

Nashcan - SOLUTION



The puzzle presents solvers with several terrible rhyming couplets, vaguely in the style of Ogden Nash. Each poem contains a hint towards a pair of words differing by a leading letter on one of them, hinted by the title and flavortext (Ashcan -> Nashcan).

A stanza by stanza analysis follows.

The artist uncovered her art stand in a hurry, Revealing a stoat portrait, lifelike and furry.	EASEL WEASEL
My seat was flung out of the car with aplomb, That's when I knew I was uninvited to Prom.	EJECTED REJECTED
I'm mystical! I'm magical! I'm wizened and sage! For ten bucks I'll draw any picture on this page!	MAGE IMAGE
The boiler and pipeworks got audience cheers When they thawed out the house for a read of Shakespeare's.	HEATER THEATER
The formal proposal submitted that day Drew sentimental feeling into the fray.	MOTION EMOTION
Your gift of a fur coat, dark brown and warm, Is not really functional, I work on a farm.	SABLE USABLE
Since I'm boring, born with no magical powers, Gotta sneak in bouquets to conjure up flowers.	MUGGLE SMUGGLE
Though infirm, afflicted as I am with this pox, I'm chasing my target like dogs to a fox.	AILING TAILING
Four score and no additional years hence, Something happened of great consequence.	EIGHTY WEIGHTY
They assigned me the task of fetching a flagon, With a minor oversight, of the interceding dragon.	MISSION OMISSION
Fly-fishing usually isn't something that appalling, Unless a bear grabs you and gives you a mauling.	ANGLING MANGLING
Hero's partner, whose fate was watery doom, Grew in his garden a poisonous bloom.	LEANDER OLEANDER
She wanted to go on a backcountry romp. But her poor pathing led her straight to a swamp.	OUTING ROUTING
Suddenly, a Sith lord in helmet and cape! He vowed to catch every one who'd escape.	VADER EVADER
A pastime of chutes and beasts serpentine, Involves rungs of ascent, and slides of decline.	ADDERS LADDERS

Your lies put in print, your audacity and gall, Besmirch the name of all who come from our atoll!	SLANDER ISLANDER
In "projectile" skill points, the rogue went all in, So they could hit any target no matter how thin.	ARROW NARROW
At first online poker made me a winner with ease, Until my landlord arrived, demanding my keys.	VICTOR EVICTOR
But attend to my stories lest ye make the same error, The cautionary tale of that tornado-bound terror!	HARK SHARK

Picking the extra letter from each phrase provides the instruction WRITE US TWO MORE LINES. Teams doing so successfully received the final answer, BEAT EM UP, which is an appropriate warrior's response to literary criticism.