



**BOTT & ASSOCIATES, LTD.**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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# HIDDEN MEANING

## EXPLORING THE ORIGINS OF SECRET LANGUAGES

Secret languages, born from a mixture of pragmatism, seclusion, and boredom, are spoken and understood only by a select few. From Pig Latin uttered in schoolyards to whispers of Lunfardo in the prisons of Argentina, the secretive languages of the world have origins that may delight and surprise you.

### Boontling

In Northern California, a small community speaks a unique amalgamation of an Appalachian dialect, Spanish, and the language of the Pomo tribe called Boontling. It originated in the late 19th or early 20th century in Boonville. There, you can find locals referring to doctors as *shoveltooths* and roaring flames as *jeffers*. It supposedly

originated among the women and children who toiled in the local hop fields and quickly spread throughout the community. Somehow, despite existing only in a small farm town, it has an expansive 1,600-word vocabulary and around 100 fluent speakers!

### Pig Latin

*Ancay ouyay understandyay isthay entencesay?* You may decipher that question if you remember Pig Latin from elementary school. Despite disagreements about its linguistic credibility, Pig Latin has existed since Shakespeare's time (around 400 years ago). Ironically, it is completely unrelated to Latin, and the origin of its name is a mystery. Famous speakers

of Pig Latin include founding father Thomas Jefferson, who reportedly wrote letters using the light-hearted language.

### Lunfardo

This language is so secretive that it's practically criminal. Lunfardo began in the prisons of Buenos Aires, Argentina, where inmates masked their words from the nosy guards. The language has components from Portuguese, Galician, French, and German. For example, if an inmate wanted to compliment a pretty woman, they would call them a *papirusa*, which means "beautiful woman." These days, Lunfardo exists mainly in the lyrics of Argentine tango music.

# FROM INDIA TO ILLINOIS

## Janki's Journey Through Independence Day

Hello, everyone. My name is Janki Patel, and I am grateful. As an associate attorney at a fantastic estate planning firm, Bott & Associates LTD, I am thankful to have always felt welcomed by my peers and coworkers. This supportive work culture aligns with the meaningful nature of our profession, and I'm thrilled to be a part of it. Helping clients navigate challenging conversations and plan for the future is fulfilling, especially when I can relate to my clients.

As an immigrant from India, the Fourth of July holds great significance for me and my family. For us, it is a day to celebrate the independence of this great nation and the liberties that come with living in the U.S. Every day, I feel privileged to live in a country where freedom is a given, where individuals can live life to the fullest without restrictions. This

feeling is something I cherish, and I know this is also shared with many other immigrants who have found their new home in America. It's a day when I can enjoy the festivities as the country honors its nation's birth with fireworks, barbecues, parades, and other vibrant summer activities.

My favorite Fourth of July traditions are the ones that have the most to do with family and community. Living in Illinois, I enjoy the vibrant local parades and the excitement of the mini amusement parks and rollercoasters in different towns throughout the state. These activities create lasting memories of children's laughter and the sun's warmth. One of my all-time favorite memories was our family's early morning trips to downtown Chicago to secure a perfect spot by Lake Michigan. The bustling energy of the city, combined with the serene backdrop of the lake, represents the true spirit of America.

My gratitude extends beyond the holiday festivities. I recognize my parents' many sacrifices to provide our family with a better life in the States. The lessons my parents taught me of hard work, resilience, and the pursuit of chasing after your dreams are core values that are part of my identity. In America, you can choose any path or journey; I never take this for granted. As much as I love Illinois, I know the freedoms are the same in all 50 states, which fills my heart with peace.

It is a time to honor the sacrifices made by my parents and the privileges that come with living here. This holiday represents the spirit of freedom, the joy of community, and the endless possibilities here, making it an extraordinary day for me and my family. Let's celebrate this holiday with joy, peace, and love. Happy Fourth of July, everyone!

*Janki Patel*





# Take a Literary Adventure

THE KEYS TO A  
THRIVING BOOK CLUB

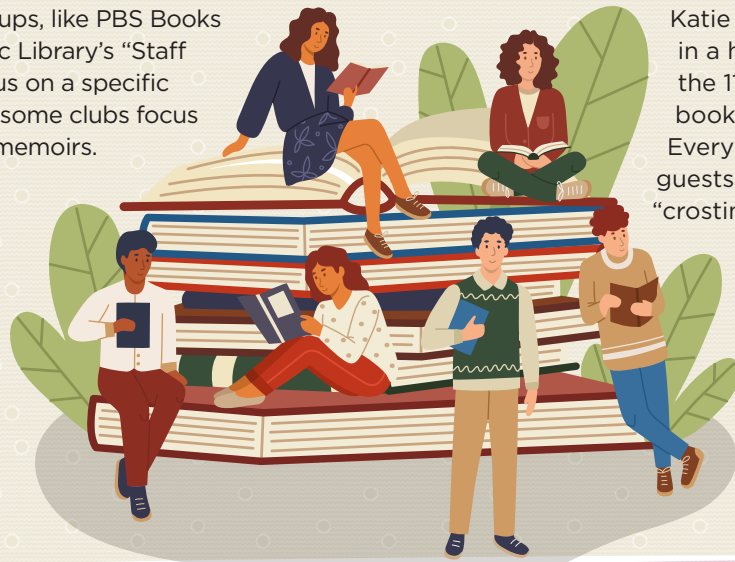
People of all ages crave human connection, and book clubs are an increasingly popular path to that common ground. Book clubs bring together people with common interests and offer opportunities to build friendships through discussion.

If you want to be in a book club, one of the best ways is to start one yourself. Setting guidelines for how your club will work can take time and discussion with prospective members. Some groups focus on the month's bestseller, while others select from lists published by groups, like PBS Books Readers Club or the Seattle Public Library's "Staff Picks for Adults 50+." Others focus on a specific author, such as Jane Austen, and some clubs focus on a genre, such as mysteries or memoirs.

If starting your own isn't realistic, many public libraries host book clubs for seniors, and you can join at little to no cost (outside of finding a copy of the book, obviously). Check with your community library for groups in your area. Also, the AARP retiree organization sponsors a virtual book club called Senior Planet.

The potential rewards are worth the effort. Reading opens the mind to new ideas and improves memory. Staying connected and socially active can enrich your life in numerous ways, from improving your cognitive health to easing the negative effects of loneliness.

Many book clubs take on a character all their own, such as a monthly wine-and-cheese party with a little casual reading on the side. Social media influencer Katie Iwanski illustrated this option in a hilarious TikTok video. Among the 11 guidelines she posted for her book club, she included the following: Everybody brings a bottle of wine; guests choose a food theme, such as "crostini night"; and discussion devolves from discussing the book and making cast picks for the movie version to opening more wine and letting the night end in chaos. And a good time was had by all!



# Your Comprehensive Guide to Litigation

Disputes can be resolved through litigation, a civil court process that addresses personal injury claims, divorce, and breach of contract disputes. From personal injury to messy divorces, everything is fair game in litigation court. There are rules for litigation at the state and federal levels, making it vital to have an experienced attorney to steer you through the legal maze.

The litigation process begins when a plaintiff files a complaint with the court stating the legal grounds for their action. This could involve petitions for divorce or personal injury claims under tort laws. The defendant is then served with the court paperwork and must respond to the complaint. It is essential to note that if you value your privacy, the discovery phase of litigation will expose your personal information.

Either party can file motions to compel the other to produce relevant evidence. If the case proceeds to trial, both parties present their evidence and witnesses. The plaintiff must prove their claim, while the defendant can challenge the evidence or

request case dismissal if the evidence is insufficient. If the trust creator cannot manage their affairs, you may also be named the successor trustee.

Trust administration is a more private process than probate, as it does not involve the court, ensuring a smoother transition during a difficult time. You could hope for common sense to prevail, frivolous plaintiffs to disappear, or for Congress to reconsider. However, you must put your safety in your own hands.

It is essential to take control of your situation by building protective armor around your family and business assets, as this is the most brilliant move to avoid the litigation process. Navigating litigation involves complex rules and deadlines, so having experienced legal representation is crucial to ensure all procedural requirements are met and to improve the likelihood of a favorable outcome. Bott & Associates, LTD is here to protect you and your family.



# Probate Problems: From Grief to Relief

## MASTERING THE PROBATE PROCESS

Many individuals are unaware of the dangerous and slippery slope that is probate. Probate is the legal process through which a deceased person's assets, such as bank accounts, real estate, and financial investments, are distributed. It involves the administration of a will or the estate if there is no will. When a person dies, an executor (named in their will) or an administrator (appointed if there is no will) manages the probate process. We're here to introduce readers to the intricacies of probate with and without a will.

### Probate Without a Will

This form of probate, at its simplest, involves the executor or administrator collecting the deceased's assets, paying

any remaining debts, and distributing the remaining assets to beneficiaries. To decide who that executor will be, as there was no will naming one, a probate court will search for a next of kin if one exists. If one is found, the court supervises the distribution of assets to ensure compliance with the decedent's wishes or state law.

### Probate With a Will

When a will exists, the deceased is referred to as a testator. The named executor, often a family member, files the will with the probate court, initiating the probate process. Each state has different rules regarding the time frame from filing a will after death. The probate court verifies the will's authenticity, officially approves the executor, and

grants them legal authority to act on behalf of the deceased.

If the deceased has no assets, probate might not be necessary. Otherwise, the probate court assesses the estate, identifies legal heirs, and ensures proper asset distribution. In intestate cases, the court follows state laws to divide the estate among surviving family members.

Probate is a court-supervised process essential for transferring a deceased person's assets, whether they left a will or not, ensuring all debts are paid, and beneficiaries receive their rightful inheritance. To avoid the tricky and complicated process of probate, Bott & Associates LTD is here to assist you with all your needs.

# Don't Miss Our Next Seminar

## Trustee School: What Does a Trustee Really Do?

August 15, 2024 5:30 p.m.

First Floor Conference Room  
3701 Algonquin Road  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Light meal and refreshments to be served

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# Take a Break

