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az·oth 🗨️ (ăz ōth, -ôth)

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n.

Mercury considered in alchemy to be the primary source of all metals.

[Middle English *azoc*, from Old French, from Arabic *az-zā'uq*, the mercury : *al-*, the + *zā'uq*, mercury (from Syriac *zīwag*, of Iranian origin; see **g^wei**- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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