

Squibs are short notes about kinky facts of language. They may occasionally be welcome, in that they provide evidence for someone's pet theory. Most frequently, however, they are rambunctious, insolent, nose-thumbing bazookas, taunting theoreticians of every stripe, daring them to stretch their minds enough to wrap around the damned facts the squibs call to our attention.

In Athenian Greece, poets were not allowed to be citizens – they were too unpredictable, irreverent. Squibs are the poets sneering outside the walls of Theoretropolis, mocking us.

But with luck, squibs become seeds.