

Scots Glossary for *The North End Of The Possible*

This glossary provides the basic intended meanings of the Scots words used in the poems in *The North End of the Possible*. For pronunciation, as well as further meanings and nuances, readers are encouraged to consult a good Scots dictionary, such as the comprehensive online Dictionary of the Scots Language, which can be accessed for free at <http://www.dsl.ac.uk/dsl/>

a bodie	<i>a person</i>	bummle	<i>bumble, bustle</i>
abuin	<i>above</i>	caaed	<i>called</i>
aff	<i>off</i>	caller burn	<i>cool, refreshing stream</i>
afore	<i>before</i>	camsheugh	<i>crooked, distorted</i>
airt	<i>direction, location</i>	camsteerie	<i>riotous, excitable</i>
airts	<i>directs</i>	cannae	<i>cannot</i>
alane	<i>alone</i>	chib	<i>knife blade</i>
ane	<i>one</i>	chip-poke	<i>chip bag</i>
anent	<i>in relation to</i>	clishmaclavers	<i>gossip</i>
aside	<i>beside</i>	clouds	<i>clouds</i>
athoot	<i>without</i>	close	<i>alley or passageway</i>
auld	<i>old</i>	connacht	<i>spoiled, botched</i>
Auld Reekie	<i>nickname for Edinburgh</i>	cooried	<i>nestled</i>
aw	<i>all</i>	corbie	<i>crow</i>
awmaist	<i>almost</i>	crabbit	<i>badtempered</i>
bairn	<i>child</i>	craitur	<i>creature</i>
beild	<i>shelter</i>	deid	<i>dead</i>
ben	<i>inside, in the innermost part</i>	dern	<i>hidden, secret</i>
bide	<i>stay, remain</i>	dichtit	<i>wiped</i>
bigg/biggit	<i>build/built</i>	dinnae	<i>do not</i>
binna	<i>be not</i>	dool	<i>grief, sorrow</i>
birl	<i>whirl</i>	dram	<i>drink of Scotch whisky</i>
blaw	<i>blow</i>	dreich	<i>dismal</i>
braith	<i>breath</i>	dub	<i>puddle</i>
braw	<i>excellent</i>	dunnerin	<i>thumping</i>
breiks	<i>trousers</i>	een	<i>eyes</i>
brig	<i>bridge</i>	factor	<i>person in charge of the administration of an estate of land</i>
brucken	<i>broken</i>		

fae	<i>from</i>	haun	<i>hand</i>
fash	<i>vex, disturb</i>	haurd	<i>hard</i>
faur	<i>far</i>	heeliegoleerie	<i>higgledy-piggledy</i>
feart	<i>scared</i>	hen	<i>term of endearment for a woman or girl</i>
fleg	<i>scare</i>	hissel	<i>himself</i>
flit	<i>house move</i>	hit	<i>it (emphatic)</i>
forenuin	<i>morning</i>	ilka	<i>every</i>
fuid	<i>food</i>	inatween	<i>in between</i>
funt oot	<i>found out</i>	ither(s)	<i>other(s)</i>
furrin fowk	<i>overseas visitors</i>	jag	<i>jab, poke</i>
gang gyte	<i>go crazy</i>	jo	<i>term of endearment</i>
gantin	<i>yawning</i>	keich	<i>excrement</i>
gart	<i>caused</i>	ken	<i>know</i>
gie	<i>give</i>	kist	<i>box, coffin</i>
gin	<i>if</i>	lang	<i>long</i>
glaikit	<i>stupid, foolish</i>	laverock	<i>lark</i>
glaurie	<i>muddy</i>	lift	<i>sky</i>
gleg	<i>swift</i>	ma	<i>my</i>
gless	<i>glass</i>	maist	<i>most</i>
gloaming	<i>twilight</i>	maitter	<i>matter</i>
golach	<i>a derogatory term</i>	mankit	<i>mangled</i>
gove	<i>stare</i>	micht	<i>might</i>
gowk	<i>idiot, fool</i>	mind	<i>remember</i>
greet	<i>cry, weep</i>	mirk	<i>darkness</i>
haar	<i>sea fog</i>	mishanter faw	<i>may mishap befall</i>
haein	<i>having</i>	muckle	<i>huge</i>
hail	<i>whole</i>	muir	<i>moor</i>
hailson	<i>greeting</i>	mundae hammer	<i>"must do" hammer</i>
hain	<i>protect, save</i>	nae	<i>no</i>
hairp	<i>harp</i>	naethin	<i>nothing</i>
hairt	<i>heart</i>	nairra	<i>narrow</i>
hame	<i>home</i>	neb	<i>nose</i>
haud yer wheesht	<i>be quiet, shut up</i>	nicht	<i>night</i>
hauf	<i>half</i>		

nip	<i>a drink of Scotch whisky</i>	skitin	<i>darting</i>
no	<i>not</i>	skraich	<i>screech</i>
nocht	<i>nothing, naught</i>	slaister	<i>apply messily</i>
nou	<i>now</i>	slawly	<i>slowly</i>
ochone	<i>exclaim alas</i>	smirr	<i>a fine rain, drizzle</i>
oncome	<i>arrival</i>	sned	<i>cut</i>
ony	<i>any</i>	spreid	<i>spread</i>
oot	<i>out</i>	stairt	<i>start</i>
ower	<i>over</i>	stane	<i>stone</i>
oxter	<i>armpit</i>	steid	<i>site</i>
pair	<i>poor</i>	stour	<i>dust in motion</i>
pech	<i>pant, gasp for breath</i>	straucht	<i>straight</i>
peerie	<i>tiny, insignificant</i>	stuckie	<i>starling</i>
photae	<i>photograph</i>	syne	<i>then</i>
pillae	<i>pillow</i>	tae	<i>to</i>
pleyable	<i>playable</i>	taen	<i>taken</i>
pooer	<i>power</i>	tak	<i>take</i>
pruive	<i>prove</i>	the morn	<i>tomorrow</i>
puggled	<i>exhausted</i>	thir	<i>these</i>
queerlike	<i>strange, peculiar</i>	thocht	<i>thought</i>
rax	<i>reach</i>	thole	<i>suffer, endure</i>
reid	<i>red</i>	thrang	<i>crowded, thronged</i>
sae	<i>so</i>	thrapple	<i>throat</i>
sair fashed	<i>deeply concerned</i>	thrashel	<i>threshold</i>
scartit	<i>scratched</i>	threap	<i>contend, argue</i>
sclidder	<i>slide, slip</i>	threid	<i>thread</i>
seamaw	<i>seagull</i>	tichten	<i>tighten</i>
shuid	<i>should</i>	trauchled	<i>harassed with care and toil</i>
sic	<i>such</i>	ugsome	<i>ugly</i>
siller	<i>money, silver</i>	unbekent	<i>unknown</i>
skailt	<i>spilt</i>	undaein	<i>undoing</i>
skaith	<i>damage</i>	unfankling	<i>unravelling</i>
skelf	<i>splinter</i>	unkent	<i>unknown</i>
skelp	<i>slap</i>	wadding	<i>wedding</i>

wame	<i>stomach, belly</i>	windflichter	<i>flutter of wind</i>
wanchancy	<i>unreliable</i>	wir	<i>our</i>
waws	<i>walls</i>	wirds	<i>words</i>
wersh	<i>unpalatable</i>	wirsels	<i>ourselves</i>
wey	<i>way</i>	wrunkled	<i>wrinkled</i>
whaur	<i>where</i>	yae	<i>one</i>
wheech	<i>whizz through the air</i>	yaised	<i>used</i>
whit	<i>what</i>	ye	<i>you</i>
whit wey	<i>how, why</i>	yer	<i>your</i>
whummled	<i>upturned</i>	yersel	<i>yourself</i>
wid	<i>would</i>	yon	<i>that, yonder</i>
winching	<i>courting, French kissing</i>		