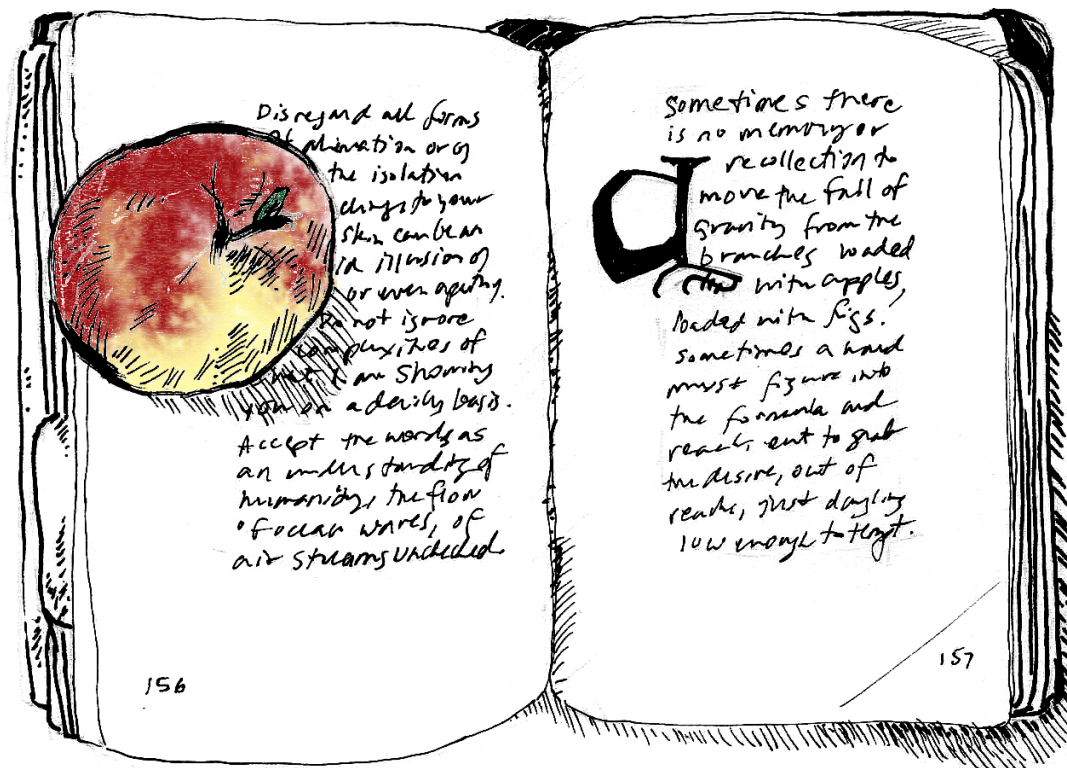


Old English Alphabet



Dis regard all forms
of alienation or of
the isolation
things to your
skin can bear
in illusion of
or even apathy.
Do not ignore
the fluxions of
an showing
you in a devil's beard.
Accept the words as
an understanding of
humanity, the flow
of ocean waves, of
air streams undecided

Sometimes there
is no memory or
recollection to
move the fall of
gravity from the
branches waded
with apples,
loaded with figs.
Sometimes a hand
must figure into
the formula and
reach out to grab
the desire, out of
reach, just dangling
low enough to tempt.

Old English Alphabet

Majuscule forms (uppercase)																							
A	Æ	B	C	D	Ð	E	F	G	H	I	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	Þ	U	ƿ/w	X	Y
Minuscule forms (lowercase)																							
a	æ	b	c	d	ð	e	f	g	h	i	l	m	n	o	p	r	s/f	t	þ	u	ƿ/w	x	y

- **Æ/æ** (ash): pronounced as **trap**, **ban**, **shall**; represents paired vowel sounds
The name of the poet **Cædmon** is pronounced therefore with a soft “a” sound. Still in use today.
- **Ð / ð** (eth): representing “th”: **thy**, **further**, **that**
Fell out of use during the Middle English period.
- The long s (**ſ**) remained in frequent use for a number of centuries. It fell out of use during the second half of the Eighteenth Century. The letter is placed when a “s” is required in the beginning or middle of a word: **ſuceſs** (success).
Can be confused with the minuscule letter form “f” when read too quickly.
- **Þ/þ** (thorn): similar to eth, representing “th”
However, thorn remained in use for *some* Middle English dialects.

Old English Alphabet

A standardized alphabet did not emerge for the Anglo-Saxons until somewhere between the Ninth and Twelfth Century.

- The standard alphabet for Old English is based on the Latin Alphabet and the Anglo-Saxon Runic letters.
- Runes fell out of use by the Tenth Century.
- Minuscule forms of letters were not invented until the Middle Ages.
- The influence of French language under the Normans provided letters:
J, K, Q, and Z.