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cac·o·ē·thes  (kăk'ō-ē thēz)

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n.

An irresistible desire; a mania.

[Latin *cacoēthes*, from neuter of Greek *kakoēthēs*, ill-disposed : *kakos*, bad; see **kakka-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots + *ēthos*, disposition; see **s(w)e-** 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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