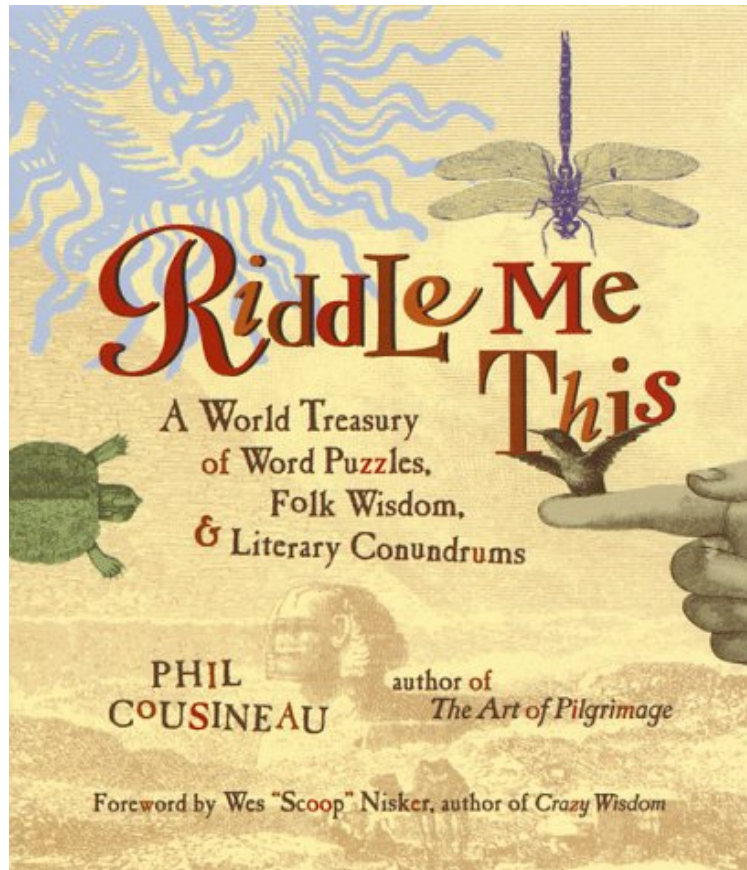


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## Riddle Me This: A World Treasury of Word Puzzles, Folk Wisdom, and Literary Conundrums

*Phil Cousineau*

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**Phil Cousineau : Riddle Me This: A World Treasury of Word Puzzles, Folk Wisdom, and Literary Conundrums** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Riddle Me This: A World Treasury of Word Puzzles, Folk Wisdom, and Literary Conundrums:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ANCIENT riddles make you REALLY THINK By T. Boadicea hours of fun ancient and old fashioned riddle reading for word enthusiasts . . . etc... etc. . etc . . etc.... etc... etc. . etc . . etc5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. So bad it's funny By Math Man The cover promises a "World Treasury of Word Puzzles, Folk Wisdom and Literary Conundrums" and instead yields a poorly constructed pile of random writings. After a long yet tedious introduction, the main point of which seems to be to show us how brilliant and erudite the author is, we're treated to "The Pleasury". The author appears to have selected his riddles by scanning world literature looking for pages containing the word "riddle" and then copying down something that looks like a riddle. The "Pleasury" is a random assortment of word riddles guaranteed to be devoid of any sense or context. For

example, an African riddle #127 - "Two lions are waiting on the hill". The answer - the ears. This is the kind of riddle where if you hear the answer you can shrug and agree with it, but you would never have a strong belief in the answer without some context. You might guess the answer but you would also equally guess many, many other answers. For a volume of modern, creative riddles, I would suggest *Quest for the Riddle Stone: A Riddle Book*. That book has fewer riddles, but they're all well written each with one correct answer that can be figured based on what's written. There is a good book waiting to be written of world riddles, but this isn't it.

Author Phil Cousineau is an adventure travel guide and mythographer whose mentor was scholar Joseph Campbell. He has collected riddles from every land, uncovering common threads in what he calls "ingenious questions in search of clever answers." Organized by country, *Riddle Me This* will educate as it entertains and intrigues readers. Although written with a sense of fun and a love of words, the book has a serious premise at its core -- to rescue riddles from obscurity and return them to their proper status as one of the earliest types of folk wisdom. Suitable fare for scholars or for family fun, *Riddle Me This* will tickle the funnybone and stimulate the brain.