

**FOLDED MEANINGS:
A BOOK OF
CHARADES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649310098

Folded Meanings: A Book of Charades by Susan C. Hosmer

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SUSAN C. HOSMER

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CHARADES**

Folded Meanings

A BOOK OF CHARADES

BY

SUSAN C. HOSMER

*"The folded meaning of your words' deceit."
Comedy of Errors.*



*"I am glad to see you in this merry vein;
What means this jest? I pray you, master,
tell me."*

BOSTON
RICHARD G. BADGER
THE GORHAM PRESS
1909

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THE GORHAM PRESS, BOSTON, U. S. A.

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FOLDED MEANINGS

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1

My whole is short and quickly done;
 It costs, and should be pondered on;
 One syllable, and yet 'tis fair
 To find a first and second there.
 The first, so short, attention calls
 When on the ear a light sound falls.
 The last is long, deceptive too;
 Attained by but a favored few.

2

The last is French and wet,
 The first is French and dry.
 But if the line be drawn
 A trifle differently,
 The English first is wet;
 And if *this* last you have,
 You then will surely first
 And whole the answer have.

3

My one was in her bright locks two,
 My whole adorned her gown;
 It was of ribbon all compact,
 No trailing ends adown.

5

All balmy was my *first*
 And softly breathed my *third*;
Two all the leafy wood
 No tenderest floweret stirred.

Then 'mid the silence rose
 A careless, flutelike tone;
 It seemed the singer chose
 Of all the months, this one.

We listened in delight;
Third bore it to our ear;
 We asked no dawning bright,
 The *first* was all too dear.

My *whole* eludeth search,
 But when you have him found,
 "A singing feather he———
 A winged and wandering sound."

My first with some gives light and air;
 My last may crabbed be or fair.
 By whole all good Bostonians swear;
 It always should be made with care.

6

My first a precious offering;
 My last a rushing stream;
 My whole could cast a potent spell,
 Or breathe a weird dream.

7 (Two words.)

She was one, and one two also;
 O, how could he resist her?
 Upon his two he plead and sued;
 She said: "I'll be your sister."

My third is an enchanted vale,
 A master's craft there wiles us.
 My whole is an enchanting stream,
 Where poet's verse beguiles us.

8

My first is soothing and gentle,
 My second is smoking and hot,
 My third is healthful, nutritious,
 Though one of its products is not.

My whole, if used sparingly, pleases;
 If heavy, good taste it displeases.