

GLIMPSE

Missing Letters

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Gee-wizz, golly-gee, gee-willakers, are quite common expressions of amazement. The letter *g* has a quite important place in our language, at least it used to. Place your thumb and index fingers astride your Adam 's apple and then say out loud, the word "recognize". The old little apple bounces twice. Now do that with that word corrupted, "reconize". Only one reluctant bounce is all you get. That poor word has lost its recognizability. It has such a strong Latin root, but it takes time and effort to do the double bounce.

The *g* has also fallen off the edge of the Proper-Pronunciation World at the end of present participles. "Swimmin, talkin, spellin, workin, and the ear-injuring list goes on and on. The *g* as lost its wiz. Other letters have also lost their proper place, the *t* is no longer at the middle of the "innersection", winer" "cener" and that list is stumbling into the popular verbal inneractions.

It can be said, "well as long as you know what I'm sayin, what I'm thinkin, and that's what madders." What I am talking about, actually, is reverence. (Reverence for words is only a small thing, except to word-freaks such as I.) I experience a loss of sacredness in our culture. Our popular music, movies, TV programing, the attitude toward relationships, sexuality and marriage all reflect a trampling of the goodness, the Godness in creation and in our human experiences.

It does take time to hold things, feel things, get close to things to find the sacred, the preciousness of the little and the not so. Artists seem to have taken time to watch, listen and sense a something which silent-touching, touches them and they are moved to move us with their reverence.

I would say that holding of a rose for a while will grace the holdings of other tangibles and intangibles. If I can hold myself gently, gratefully, lovingly, just for a while, I know I will touch, hold and receive the other selves with whom I share time and space. I need time in my own space so as to be more a reverent presence in your life. Reverence begins at home and takes quiet reverential. It is only a glimpse.

P.S. I found the italics *g* which has migrated to such words as: *egspress*, *egzamination*, and *egsersise*. The "x" got x-orsized.