

The Word Party

Richard Edwards is a British writer. He was born in England and has spent time in Italy, France and Spain. He has written several collections of poetry, as well as lots of picture books. In this poem, he imagines how different types of words might behave at a party.

- Loving words clutch crimson roses,
Rude words sniff and pick their noses,
Sly words come dressed up as foxes,
Short words stand on cardboard boxes,
5 Common words tell jokes and gabble,
Complicated words play Scrabble,
Swear words stamp around and shout,
Hard words stare each other out,
Foreign words look lost and shrug,
10 Careless words trip on the rug,
Long words slouch with stooping shoulders,
Code words carry secret folders,
Silly words flick rubber bands,
Hyphenated words hold hands,
15 Strong words show off, bending metal,
Sweet words call each other 'petal',
Small words yawn and suck their thumbs
Till at last the morning comes.
Kind words give out farewell posies . . .
20 Snap! The dictionary closes.

Richard Edwards