs

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David Grambs : The Describer's Dictionary: A Treasury of Terms Literary Quotations (Treasury of Terms and Literary Quotations) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Describer's Dictionary: A Treasury of Terms Literary Quotations (Treasury of Terms and Literary Quotations):

40 of 41 people found the following review helpful. A very good complement  
By ERIC, WII understand reviews are meant to be subjective, but, I fail to agree with several on this page that rate this book low. Firstly, this book never claimed to be a thesaurus. I say this to counter another review that tried comparing the two. Matter-o-fact, I own a Roget's Thesaurus and there is a stark difference. This book is a very good utility for fiction writer's in the sense that it distills much of what the average writer will encounter on his writing journey in terms of: Character descriptions, Location descriptions (houses, buildings etc) et al. Equally important, it has small sections where it shows how some of these words can be used -- and were used by known authors. There are 1 or 2 commentaries that had a disparaging -- "oh, there's nothing here that you don't already know, unless you're learning English for the 1st time", tone. But in truth, no matter how eclectic your vocabulary might be, there are often times when words/phrases/expressions seem to elude you. Words that are just beyond that foggy mist, in need of a hint to give you that "aha, now I've got it" moment. This book can help get that memory juice going, and maybe even give you a better alternative. For those with a thesaurus, I can only say that this will help strengthen the quality of that thesaurus. So, I do recommend this book.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great reference tool for writers  
By caljackAs a writer it is important to bring a scene to life. To place the reader there mentally. We want them to see, taste, feel, smell it. To live it as our characters do and how we as writers image it in our minds. We all know that is not an easy task and for many of us it is a very hard one. We are told that we need to show not tell...but how? That is where reference books like this helps. While it does not write the scene for you. Nor does its descriptions always fit what your writing about-What it does- it extends your memory..it extends the process of picturing that scene in your mind. It is a series of literary examples and a kind of thesaurus to assist the writer- in writing that scene. so why give it this great rating? I purchased this as a tool to assist me in showing the reader, to help them feel the story I am trying to portray. I also purchased the Emotion thesaurus. It is a writers job to craft the story- Building a reference library to assist in that endeavor helps me do that. So, if you are serious with your writing- such small investments- like this book is worth it- 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The opening sixty or so pages are asinine geometrical terms that are antiquated and useless to any but perhaps a geometrician  
By August HockThe scope of the book admittedly cover only visual terminology. The opening sixty or so pages are asinine geometrical terms that are antiquated and useless to any but perhaps a geometrician. I think it's a great concept, but should be expanded to include all six senses (the regular five plus intuition).

Have you ever found yourself grasping in vain for that ideal descriptive word lost somewhere within the misty recesses of your vocabulary? Or felt frustrated that an oddly shaped structure or pretty setting you wished to portray in writing didn't quite translate clearly to paper? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, then The Descriptor's Dictionary is exactly the book you need. Open it, and you have not only just the right words but bringing them to life stellar literary examples of descriptive writing as well. The Dictionary concern itself with the observable, from shapes to buildings to human beings. "Referably" organized, the book uses a handy reverse, definition-to-term format that makes it easy to zero in on the term you're seeking. For example, look up "Noses" to find "aquiline," "leptorrhine," and "snub-nosed." And as an inspiration to any writer showing how it's done by the best hundreds of colorful and evocative descriptive passages from such diverse authors as Dickens, Darwin, and Updike appear on facing pages, making this a singularly and richly different kind of reference book. The craft of description lives in literature, conversation, journalism, and personal letters. For help in painting pictures with the English language, The Descriptor's Dictionary is one of the most indispensable reference tools you can own.

Offer[s] hours of fun and useful words.... Valuable to writers, readers, and those stuck for a word or phrase to spice up a letter or diary entry. - Digby Diehl  
About the AuthorDavid Grambs has worked as a lexicographer, editor, travel reporter, and translator. He is the author of five other books pertaining to the English language, including The Endangered English Dictionary, and is coauthor of So You Think You Can Spell? with Ellen S. Levine.