

- Pharmaceutical section, so called because it has drawings of containers, next to which various small parts of herbs (leaves, roots) have been aligned
- Marginal stars, in a section that contains over 300 short paragraphs

#### 4.4 Types of text items

The text of the MS has been written mostly in a line-by-line manner, obviously from top to bottom and from left to right<sup>5</sup>. The majority of this text is written in short paragraphs, which are often separated from each other by a somewhat larger line spacing. The text tends to have a straight left margin, and is mostly only roughly right-justified, except for the last line of each paragraph which tends to be shorter. Occasionally this last line is centred or right-justified, and also occasionally, the shorter last line is left-justified, but has an additional word in the right margin, a so-called 'title'.

The text consists of groups of characters separated by spaces, and these groups seem to form words.

In some places, single 'words' are written near elements of drawings. These have come to be called 'labels'. There are also places in the MS, for example in the cosmological section, where single words appear as elements in the overall design, but not necessarily near an identifiable object.

A number of pages have circular drawings, some with text written in normal paragraphs, but all with text that has been integrated in the drawings. Frequently, text is written along the circumference of these circles, and occasionally also along radial lines.

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<sup>5</sup> Text summarised from <http://www.voynich.nu/writing.html>