
Pernese Oaths & Sayings

Among Weyrfolk Only

- "Blast the shell and sear the skin!"
- "By the Egg!" also "By the Egg of Faranth!", "By the First Egg, "By the First Shell!" and many others, some of which are listed below.
- "By the Red Star!"
- "By the shards of my dragon's egg!"
- "For the sake of the first shell!"
- "Good flying!": a general wish of good luck to someone, often used as a farewell.
- "Great shells!"
- "Great shells and shards!"
- "He is all ash and gas": sort of like "He is full of hot air"
- "In the name of the egg."
- "Scorch it!" also, "Sear it!", "Flame it!", etc.
- "Shards!"
- "Shells!": both "Shards" and "Shells" are universal curse words, and have many variations, including "Sharding", "Shell it", "Shards and Shells!" (or the reverse), "Sweet shells", and many, many, many others, often made up on the spur of the moment.
- "Thank the first egg!"
- "Through Fall, Fog, and Fire."

Anywhere On Pern

- Anyroad: anyway. Both expressions are used on Kadanzer's Pern.
- "By the Dawn Star!"
- "By the Void" (sometimes, "By the Void that spawned us"): the closest thing to a religious expression on Pern. Not very widely used.
- Crackskull: an idiot
- Deadglow, dimglow: an idiot
- Deafwit, halfwit, numbwit: an idiot
- "Eggshells!": a general swear word
- Flitterby (sometimes, "flitteryby"): someone without sense
- Fribble: someone who is useless
- "Freeze up!": like the Terran "Shut up!" only with a generous helping of "Screw you!" added.
- "Go open your glow basket!": sort of like "Wake up and smell the coffee!"
- "Great stars!"
- "No road!": Pernese version of "No way!"

- "Shove *between!*": about the same as Terran "Go to hell!"
- Silly clunch: idiot, clueless person (usually used affectionately)
- "Shaffit!" (also "shaffing", "shaff you", etc.): the closest Pernese equivalent to "f__k", though it has no sexual meaning whatsoever. Used as often as "Shards" and "Shells" in some places.
- "That tears it!": similar to Terran usage.
- Tunnelsnake: someone who is untrustworthy, a backstabber
- Note: Crafts often have their own oaths and sayings as well as those listed here; for instance, smiths will swear by the Forge in nearly the same way weyrfolk swear by the Egg, and use "Flames" much the same way dragonriders use "Shards". The Seacraft especially is known for colorful oaths, and harpers of course also have quite a way with words. Individual holds have their own regional expressions, too.

Sayings

- "A dragon is no better than his rider."
- "A smile wins more than a frown."
- "Cold sands hatch no eggs."
- "If wishes were dragons, all of Pern would fly."
- "Maybes seldom are."
- "Necessity breeds solution."
- "There are more ways of skinning a herdbeast than by shaving it with a table knife."
- "What a harper hears is for the Harper's ears."
- "You can't take a dragon to a place you've never seen."
- "You can't fill your hold without leaving the dock."