Following a tradition of lexical analysis championed by Hale & Keyser, many syntacticians have explored the possibility that the root of a verb might be Merged within the complement to a little v category head, for example as an argument-taking head of a rootPhrase or as the predicate head of a small clause for verbs like “open” where the root describes the end state of a change of state. This talk will present arguments that the verbal root is in fact always (externally) Merged as a modifier of the little v category head, rather than in its complement domain. The main arguments are from 1) the morphophonology of English, 2) the distribution, interpretation, and pronunciation of English restitutive *re-* and the contrastive behavior of French repetitive/restitutive *re-*, and 3) the contrast in behavior between English compound nouns (“roadside,” “truckdriver”), where the initial (left-) constituent is Merged in the complement domain of the little n head, and English compound verbs (“spin-dry,” “Ninja-walk”). There’s an excellent chance that Icelandic will be mentioned and celebrated in the context of a discussion of the relationship between roots and the voice head.