

Willsome English Ewbook

A guide on gutting the English language to make
more room for freedom

**Varad
&
Hunter**

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Dis work belongeþ to nobody

“Intellectual property” is a nonsensical oxymoron and is neither a “property right”, correctly concieved, nor very intellectual at all. The idea that because I or Hunter fired up a text editor and smacked buttons on a rectangular contraption that the resultant file is has some immaterial property that it and all derivatives must share is insane. I publish this work under no license, as to not do so is both degenerate and criminal. This is not “my property”, and if you are unconvinced, then I hereby give you my “““““property right””””” as a free gift with no weird legalese nonsense attached. My only request to all who have this file upon their computers is to keep the cover page intact, however, this holds as much moral-legal authority as me gifting you some money and telling you not to spend it all in one place, you still can do so with impunity, it is only a simple wish/advice.

May you have a good day for every day of your life following your reading this book, if for no other reason than the vain hope

you'll associate the increased happiness with reading books and start to read more of them (than you already do).

Foreword

Willsome English is not a fully fledged language, your mileage may vary. This is, as the subtitle suggests, a gutting of the English language, but instead of stuffing it full of our own whims and fancies, we leave it alone. We (as you will see) let you build a language with the huge variety of stuff English had on its own, and give you guidelines as to how to do things. In my view, Willsome English consists in taking this customs-book (customs are called ewes in Willsome English, hence the title) to heart, using the wordbook as a base, and then speaking/writing in a consciously willsome way. Basically, this is a template for a constructed dialect of English.

To quote from Hunter's original draft on which this edition is largely based, in a line that I didn't bother carrying over:

“In troubling times when language has become the battlefield, Willsome English serves an important role for the communication of difficult philosophical ideas and ‘bitter pills to swallow.’ ”

Deal I

Abute Willrome English

(About Willsome English)

Greetings! This ewbook (“Customs-book”) shall serve as a guide to Willsome English. You may be wondering, “What is this language, and how do I learn it?”, but first, I should correct you: this is not a language! It is called Willsome English (and hereafter, WSE) to indicate that this is actually related to English itself, more specifically, it is a constructed dialect of English. The word “willsome” is a WSE word meaning voluntary (from will as in willpower + -some as in awesome). However, it helps to think of WSE as being separate to English just like how Scots is separate to English, a typical speaker of English will hardly understand WSE. In essence, Willsome English is an effort to repair the damage caused by the forced (“unwillsome” i.e. involuntary) introduction of French and Viking words into English from the Norman and Norse raids and reign over England respectively.

Vikings took control of much of Northern coastal England in the 8th Century C.E. causing significant loaning of words. Since the languages were somewhat close, being West- and North-Germanic respectively, this is hardly noticed today (as much as, say, Greek loanwords like “Psychology”). Even pronouns are affected, the Old English equivalent of “They” was Hī which would be “Hye” today,

but Norse “They” took its place. More on this is the later deals (parts).

Norman French forces took over England in 1066, and their changes to the language came from their infestation of the “scribe” profession. They efficiently replaced somewhere on the order of thousands of English words with French or French-derived counterparts, brought French morphemes into common use, changed spelling rules (and singlehandedly caused 90% of your confusion pertaining to English to this day: remember <ough>? That’s French <ou> + French-caused <gh>.), and ended the use of Futhorch runes and the Insular script, replacing the latter with the similar but different Carolingian script. More on the Insular script in Deal II and more about Futhorch in Deal III.

Willsome English seeks to repair English from all such involuntary influence, not by simply “purifying” the language, and not by simply speaking Old English, but by returning the language to its Anglo-Saxon roots, by on the one hand removing the involuntary influence and on the other bringing back all voluntary counterparts if such exist. This will ensure that English fits right in with its brothers and cousins like Frisian, Dutch, and German, while also including

several features not presently in mainstream English (MSE) literature, such as contemporary use of the Insular script. On a final note, WSE is not meant to sound medieval in any way, shape, or form, in fact, it's more accurate to conceive of WSE as a parallel stream to English itself, and it can be used for past, modern, and future concepts (just like English).

To put it more simply: Willsome English is an undertaking to remove all involuntary influence on the English language; that is, all influence that happened through coercive forces like war, conquest, and other things only the State ever does, though its ostensible purpose is to prevent them.

By the way, of the words in that above paragraph, 15 are wholly unwillsome (highlighted in yellow)

FAQ:

Q1: Anglish, huh?

A: For those unaware, the Anglish project is an attempt to remove all Norman French influence from the English language, with some members going as far as to remove influences from Norse.

While they are certainly fellow travelers, and much of this Ewbook and also our Wordbook is based on the Anglish project's (wiki [here](#)) pages on general rules of thumb and their own wordbook respectively (in fact, myself and Hunter were Anglishers and WSE sprang out of that), the projects are quite different. We're also not too harsh on innovation while Anglish tends to be a bit more weird in that regard, so I wouldn't even say we're "technically" Anglish if those folk would disagree.

Q2: Do you want to replace the mainstream English Language?

A: No. I don't see that as a reasonable goal, and so I don't. Think of WSE as an alternative, not a replacement.

Q3: Should everybody speak Willsome English? / What's the point of learning Willsome English? / How do I become conversational without anybody to converse with?

A: Not everybody speaks WSE, and not everybody needs to. You can use WSE when you know all intended recipients of your message will understand you (which, to be fair, is interpersonal communication 101). Practice is not easy, especially writing. You can indoctrinate a friend and practice speaking with them and the writing you'll just have to fake till you make it.

Q4: Are you trying to revive Old English?

A: See Q1. If you're still unconvinced, I'll paraphrase the answer from Hunter's first draft of the Ewbook:

Willsome English is a reconstruction of English as a whole, nothing about it is meant to resemble an older form of English. We're bringing back the Insular script not as some attempt to show off how cool and reactionary we are (though, editor's note on my part here, we are very cool and very reactionary) but because it just solves so many problems with English spelling and wouldn't have died

without French influence. ~~We would love to see a modern Insular font.~~ (see Q5)

Q5: Any good Insular fonts?

A: Yes! Willsome Serif and Willsome Sans are available as .zip downloads if you contact Hunter (or more advisably, me, Hunter has college stuff I wouldn't want him to miss) via the [Matrix Protocol](#) (looking for a Matrix client? If you don't mind being a middle-of-the-bell-curve normie, try [Element](#). If you do mind that, then you can figure out a solution on your own.)

Some samples are given below:

Willsome Serif: ıċ haƿe ƿo ƶo ƿo ðe bookʀhop

Willsome Sans: ıċ haƿe ƿo ƶo ƿo ðe bookʀhop

Deal II

Ʒæliʁh ʀtaʁʁnow

(Insular alphabet)

now about 50% easier to write!

How it works: The staffrow (literally: letter-row) is divided into three parts: Mainstaves, which are all the letters that definitely would have remained in English over time, sidestaves, which are known to be unwillsome but are kept there in case you want them for proper nouns (e.g. my own name, which is Varad, but V is not a staff English always had, were my name put under a Willsome English spelling system, it'd be farad (no caps, /v/ represented by <f>) but I might not like that so I may use the mainstream English spelling), and chisestaves, which are letters that may or may not have stood the test of time as mainstaves but which would, because of the way English normally worked, still be letters you could use if the need arose. The staffrow is written on the next leaf (page).

Hunter here, and of the letters on the next leaf, there will be one symbol that was mentioned in the draft but not in this full rendition of the Ewbook. The 7 is equivalent to the ampersand (&) and is known simply as the *and*. You can use this to replace *and* anywhere, but since it's just a mark, it is not included in the staffrow.

Maɪnɾtaɾeɾ

a · b · c · d · e · f · g · h · i · k · l · m ·

n · o · p · þ · ʀ · r · t · u · w · x · y

Liɾeɾtaɾeɾ

æ · ð · ƿ · z

Sɪðeɾtaɾeɾ

j · q · v

Maɾkɾ

ɿ · ⁀

At the cost of seeming somewhat complicated, a full explanation of each letter and where to use it.

Note: I understand not everybody can read IPA and will not be using it. Only the use of surrounding angle-brackets (eg. <th>) to represent graphemes (stuff you write) and the use of surrounding “/”s (eg. /t/) to represent phonemes (stuff you say) will be borrowed.

Note: The reason I will not be using IPA has nothing to do with the fact that not everybody can read it and is purely motivated by humour.

You write WSE the way you speak it, and you speak WSE the way you write it. Spelling is something which the Normans screwed up quite a bit. A long, (supposed-to-be-)exhaustive list of hapless spelling changes (and reversions you can make) can be found in sticky l. To make a long story short, the spelling is *relatively* static whereas the pronunciation may differ more individually (and that’s only natural, not everybody can make every sound all the time).

Some simple reversions include getting rid of capital letters in favour of decorating whatever letters you think are important by making them bigger and putting dots around them or using trajan/runic forms in their normal stead, and reverting French soft-c to s (see below)

Every vowel letter (cleeper) has three values, namely an unstressed, a short, and a long value. Every consonant letter has pretty specific values outside of certain rules.

Let us start with consonants, or “samedsweyers”. Almost all of these are familiar, and all of the ones that are familiar retain their familiar values. However:

<c> makes a /ch/ sound, like in *chin* → cɪn, *ich* (the WSE "I") → ɪc, or *cheese* → ceere.

<f> replaces <v> everywhere except in proper nouns (and even there if you want, I prefer řapað to the MSE rendition of my name, Varad) and can have a value of /f/ or /v/. In dialects like those of Shudh Hindi/Gujarati/etc. speakers where /f/ does not exist, f should have a universal /v/ value unless that goes against common sense (the Persian /f/ often becomes p^h in these languages, so <f> having value /p^h/ might be better than /v/ when the f is hard, as in “enuřř” which is the WSE spelling of enough). *Over* would become ořep.

<ğ> can have a value of both soft and hard g. (Hard g is the g in gift, soft g is the y in the word “yiddish”). <ðğ> makes a j sound as in *wedğe*.

<þ> replaces <th> universally (where <th> represents a single phoneme). Cloth (the noun) becomes cloþ while clothe (the verb) becomes cloþe. This letter was lost to the printing press.

<ʀ> (s) has a value of /s/ and /z/ and replaces <z>. In word-pairs like “mace” and “maze” where two things are becoming <ʀ>, the /z/ is represented by a double-s. The Anglo-Saxons only used double s when it would cause confusion not to have it, so the suffix -ness was -ner mainly as a design choice.

<ȳ> earns a dot! <i> and <j> lose their dots.

It's popular for some dialects to use the choicestaff <ð> for <þ> where it makes a /dh/ or the "voiced dental fricative" sound, as in cloþe, sheape, wiþout, etc. Note that this was NOT how it was used in Old English, they used both interchangeably. This is how its used in Icelandic, but its use as a chisestaff is broadened here for people who want to distinguish the sounds.

The choicestaff <p> can replace <u> if the author chooses to use it. Note that the bottom of <p> should touch the baseline ie. it is the same as the bottom of <a> and it touches the topmost guideline (I

forget what its called) ie. it goes up as far as k does. This is to differentiate it from <p> which goes from the top of short letters like a to below the baseline. Also, don't use <p> if you expect dyslexic readers to confuse it with <p> (and want to avoid this outcome).

Alternatively, <uu> may be used, as it was before they adopted the <p>, but this is how <u> formed. Since p is based on a runic form, and in runes <hu> is used to represent the /ʍ/ (for non-natives: this is the sound you'd use if you were saying "whine" and didn't want to be construed as having said "wine" instead), if you bring back the p, then replace ph with hp. (see sticky I for why doing this normally is discouraged)

The choicestaff <z> can replace <r> and <rr> where they make a /z/ sound. For dialects like mine which replace /z/ with /j/, this can be a /j/ letter. Also, it's "zee", zed is Norman influence (you have no idea how much it pained me to type that out)

Now, for the vowels.

Any vowel has 3 values

- 1 Unstressed (u)
- 2 Short - stressed (s.s.)
- 3 Long

Vowel length is indicated using the magic-e rule, which means putting an e at the end of the syllable of the vowel you want to mark the length of. The magic e at the end of a word is “displaced” by a suffix starting with a vowel, like ride → riding (*NOT* rideing)

su just becomes /schwa/ for A, O, U, and Y, while it becomes a short /i/ sound for I and E

When short but stressed, <a> becomes /a/ (The way you would pronounce c[a]r, mal[a]rkey, [a]pple, [a]sh becomes the same, either it’s an aah sound or an æ sound like the MSE pronunciation of [a]sh) but when long (as in m[a]ke, t[a]ke, [a]te) it makes a kind of /ay/ sound. If you want to use s.s. <a> for /aah/ but want a separate character for /æ/, that’s what the choicestaff <æ> is for. It hasn't been used unstressed in English history, but could potentially make an unstressed schwa sound in the future. When s.s. it makes an /æ/ sound, as in [a]sh. When long, it makes a longer æ sound as in

[a]pple (appel in WSE). If you choose to use it, this is the only vowel that doesn't have its own long sound as its name, which is interesting.

When s.s., <e> makes an /eh/ sound like in w[e]d. When long, it makes an /eee/ sound, as in h[e]re, m[e]rely, w[e]ed. A notable exception is “edge” where the final e is actually, for the first time, not magic. It made a schwa sound in Shakespearean English when it started being spelled like this instead of Old English *ecȝ* which became Middle English *egge*, which *edge* replaced. I suppose you can make the schwa sound again, but if you really want complete consistency, you're looking at the wrong project. We're not starry-eyed spelling reformers, we're just telling you how it is. Exceptions are a part of life. The same story goes for wedge, ledge, and so forth.

When s.s., I makes an /ih/ sound that's a bit more gentle than it's unstressed counterpart. eg: [I]ndia, [I]ll (as in, unwell). When long, it makes an /aye/ sound, r[i]de, l[i]es, t[i]e, bes[i]de.

When s.s., o makes an /o/ sound, as in [o]range, h[o]nor. When it ends a syllable, it makes an oo sound, eg t[o]day. When long, it makes an /oh/ sound, as in al[o]ne, b[o]ne, [o]de, y[o]ke.

When s.s., u makes a /uh/ sound. It is to schwa what å is to a, darker and softer. If you can't make that sound (like me), schwa works just fine. When long, it makes a long-u sound which used to just be the way "u" is said as a letter (Still survives in "yule") but by Middle English became an /ow/ and as if that wasn't enough, its name was eventually turned into /yew/. The long u nowadays (and the name of the letter) would sound like in d[ow]n. This sound began being spelled by Norman scribes using <ou> and <ow> (though in words like own, know, owe, the <ow> is willsome) which is the source of many problems we face today with English spelling, so many things just became <ou>

y is not its own vowel, it's actually an <i> followed by a (soft) <g>. Its form is thought to be a ligature, and I believe the dot above it was somehow meant to mark this, though I cannot be sure of this. As such, its value is always the value of I in its position followed by a soft /g/ sound.

Sometimes, the spelling of a word is changed to match its pronunciation. (e.g. own becomes owne to indicate a long o)
Sometimes, a word's pronunciation changes to match spelling (e.g.

one should have a long o sound like in b[one]). This is largely based on etymology about which you ought to ask Hunter.

Some higher order spelling rules do exist but I tend to ignore these because I don't like them. You can find these on your own or go bug Hunter about them.

Letter Names

(Vowel names are just long versions of the vowels except for æ)

a – ay | æ – ash | b – bee | c – chee | ð – dee | ð̊ – that | e – ee | ƿ – eff
 | ȝ – ge/ye | h – he | i – ie | j – jay | k – kay | l – ell | m – em | n – en
 | o – oe | p – pee | q – cue (cow) | þ – thorn | ƿ – arr | ʀ – es | ƿ – tee
 | u – ue (ow) | v – vee | w – twin-ue (twin-ow) | p – pin | x – ex
 | y – wye | z – zee

Marks: ͂ - and ̓ - longmark¹

1. The longmark is just a willsome word I made up for a macron, something that Varad has added to this edition of the Ewbook. Macrons have been used in the past but for many different reasons, so take it as you will for any spelling convention you may

want/need, or don't at all. Varad uses them to indicate long vowels and this **removes the need for the magic-E system.**

Deal III

Fuporɕh ɾuner

ƷNÞƿRŁ:RƑN†Ț

Willsome English can be written using **Eunȝen Fubornc** runes, which is basically a direct rip of [this Miraheze article](#) which explains it rather well. The Anglo-Saxons used the Latin Alphabet as well, and over time this became the predominant mode of literation on parchment, but the loss of runes was due to unwillsome French influence as their use was discouraged until they finally disappeared over the many years of Norman rule. Moreover, runes being used as abbreviations are attested in Old English manuscripts, with runes standing in for their name (like **ᛞ** standing in for man), so you could say something like "he **waȝ** a **kīnðe** **ᛞ**" (he was a kind man). If I could compare this to something, it would be like Kanji in Japanese or Hanja in Korean where they can use Chinese letters (also coincidentally called *moonrunes* in WSE) which stand for words by themselves and get used in compounds. You could also do this in WSE, but it's a much more limited "English Kanji". For example, **↑ᛞ** could be an abbreviation of *Tyesday* because it literally means Tye + Day which is another word for Tuesday in WSE (and untouched from Viking influence). This is a stretch from how runes have been used in manuscripts, but the point is to give you ideas on how they've been used and also ways people could use them today and in the future.

The full runerow with MSE and WSE names and values is on this page and the next:

Rune	MSE Name	WSE Name	Examples
ƿ	Fee	~	leaf/leaves
ƿ	Our	Uƿe	root/put
þ	Thorn	þopn	this/thistle
ƿ	Oose	~	go/show
ƿ	Road	~	rat/tar
ƿ	Cheen	Leen	church
χ	Yift	Ʒıƿc	yellow/green
ƿ	Win	~	woe
ƿ	Hail	~	hunter
ƿ	Need	~	no
ƿ	Ice	Iƿe	pill
ƿ	Year	Ʒear	yo! ¹
ƿ	Yew	Ʒew	ugh! ^(dialectal)
ƿ	Pearth	Ʒearþ	pan
ƿ	Elks	~	flax ²
ƿ	Sile	~	cats/dogs
ƿ	Tye	~	tread
ƿ	Birch	Bıƿc	bread
ƿ	Eh ³	Ʒ	fed/led
ƿ	Man	~	mark
ƿ	Lay	~	lord
ƿ	Ing	~	mingle/song

ƿ	Day	~	doom
ƿ	Ethel	ƿpel	fun/son
ƿ	Oak	~	father
ƿ	Ash	~	apple/hat
ƿ	Ear	~	sea/feed
ƿ	Ire	~	N/A ¹
ƿ	Calk	~	cool/king
ƿ	Gar	~	good/great

1: Some runes had vague purpose, which would likely have become more apparent over time, but because of the loss of Futhorch due to French influence, we will never know exactly how it would turn out. They still represent certain words (such as ƿ for year) but their use is optional, and with most of WSE we leave this up to you.

2: This is used like X is in English, so **sacks** would be ƿƿƿƿ while **EngleseXes** (WSE for Anglo-Saxons) is ƿƿƿƿƿƿƿƿ

Words are spelled stressed. So the adjective “Learned” would be spelled ƿƿƿƿƿƿ instead of ƿƿƿƿƿ. The verb form “Learned” would be spelled ƿƿƿƿ.

3: The Eh, or E, is not just the sound value as it would seem. It's actually a word that means a horse or steed.

The following is a table of some Futhorch rune combinations that represent specific sounds. These may or may not be present in your dialect, but here are some specific sounds that are known to exist in the English language (widespread or not). Thanks to Hurlebatte for the original table which you can see [here](#).

Combo	IPA	Example	Status
ᚱ	[ɔɪ]	boy	innovative
ᚲ	[dʒ] / [ʒ]	bridge	assumed
ᚱᚱ	[ʌ]	which	~ untouched
ᚱᚰ	[ɪɜ]	sear	tweaked
ᚱᚲ	[ʃ]	fish	~ untouched
ᚱᚲ	[ɜ/ɜ]	bird	repurposed
ᚱᚲ	[eɪ/ɛɪ]	grey	innovative
ᚱᚲᚲ	[eɪ.ɜ]	player	innovative
ᚱᚲᚰ	[eɪ.ɪŋ]	saying	innovative
ᚱᚲ	[aɪ/əɪ]	fly	innovative
ᚱᚲ	[ɔ]	awe	repurposed
ᚱᚲ	[aʊ]	mouse	assumed
ᚱᚲ	[ɛɜ]	there	repurposed
ᚱᚰᚰ	[æŋ/eɪŋ]	sang	tweaked
ᚱᚲᚰ	[i.ɜ]	seer	repurposed

You can also use Futhorch runes as numbers that work precisely like Roman Numerals (more on this in deal V which is about numbers). This way of counting is attested from a manuscript by Saint Bede, a famous Anglo-Saxon Christian.

Deal In

Wendr

(Changes)

This section will explain pronunciations that are reverted:

In General

- One and once (WSE onʀe) go back to having the long-o sound as in *alone*.
- <ie> and its sound /i/ is rarely willsome. Words like *friend* and *fiend* originally had a long-e sound and rhymed, indicated in the WSE spelling of these: ʀʀeend and ʀeend respectively. This is a wend of pronunciation and spelling.
- Bringing back the /khh/ semitic snoring sound (like the Scottish pronunciation of **loch**) is ill-advised. Sticky 1 contains spelling reversions which explains where you would put /khh/ if you do want to bring it back (long story short, you'd sound like you were speaking Hebrew some of the time)
- The pronunciation doesn't change much from mse. There's no reason to think more than a few of the changes in pronunciation of words is unwillsome. Again, we aren't reformers, we're **undoing** all the stupid reforms wrought by Norman conquest and general statism.

Deal ȝ

Taler

Tale is a word meaning “number”, etymologically separate from its meaning as “story”. Tales in Willsome English are mostly the same as in Mainstream English, but there’s a few differences in how names are said. Earlier in this very ewbook I mentioned the wend (change) in utespeech (outspeaking, pronunciation) of “one”. There are more changes, including to the forms of digits themselves. You see, the reason we use number forms like we do today is because after Arabic invasions of India, native Brahmic numberforms were transported hastily into the Arabic writing system and then hastily exported to Rome, causing the numbers to change form. The tentales (digit) system of counting is thus changed in terms of the symbols used, tracing instead a path from Brahmic numerals to aesthetic consistency with written Engleseex (Anglo-saxon) manuscripts:

o – nauτ

\ – one

ʒ – τuio

3 – þpee

𐌲 – ƿower

𐌺 – ƿife

𐌸 – ƿix

𐌶 – ƿeƿen

𐌳 – eiƿ

𐌴 – nine

𐌶𐌺 – ƿen

𐌶𐌶 – eleƿen

The rest of the numbers remain roughly the same in terms of name and you already know all of the digits used, so you can extrapolate everything else.

Except for a minor change in how number names after 20 are spoken:

𐌶𐌺 – ƿuentȳ

𐌶𐌶 – one and ƿuentȳ

ʒʒ – τwɔ and τwenty

... and so on. This is how number names were said natively in Old English and the modern names are strongly linked to French influence. Interestingly, this is more akin to how numbers are said in languages from the Sanskrit family, with the major difference that in these language, the names are compounds of the ones place + the tens place, as in Gujarati “Bavis” == 22 → “Ba” (from “Be” == 2) + “Vis” == 20

The numbers after a hundred are preceded by “One hundred -”, as in 165, “One hundɾed and ʃɪf and ʃɪxtɪ”

A million now becomes a *thousand thousand* i.e. a þurend þurend which is attested from Old English.

Numbers after a million are not attested, and we haven't came up with anything right now but here's a place to mention that Willsome English isn't about our standards that you *must* use, this book is simply some ewes (customs) to base your speech and writing off of from what we know is willsome and what isn't. By all means make

your own words and conventions for your situation, this is how languages are when left untouched.

We don't only count in digits in our day-to-day lives. We also use Roman Numerals, and these Roman Numerals have a willsome equivalent. The Christian Saint Bede introduced a Roman-like system of counting to Anglo-Saxon England using Futhorch Runes instead of Trajan letters for the numerals.

Fuþorc Taler

I |

V ᚿ

X ƿ

L ʀ

C ƿ

D ƿ

M ƿ (Eh, **not** man)

Example: The year is MMXXI.

Speaking of years, the way that we mark passage of times within years does not fundamentally change but the names of the months and seasons do. This is a helpful chart made by Hunter for the English wiki:



ðeal M

Speccraft

(Grammar)

Your first thought upon seeing the chapter name might have been “Two different values of <c> right next to each other? What the hell!” but I want you to step back, with that thought fresh in your mind, and consider a very popular unwillsome MSE word: success. If you’re still salty, go bug Hunter about it. Hunter here, come at me bro

It's worth noting that the grammar Varad will be explaining is by no means definitive. Because grammar changed so much even in Old English, we can't put our foot on the ground and say what is and isn't willsome (for the most part). What we can do is provide widespread grammar from before the Norman invasion so you can take what you will. There's also a simpler system of grammar that was present in southern dialects of early Middle English, but since this is after the Norman invasion, it remains unclear whether or not the Normans simplified it or not.

Anyway, onto the chapter itself!

For starters, let's warm up with a table:

x	Nomin.	Accus.	Dative	D. Genit.	I. Genit.	Reflex.
First, singular	ic	mec	me	mȳe/ mine	mine	mȳerelf/ me
First, dual	uīc	unkīc	unk	unkeŋ	unkeŋr	unkreŋfer/ unk
First, plural	we	urīc	ur	urē	urēr	ureŋerelfer/ ur
Second, singular	þue	þec	þee	þȳe/þīne	þīne	þȳerelf/ þue
Second, dual	ȝīc	īnkīc	īnk	īnkeŋ	īnkeŋr	īnkreŋfer
Second, plural	ȝe	ȝeūc	ȝeū	ȝeweŋ	ȝeweŋr	ȝeweŋerelfer
Third, sing. male	he	hīne	hīm	hīr	hīr	hīmreŋf
Third, "female"	She / hoo	heŋ	heŋ	heŋr	heŋr	heŋreŋf
Third, "neuter"	īc	īc	īc	īcŋ	īcŋ	īcŋreŋf
Third, plural	hȳe	hem	hem	heep	heepŋ	hemreŋfer

Various notes:

The accusative-dative distinction (The difference between the "You" in "I love you" and "I send you flowers", respectively, or between "tumse" and "tumhe" in Hindi, respectively) is from Old English. Over time, the datives

just became the accusatives, and if you want to you can just use the datives for accusatives in your own writing, but it's worth noting that the accusative-dative distinction is unlikely to have died out without involuntary creolization, so if you want to speak a "pure"r dialect, insofar as such a measure is objective (it is not), you should try and retain this slightly archaic grammar.

For the dependent genitive, it has both forms "Mye" & "Ȓye" and "Mine" & "Ȓine", with the first pair appearing before consonant sounds and the latter appearing before vowels (In this sense, mye/Ȓye are like the article "a" and mine/Ȓine, "an")

The reflexive case for the first person and for second singular is simply linguistic bloat. It serves no purpose. "We saw us", "Wit saw unk", and "I saw me" are just as clear as "We saw ourselves" and so forth.

ic as the first person singular is straight from Old English. It only became "I" today because of the Chancery standard, which was unwillsome.

Originally, in Old English, mec, Ȓec, hine, incit, uncit, ūsic, and ēowic were accusatives, and by the Middle English period, these had all but died out, except for hine, which survived some time longer.

Mye and Ȓye are spelled with an e to show that the y is long. They are pronounced just alike with how you probably say them already.

Ȓue is pronounced as ð followed by a long-u sound, which is roughly /ow/.

With respect to dual forms, I can't put it better than Hurlebatte of the English wiki did:

Like the other Germanic tongues in their early stages, Old English had a set of dual pronouns for the first and second persons. There were no special grammatical forms for the dual in verbs, however; the plural forms were used instead. In theory, since there was a dual, the plural pronouns would have been used only in reference to three or more. However, the dual was not always used, and whenever it was used, it was to show that only two people were referred to. The dual pronouns later died out sometime in the early 14th century.

Yewer is pronounced with the <ewer> making the sound that <ur> does in the MSE word *during*

She and hoo are both acceptable willsome forms, because in some dialects, the masculine and feminine third person singular nominatives came to be the exact same, so a need was felt to distinguish them. Hoo is a more etymological way of doing this, because it stays true to the OE *hēo*. She is still acceptable though,

For the third person neuter, you can simply apply the generic masculine as well and end up with a repeat of the masculine.

Hy, hem, and heer are the willsome equivalents to they, them, and their respectively. The th- pronouns were introduced during the Viking conquest of England. Note that the contraction 'em in MSE comes from native English hem.

Conjugation works differently in WSE. The way that “Throw” becomes “Throws” when it becomes present continuous, there are various other conjugations. A table is below:

x	Present	Past
First	[N/A] (1c <i>ʃteþ</i> in muð)	[-eð] (1c <i>ʃtepped</i> in muð)
Second	[-eʃt] (þue <i>ʃteþeʃt</i> in muð)	[-eʃt]/[-eðʃt] (þue <i>ʃteþeʃt/ʃteþeðʃt</i> in muð)
Third	[-eþ]/[ʃ] (he <i>ʃteþeþ/ʃteþʃ</i> in muð)	[-eð]
Plural	[N/A]	[-eð]

* The first, second, and third persons are all singular

** Recall how dual forms obey the rules of the plural forms

*** -eþ and -s are both willsome, both are attested since Old English

-eþ is the archaic -eth that you’ll find in Shakespeare. If you didn’t know where to use -eth and where not, then this table should tell you; it’s in the same place as MSE -s as in throw → throws. So a verb like hand (MSE hand, as in “hand him a gift”) becomes handeþ.

The suffix eþ, like it’s MSE counterpart, creates special forms: I ðo woʀk vs he ðoþ (pronounced duþ, with the du like in the word MSE word dust) work. Ic hæfe an appel vs he hæþ an appel. 1c ʃaʏ not uhaʔ 1c know to be woʀoŋ vs he ʃa1þ/ʃaʏʃ not uhaʔ he knowʃ/knoweþ to be woʀoŋ

The conjugation of “be” and auxiliary verbs is a bit difficult:

x	Present	Past
ic. . .	am	waɾ
we. . .	rɪnd / aɾe	were
þue. . .	***	***
ye. . .	be	were
he/rhe/it. . .	ɪɾ	waɾ
hy. . .	be	were

*Are is only used for the present plural indicative, unlike MSE. It only started being used elsewhere because of Old Norse cognates which influenced it to be used elsewhere. Sind is used in its place in the subjective mood and in some other cases. Yes, that is the same sind as in German.

**Bist can technically be used for any of the present singulars.

***See the table of inflections for at the top of page 48

Some other oddball forms are listed below

x	present	past
do	doɾɾ	didɾɾ
have	haɾɾ	hadɾɾ
can	canɾɾ	candɾɾ
may	mayɾɾ	mighɾɾ

uill	uillτ	uouldθτ
ϣhall	ϣhallτ	ϣhouldθτ
muτ	muτ	muτ
auτ (MSE ought)	auτετ	auτετ

-est is the characteristic suffix of the second person singular. What that means is, if "ϣue" is the subject of a sentence in the present tense, the verb is inflected to agree with it.

Inflection is foolishly simple:

If your verb is in the present tense, simply stick an "est" at the end. So
love → loveτ; call → calleτ

If your verb is in the past, then:

If it's regular (as in, it's past tense is just its present tense + ed), then attach an "edst" to the infinitive (The thing you'd put after "to" to mark that verb, as in "to quell"):

(το) Want → Wantεδτ

(το) Look → Lookεδτ

If it's irregular, then attach "est" to its past form:

Go → Wentετ

See → Sawerτ

If it's irregular, but the past form is the same as the infinitive, then attach an edst to that:

hιτ → hιττεδrτ

Eυτ → Eυττεδrτ

a note to be base is that while -est is generally incorporated into the final syllable of a verb (i.e. lofest is one syllable, as is sawest), this is not true for words where this would become difficult i.e. ending in s, sh, c, and so forth, and words ending in st (like kιrreτ, warherτ, teacerτ which take the <e> as having a value of /e/), and the <e> in -edst makes an /e/ sound regardless of position or the base verb.

Here is a table of second person singular inflections for *be*:

Þue/ζε . . . (be)	Singular	Plural
Present Indicative	Aητ	Aηe
Past “	Wαρτ	Wηpe
Present Subjunctive	Be	Be
Past “	Wηpτ	Wηpe
Imperative	Be	Be

Sticky II contains a note on Reactionary Grammar, if you are a fan of the way Old English generally sweys.

ðea1 NII

ʃape þee well!

Ic ſhall hope þue leaƿned a þing on
two ſrom þiſ ewbook, and ic hope
moreo þue haſeſt a gƿeat ðay and liſe
ahead.

Wiþ þe help oſ þe woƿðbook which
hunter 7 ic ſind woƿking on, þue will be
able to ƿeað and ƿrite WSE aſ þue
ƿriteſt ME today.

Sticky I

Spelling Reversions

The way English has been spelled has undergone massive changes due to Norman French influence, among other things.

Revert <ch> to <c> where it makes a /c/ sound. If you run into *major* problems (like the words cat or coke now having two different pronounciations), then represent /k/ with <k>. Note that c and still represent /k/ in a word like *cnaȝt*, even making both its possible sounds next to one another as in *ȝpeeccnaȝt*. This shouldn't cause confusion (You are able to read the word “success” in MSE.), and it was like this in OE.

Revert <qu> to <cw> in words like *cwell*, *cueme* and so forth. Alternatively, <kw> works as well.

Revert French <u>, <ou> and <u...e> (where it makes a /ju/ sound) to <ew> like you → *ȝew* (this *ȝ* will make sense below) and true → *trew*. If it makes more sense etymologically, revert it to <oo> instead, like yule → *ȝool* (from ME *Yōl*).

Replace a syllable-starting <y> with <ȝ>. Year → *ȝear*, Yellow → *ȝellow*.

Indicate long u, like used to happen before the indication (magic E) disappeared due to French influence in <ow> and <ou>. Cow → *cue*, Loud → *luðe*, and so forth. This doesn't apply to *ouwe*, *oun*, *know*, *ȝnow*, *þnow*, etc. where the <ow> is native as opposed to french.

Revert french “soft c” back to <s> as in since → *ŕinŕe*, cinder → *ŕinðeŕ*.

If you catch <i...e> making anything other than an /ai/ sound, revert it to match what sound its making. Fiend → *ŕeendð*. The pronunciation of “friend” is reverted to /freend/ and thus so is its spelling. Thief → *þeeŕ*, Shield → *ŕheeldð*.

Indicate long <i> and kick <gh> out of the language entirely when its silent. Light → *līte*, Night → *nīte*, Might → *mīte*.

An -ie ending like the words lie and pie may be replaced by a long y, indicated by a magic e. However, -ie instead of -ye is not unwillsome. In fact, it's an older spelling and can seperate words like *hie* (high) from *hye* (the WSE *they* pronoun equivalent).

You may use a single <ŕ> unless need to differentiate different words, like mase and masse (maze and mace respectively). So darkness → *ðapŕkneŕ*.

The Insular Script has a unique feature where the first letter of a writ or even chapter is drawn larger, fancier, and decorated with red dots and flourishes. You can recreate this by typing it in a larger font size and different font color. Alternatively, if you’re writing something down physically, you have tools available to you of which Anglo-Saxon Scribes could not even have dreamt. Use these to your advantage.

Scythe → ꝛīpe, tongue → tunȝ, island → 1landð, among other etymologically accurate changes are all encouraged.

If you're expecting dyslexic readers to confuse the Win (p) with a p (p) then don't go for it.

<sh> is willsome and its use predates what was previously thought to be its unwillsome cause. You don't need to replace it with <sc>, and I would advise against doing so unless you know what you're doing.

<wh> replacing <hw> seems to be perfectly willsome, having occurred under the increasing instance of <wr>, <wl>, and so forth and the relative absence of <hr>, <hl> and so forth. Basically, if you're bringing back <hw>, then go ahead and bring back <hr>, <hl> and so forth without which it would have naturally been dethroned.

Insular capitals are generally used only in the beginning of paragraphs, and are generally made a bigger font size at that. Basically, think “the opposite of German” when it comes to how frequently caps are used.

<æ>, like the phoneme it represents, may be absent in some dialects. The same goes for <ð> or <wh>.

The Semitic snoring sound (last time you'll ever read this joke) /khh/ evolved into an <f> sound like draught which became draft in American spelling or laugh, so you may want to replace some <gh>'s with <ff> or <f>.

Sticky II

Reactionary Grammar

Let's start with the definite article: the. What does WSE replace this with? Look at the case-gender table below:

MSE The	Nom.	Accus.	Dat.	Gen.	Instrumental
Masculine	re	þone	þeam, þome	þar	þý***, þon
Neuter	þac	þac	þeam, þome	þar	þý***, þon
Feminine	re*	þoe	þepe**	þepe**	þepe**
Plural	þoe	þoe	þeam, þome	þepe, þone	þeam, þome

*The feminine nominative was originally distinctive from its masculine counterpart like in other cases (A sēo to the masculine sē) and might retain this. Perhaps masculine becomes se and feminine see?

**Is this pronounced like MSE there or would it be pronounced theer? And is the <þ> a /p/ or a /ð/? That question is also possible to ask for any of the other genders and cases

***This y is short

Q. Forgive me, what are cases?

A. Nominative: Means “name”, as in “name the jew”. This is just in direct reference to the subject: þoe cildren pay, þac book 1r old, arf.

Accusative: Unto. Something like: 1c ree þoe rucknitcher, 1c want to blow up þone middle1rh ruckb1ld1ng, arf.

Dative: To/for. 1c rent rorer to þepe prettý g1rl, 1c rent bombr to þeam/þome lopehure like Ted Kaczynrk1.

Genitive: Belonging/origin. ree g1rl came fr1m þeam ruc of Kanrar

Instrumental: via. ‘cill beat þue wip þon hammer

All of these replace the definite article. Replacing the indefinite is somewhat trickier, English historically lacked an indefinite article, using ān (one) like we might use “a particular” today. Assuming ān becomes an, the following table shows its declension in a modern format:

a	Nom.	Accus.	Dat.	Gen.	Ins.
Masculine	an	ann	anum	aner	ane
Feminine	an	an	anum	aner	ane
Neuter	an	ane	aner	aner	aner

Some example nominative sentences:

an wīfe walked ðune þone roað

an bīrð hit mýe wīnðrheelð

Accusative:

ic kicked ane rtone

‘cam ann lað of rixteen

Dative:

what hart þue þere rorer for? are hý for anum gīrl?

If ic took mýe hammer to aner broken table, þat table would be whole again in minuter

Genitive:

þat car īf of aner wealþý man

þue ar̥ an ron of aner r̥heehunde

Instrumental:

go r̥hoŕe aner r̥tick up þine botcom

ic rooþly weððeð ane uhoþe

Now for nouns. Let's look at a strong (regular) noun, and a weak (irregular) noun.

Note that strong nouns are those ending with a consonant sounds, and weak those ending with a vowel sound.

Strong noun example:

Stone	Singular	Plural
Nominative/accusative	- 1e rtone	-eſ 1e rtone + eſ = rtoner
Dative	- 1e rtone	-um 1e rtonum
Genitive	-eſ 1e rtoner	-a 1e rtona

Note that the nominative/accusative plural converges with the genitive singular, but you can undo even that, and bring it back to being “-as”. More liberally (cuck) you can turn the genitive singular into a simple -s, and pronounce the e in the nominative-accusative (hereafter standard) plural. Likewise, you can revert the dative singular to -e.

Note that the magic e is displaced by the suffixes starting with a vowel, but the o is long in all of the above forms

Another example:

Sheeld	Singular	Plural
Standard	Sheeld	Sheelder (or Sheeldar)
Dative	Sheeld (or Sheelde)	Sheeldum
Genitive	Sheelder (or Sheeldr)	Sheelda

A weak noun:

Eue	Sin.	Plu.
Nom.	- 1e Eue	-en 1e. Luen
Acc.	-en 1e Luen	
Dat.		-um 1e Lum
Gen.		-na 1e Luna

Note that like with stone, that u is long in all of those above forms
 Minor nouns or u-declensions are done away with, because they get unwieldy. You can revive these yourself, but you're **really** stretching what might have happened sans-viking

Adjectives

Strong example:

Good	M. S.	M. P.	F.S.	F.P.	N.S	N.P.
Nom.	- 1e Good	- 1e Good	- 1e Good	- 1e Gooda	- 1e Good	- 1e Good
Acc.	-en 1e Gooden	-um 1e Goodum	- 1e Good	-um 1e Goodum	- 1e Good	-um 1e Goodum
Dat.	-um 1e Goodum	-um 1e Goodum	-er 1e, Gooder	-um 1e Goodum	-um 1e Goodum	-um 1e Goodum
Gen.	-er 1e Gooder	-ra 1e Goodra	-er 1e Gooder	-ra 1e Goodra	-er 1e Gooder	-ra 1e Goodra
Ins.	- 1e Good	-um 1e Goodum	-ra 1e Goodra	-um 1e Goodum	- 1e Good	-um 1e Goodum

Another example, with the columns arranged a bit differently

Bað	M.S.	F.S.	N.S	M.P.	F.P.	N.P.
Nom	Bað	Bað	Bað	Bað	Baða	Bað
Acc	Baðen	Bað	Bað	Baðum	Baðum	Baðum
Dat	Baðum	Baðer	Baðum	Baðum	Baðum	Baðum
Gen	Bader	Bader	Bader	Baðra	Baðra	Baðra
Ins	Bað	Baðra	Bað	Baðum	Baðum	Baðum

A weak adjective now:

Blue	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
N	- 1e Blue	- 1e Blue	-- 1e Blue	-en 1e Bluen
A	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	- 1e Blue	-en 1e Bluen
D	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	-um 1e Blum
G	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen
I	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	-en 1e Bluen	-um 1e Blum

The demonstrative That exists as the article þat in WSE.

What about This? In OE, þas was inflected for gender, case, and number.

Let's look at a modernized table.

þır	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nominative	þır	þer	þır	þar
Accusative	þıren	þar	þır	þar
Dative	þırrum	þırr	þırrum	þırrum

Genitive	þırrer	þırr	þırrer	þıra
Instrumental	þýre	þırr	þýre	þırrum

You might have realized I haven't been doing examples for a while. That's because I want you to do them yourself. Practice makes perfect, after all. I'll also give you many many examples using multiple oferolde speeccraft (WSE for over-old ie. Reactionary grammar) concepts at the end.

On to the next thing, number declension, which I discourage beyond making the genitive form of "one" "ones" ie. This is ones spider's web or this is ones man's home. With one being pronounced correctly now, with a long o sound as in alone, this becomes way easier to pronounce.

Two and three are plural by definition and somewhat harder. Here they are:

Two:

Two	Masculine	Femine	Neuter
N	Twezen	Too	Two
A	Twezen	Too	Two
D	Tuam	Tuam	Tuam
G	Tweza	Tweza	Tweza
I	Tuam	Tuam	Tuam

And three:

Þree	M	F	N
N	þrye	þree	þree
A	þrye	þree	þree
D	þrum	þrum	þrum

G	þneep	þneep	þneep
I	þrum	þrum	þrum

A bunch of simple sentences for you to translate, using **reactionary grammar**:

- (I) I walked into my friend's house. I then shot his dog. (Hint: dog is hunde in WSE)
- (II) The Vikings raided England a long time ago. Today, the consequences of this are felt strongly.
- (III) Hunter is King. Long live Hunter
- (IV) The State is an institution of theft.
- (V) Everybody should read Hans-Hermann Hoppe's books. I would say the best one is Democracy: The God That Failed (hint: never translate proper nouns)
- (VI) Via the instrumental case, I will rule the world.

Answer key:

- (I) ic warked into mýe fneend'r huse. ic þen rhoɔ hir hunder (hunde + genitive, and that's the only grammatical change)
- (II) þoe wicingr onwaded england an long tme ago. toðay, þaɔ aɔtermaþ of þir be felt rɔnɔngly.
- (III) hunter birɔ kɪng. long lɪfe hunter.
- (IV) þaɔ rɪc beep an rɔɔɔening of þeɔɔ (note: stefen works here too)
- (V) eɔeɔyboðy rhall ɔeað hanɔ-beɔmann hoɔpe'r bookr. ic wɪll ɔay þaɔ beɔɔ one ɪɔ Democracy: The Goð That Failed.
- (VI) þru þý/þon toofall abyɪng, ic rhall weeld þaɔ woɔɔlð