

Nonce Words

by Harry Dunn

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**I love a bit of nonsense,
Especially in a rhyme,
So I invent my own nonce words,
And use them all the time.
Nonsense words are 'Nonces' -
And you invent them - no matter how absurd;
They're a boon to lazy versers;
And come in handy when you seek a rhyming word
Which escapes the ageing bonces,
So you invent one and throw it in the mix
For betters or for worsers.**

**I've invented quite a few myself -
Not stupid things like 'supercalifragalisticexpialadosis'
Which, even that poor song admits,
Was really quite atrocious -
Or Bing Crosby's 'maisy dotes and mairsy dotes',
Which made no sense at all,
And whoever heard of ' little lambsie dizies' -
- The silliest of them all.**

**Don't rack your brain or reach through your the old dictionary
When you see strange words like 'subterraneous'
Or 'counter-frictionary';
Because they're nonce words, mangled, over-wrought and twisted
And therefore won't be listed.
So, if I should use a handy home-made nonce,
Frequently - or maybe only once,
Please don't write to me in protest, or ring me on the phonse
Because you won't get much response.**