

The Devil (2010)

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The Devil (2010)

Satan **claims** your soul 1.24 *the fire claimed four lives*: TAKE, cause/result in the loss of.

Tell an old wives' tale 1.34 An **old wives' tale** is a traditional belief, especially one which is incorrect. *Ann Bradley dispels the old wives' tales and gives the medical facts*: a myth, an old story that contains little truth One old wives' tale says that goose fat will cure a cold. **1** *the old superstitions held by sailors*: MYTH, belief, old wives' tale; legend, story.

2 *medicine was riddled with superstition*: UNFOUNDED BELIEF, credulity, fallacy, delusion, illusion; magic, sorcery.

The truck must have **rolled** 6.36

Dead guy turned the corner 6.46 achieve part of a goal, progress toward a goal Lan was very ill, but she's turned the corner. She's recovering. to start to become successful or to feel better or happier, after a time when you have been unsuccessful, ill, or unhappy

■ *We knew Dad had turned the corner when he started complaining about the hospital food.*

Let's walk it 6.58 achieve a victory easily. *BrE spokena*) to make a journey by walking

■ *If the last bus has gone, we'll have to walk it. b)* to succeed or win something easily

You can **squeeze in** 8.35 manage to get into or through (a restricted space). *we all squeezed into Steve's van*: CROWD, crush, cram, pack, jam, squash, wedge oneself, shove, push, force one's way.

Put a stick on it 10.16

She is 76. **Have at it** 11.15 **have at** To set upon with violent force:

[aggress](#), [assail](#), [assault](#), [attack](#), [beset](#), [fall on](#) or (upon), [go at](#), [sail into](#), [storm](#), [strike](#). *Informal* : [light into](#), [pitch into](#).

See [ATTACK](#).

Keep up your equipment 11.57 to make something continue at its present level or amount, instead of letting it decrease ■ *NATO kept up the pressure on the Serbs to get out of Kosovo*

Hang tough 12.18 be or remain inflexible or firmly resolved.

Pick a fight 12.27 start a fight, begin an argument If Jamie tries to pick a fight with you, just walk away. *he had an argument with Tony*: QUARREL, disagreement, squabble, fight, dispute, wrangle, clash, altercation, feud, contretemps, disputation, falling-out; *informal* tiff, slanging match; *Brit. informal* row, barney.

Why don't you **lay off** pal? 14.9 v. **phr.** 1. To mark out the boundaries or limits. *He laid off a baseball diamond on the vacant lot.*

Compare: LAY OUT⁵. 2. To put out of work. *The company lost the contract for making the shoes and laid off half its workers.* 3. **slang** To stop bothering; leave alone. ♦ Usually used in the imperative. *Lay off me, will you? I have to study for a test.* 4. **slang** To stop using or taking. *His doctor told him to lay off cigarettes. (informal)* GIVE UP, stop, refrain from, abstain from, desist from, cut out; *informal* pack in, leave off, quit.

Levity 14.15 *formal* lack of respect or seriousness when you are dealing with something serious ≠ **gravity** LIGHT-HEARTEDNESS, high spirits, vivacity, liveliness, cheerfulness, cheeriness, humour, gaiety, fun, jocularly, hilarity, frivolity, frivolousness, amusement, mirth, laughter, merriment, glee, comedy, wit, wittiness, jollity, joviality.

He **doesn't take kindly to** 16.17 ❶ *he took to carrying his money in his sock:* MAKE A HABIT OF, resort to, turn to, have recourse to; start, commence.

- ❷ *Ruth took to him instantly.* LIKE, get on with, be friendly towards; *informal* take a shine to.
❸ *the dog has really taken to racing.* BECOME GOOD AT, develop an ability for; like, enjoy.

inspecting **prowess** 16.44 *formal* great skill at doing something

▪ *his physical prowess* ▪ *military prowess* ❶ *his prowess as a winemaker:* SKILL, expertise, mastery, facility, ability, capability, capacity, savoir faire, talent, genius, adeptness, aptitude, dexterity, deftness, competence, accomplishment, proficiency, finesse; *informal* know-how.

❷ *the knights' prowess in battle:* COURAGE, bravery, gallantry, valour, heroism, intrepidity, nerve, pluck, pluckiness, boldness, daring, audacity, fearlessness; *informal* bottle, guts, spunk; *N. Amer. informal* moxie, sand.

Opposites inability, ineptitude, cowardice.

do you wanna **shimmy** up the cables? 18.02 to move forwards or backwards while also quickly moving slightly from side to side ❶ a kind of ragtime dance in which the whole body shakes or sways. ❷ shaking, especially abnormal vibration of the wheels of a motor vehicle.

you have **worn a groove** into it 19.12 ❷ an established routine or habit. *his morning routine:* PROCEDURE, practice, pattern, drill, regime, regimen; programme, schedule, plan; formula, method, system; customs, habits; *formal* wont.

those shoes have been **through the mills** 19.20 (go, put) 19.20 *old clothes:* WORN, worn out, shabby, threadbare, holey, torn, frayed, patched, tattered, moth-eaten, ragged; old-fashioned, out of date, outmoded; cast-off, hand-me-down; *informal* tatty.

you wish, sweetheart 23.42 *spoken* used to tell someone that what they want to happen or be true will definitely not happen or become true

- *I'm going to be famous one day. 'You wish!'*

the lights keep **shorting out** 24.15 Short out is American slang for to lose one's temper. short⁴ v [I and T] also **short out** to **short-circuit**, or make something do this ▪ *The toaster shorted and caused a fire.*

there is a **kill switch** 26.53 called an **e-stop**, is a [security](#) measure used to shut off a device in an emergency situation in which it cannot be shut down in the usual manner. Unlike a normal shut down, which shuts down all systems naturally and turns the machine off without damaging it, a kill switch is designed to completely abort the operation at all costs, and be configured so that it is quick to operate, and relatively obvious to someone other than the usual operator. It might have some protection to prevent accidental operation, but which can be quickly moved out of the way. Often, they are used to protect people from sustaining an injury or being killed, in which case damaging the machine may be considered to be acceptable.

we need to **convey calm** 30.23 ❷ *he conveys an air of competence:*
PROJECT, exude, emit, emanate.

❶ *taxis conveyed guests to the station:* TRANSPORT, carry, bring, take, fetch, bear, move, ferry, shuttle, shift, transfer.

❷ *he conveyed the information to me:* COMMUNICATE, pass on, make known, impart, relay, transmit, send, hand on, relate, tell, reveal, disclose.

❸ *it's impossible to convey how I felt:* EXPRESS, communicate, get across/over, put across/over, indicate, say.

that's as good as it takes 33.33 be as good as it gets INFORMAL 1

to be not very good and unlikely to improve *People are asking themselves, is this as good as it gets?*
2to be extremely good, so that nothing is likely to be better *This job is probably about as good as it gets.*

geniuses have **done a bang-up job** so far 34.42 adj., informal 1. Very successful; very good; splendid; excellent. *The football coach has done a bang-up job this season. John did a bang-up job painting the house.* 2. Make pregnant 3. terrible

Synonym: FIRST-CLASS.

I guess **that figures** 38.50 ➤ *that figures/(it) figures spoken especially AmE a)* used to say that something that happens is expected or typical, especially something bad

▪ *'It rained the whole weekend.' 'Oh, that figures.* b) used to say that something is reasonable or makes sense ▪ *It figures that she'd be mad at you, after what you did.*

A shard of glass sliced up and into the jugular 39.00

They are so **worked up** they can't control themselves 39.06 *adj [not before noun]*

informal very upset or excited about something **worked up about/over** ▪ *You shouldn't get so worked up about it.* ■ **work something up** STIMULATE, rouse, raise, arouse, awaken, excite.

These people are **shook up**, but don't look **murderous** 39.10 *adj., slang* In a state of great emotional upheaval; disturbed; agitated. *What are you so shook up about?* upset, worried He was really shook up after the accident and has not been back to work since.

Hold it up to the camera 39.37

Freight elevator 40.18

How is your jumper **shaping up**? 41.03 become physically fit. develop in a particular way.

There are also indications that a major tank battle may be shaping up for tonight...

The accident is already shaping up as a significant environmental disaster...

It's shaping up to be a terrible winter.

2 [PHRASAL VERB] V P as n, V P adv If you ask how someone or something **is shaping up**, you want to know how well they are doing in a particular situation or activity.

I did have a few worries about how Hugh and I would shape up as parents...

Girls are being recruited now. I heard they are shaping up very well.

3 [PHRASAL VERB] V P If you tell someone to **shape up**, you are telling them to start behaving in a sensible and responsible way. *It is no use simply to tell adolescents to shape up and do something useful.*

That line would stretch around the Block 43.00 to spread out or cover a large area of land

He was a real **scumbag** 43.04 *spoken informal not polite* a nasty, unpleasant person

Started a **Ponzi scheme** 43.07 investment scam by which early investors are paid off from the contributions of later ones, 1957, in ref. to Charles *Ponzi*, who perpetrated such a scam in U.S., 1919-20.

He's **impaled** on the top of the elevator 48.37 **adj.** pinned down, fixed in place with a sharp or pointed object; pierced through with a sharp object, stabbed; made helpless, immobilized with a word or look ■ *Their heads were impaled on Charles Bridge as a warning to others.* ► **verb** STICK, skewer, spear, spike, transfix; pierce, stab, run through; *poetic/literary* transpierce.

I'm **ruling nobody out** 51.50 If you **rule out** a course of action, an idea, or a solution, you decide that it is impossible or unsuitable. *The Prime Minister is believed to have ruled out cuts in child benefit or pensions...* **2 [PHRASAL VERB] V P n (not pron)** If something **rules out** a situation, it prevents it from happening or from being possible. *A serious car accident in 1986 ruled out a permanent future for him in farming.*

A shut-off valve 51.51 **n.** valve, device used to shut off something; cessation, stoppage

I **haven't thought that far ahead** 53.03 the ability to imagine what is likely to happen and to consider this when planning for the future→**forethought** ■ *It was an example of the authorities' lack of foresight* **.foresight to do sth** ■ *Luckily I'd had the foresight to get in plenty of food.* ► **noun** FORETHOUGHT, planning, far-sightedness, vision, anticipation, prudence, care, caution, precaution, readiness, preparedness; *N. Amer.* forehandedness. **Opposites** hindsight.

Rig an elevator 54.41 ► **noun** VANDALISM, wrecking, destruction, impairment, incapacitation, damage; subversion, obstruction, disruption, spoiling, undermining; *Brit.* a spanner in the works.

► **verb** VANDALIZE, wreck, damage, destroy, cripple, impair, incapacitate; obstruct, disrupt, spoil, ruin, undermine, threaten, subvert.

It's an **act** 56.14 **E** *we laughed, but most of us were just acting.* PRETEND, play-act, put it on, fake it, feign it, dissemble, dissimulate. **S** *it was all just an act.* PRETENCE, show, front, facade, masquerade, charade, posture, pose, affectation, sham, fake; *informal* a put-on.

Electricity **crackles** 59.40 to make repeated short sounds like something burning in a fire **■ logs crackling on the fire** **■ An announcement crackled over the tannoy.** ► **verb** SIZZLE, fizz, hiss, crack, snap, sputter, crepitate; *technical* decrepitate.

Bad wires could be **shorting out** the circuits 59.53

Heads up! Back up! 1.01.19 **interj.**, **informal** Keep your head up and be careful or ready. **◆**Used as a warning to prepare for something or clear the way *"Heads up!" said the waiter carrying the hot food. Heads up, boys! A train is coming. Heads up, now! You can do better than that.*
Synonym: LOOK ALIVE, LOOK OUT.

heads-up(2) adj., **informal** Wide-awake; alert; watchful; intelligent. *You must play hard, heads-up baseball to win this game.* *Compare:* ON ONE'S TOES, ON THE BALL.

Back up = If you **back up**, the car or other vehicle that you are driving moves back a short distance.
Back up, Hans...

A police van drove through the protesters and backed up to the front door of the house.

= reverse **v.** 1. To move backwards. *The train was backing up.*

Back away! Move back! 1.01.36 If you **back away**, you walk backwards away from someone or something, often because you are frightened of them.

James got to his feet and started to come over, but the girls hastily backed away.

Chick's a **twist** 1.02.05 **■** *a liar and a cheat.* SWINDLER, cheater, fraudster, (confidence) trickster, deceiver, hoaxer, hoodwinker, double-dealer, double-crosser, sham, fraud, fake, charlatan, quack, mountebank; *informal* con man/artist, shark, sharper, phoney, flimflammer; *Brit. informal* twister; *N. Amer. informal* grifter, bunco artist, gold brick, chiseller; *Austral. informal* magsman, illywhacker; *dated* confidence man, confidence woman.

Tempers would **flare** 1.02.19 **⇒ also flare up [I]**

if strong feelings flare or flare up, people suddenly become angry, violent etc **■ Rioting has flared up in several northern towns.** **■ Tempers flared during the debate.**

He **lawyered up** 1.03.01

The two victims were just a **decoy** 1.03.47 **⇒** someone or something that is used to trick someone into going somewhere or doing something, so that you can catch them, attack them etc

■ Officer Langley acted as a decoy to catch the rapist.

⇒ a model of a bird used to attract wild birds so that you can watch them or shoot them

► **noun** *a decoy to distract their attention:* LURE, bait, red herring; enticement, inducement, temptation, attraction, carrot; snare, trap.

► **verb** *he was decoyed to the mainland:* LURE, entice, tempt; entrap, snare, trap.

They are **pinning it on you** 1.05.03 ➡ to blame someone for something, often unfairly

- *Don't try to pin the blame on me!*
- *They're trying to pin the murder on the boyfriend.*

➡ **pin your hopes/faith on sth/sb** to hope that something will happen or someone will help you, because all your plans depend on this

- *Chris is pinning his hopes on getting into Yale.*

Sarah **wheezing** 1.11.34 ▶ **verb** *the illness left her wheezing.* BREATHE NOISILY, gasp, whistle, hiss, rasp, croak, pant, cough.

- ➡ **Brit. informal** a clever or amusing scheme or trick.