100 Most Beautiful Words in the English Language

1. Ailurophile A cat-lover.
2. Beleaguer To exhaust with attacks.
3. Brood To think alone.
4. Bucolic In a lovely rural setting.
5. Chatoyant Like a cat’s eye.
6. Comely Attractive.
7. Conflate To blend together.
8. Cynosure A focal point of admiration.
10. Demesne Dominion, territory.
11. Demure Shy and reserved.
12. Denouement The resolution of a mystery.
15. Diaphanous Filmy.
17. Dulcet Sweet, sugary.
18. Ebullience Bubbling enthusiasm.
20. Efflorescence Flowering, blooming.
21. Elision Dropping a sound or syllable in a word.
22. Elixir A good potion.
23. Eloquence Beauty and persuasion in speech.
24. Embrocation Rubbing on a lotion.
25. Emollient A softener.
27. Epiphany A sudden revelation.
28. Erstwhile At one time, for a time.
29. Ethereal Gaseous, invisible but detectable.
30. Evanescent Vanishing quickly, lasting a very short time.
31. Evocative Suggestive.
32. Fetching Pretty.
33. Felicity Pleasantness.
34. Forbearance Withholding response to provocation.
35. Fugacious Fleeting.
36. Furtive Shifty, sneaky.
37. Gambol To skip or leap about joyfully.
38. Glamour Beauty.
39. Gossamer The finest piece of thread, a spider’s silk.
40. Halcyon Happy, sunny, care-free.
41. Harbinger Messenger with news of the future.
42. Imbrication Overlapping and forming a regular pattern.
43. Imbroglio An altercation or complicated situation.
44. Imbue To infuse, instill.
45. Incipient Beginning, in an early stage.
46. Ineffable: Unutterable, inexpressible.
47. Ingénue: A naïve young woman.
48. Inglenook: A cozy nook by the hearth.
49. Insouciance: Blithe nonchalance.
50. Inure: To become jaded.
51. Labyrinthine: Twisting and turning.
52. Lagniappe: A special kind of gift.
53. Lagoon: A small gulf or inlet.
54. Languor: Listlessness, inactivity.
55. Lassitude: Weariness, listlessness.
56. Leisure: Free time.
57. Lilt: To move musically or lively.
58. Lissome: Slender and graceful.
59. Lithe: Slender and flexible.
60. Love: Deep affection.
61. Mellifluous: Sweet sounding.
62. Moiety: One of two equal parts.
63. Mondegreen: A slip of the ear.
64. Murmurous: Murmuring.
66. Offing: The sea between the horizon and the offshore.
67. Onomatopoeia: A word that sounds like its meaning.
68. Opulent: Lush, luxuriant.
69. Palimpsest: A manuscript written over earlier ones.
70. Panacea: A solution for all problems.
71. Panoply: A complete set.
72. Pastiche: An art work combining materials from various sources.
73. Penumbra: A half-shadow.
74. Petrichor: The smell of earth after rain.
75. Plethora: A large quantity.
76. Propinquity: An inclination.
77. Pyrrhic: Successful with heavy losses.
78. Quintessential: Most essential.
80. Ravel: To knit or unknit.
81. Redolent: Fragrant.
82. Riparian: By the bank of a stream.
83. Ripple: A very small wave.
84. Scintilla: A spark or very small thing.
85. Sempiternal: Eternal.
86. Seraglio: Rich, luxurious oriental palace or harem.
87. Serendipity: Finding something nice while looking for something else.
88. Summery: Light, delicate or warm and sunny.
89. Sumptuous: Lush, luxurious.
90. Surreptitious: Secretive, sneaky.
92. Susurrous: Whispering, hissing.
93. Talisman: A good luck charm.
94. **Tintinnabulation** Tinkling.
95. **Umbratilous** Shadowy; shaded or secluded.
96. **Untoward** Unseemly, inappropriate.
97. **Vestigial** In trace amounts.
98. **Wafture** Waving.
99. **Wherewithal** The means.
100. **Woebegone** Sorrowful or downcast.