



Forum: English & Chinese Songs, Lyrics

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Topic: **When You Know**

Subject: Re: **When You Know**

Posted by: Elinor

Posted on: 2006/10/16 22:04:40

Kathy, thank you for sharing.

serendipity

1754 (but rare before 20c.), coined by Horace Walpole (1717-92) in a letter to Mann (dated Jan. 28); he said he formed it from the Persian fairy tale "The Three Princes of Serendip," whose heroes "were always making discoveries, by accidents and sagacity, of things they were not in quest of." The name is from Serendip, an old name for Ceylon (modern Sri Lanka), from Arabic Sarandib, from Skt. Simhaladvipa "Dwelling-Place-of-Lions Island." Serendipitous formed c.1950.

<http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=serendipity>