

# I Take It You Already Know

I take it you already know  
Of though, and bough, and cough and  
dough?  
Others may stumble, but not you  
On hiccough, thorough, slough and  
through.

aɪ teɪkɪt juː ə:l'reɪdi nəʊ  
əv ðəʊ ənd baʊ ənd kɒf ənd dəʊ  
'ʌðəz meɪ stʌmbl bʌt nɒt juː  
ɒn 'hɪkəp 'θʌrə sləʊ ənd 'θruː

Well done! And now you wish, perhaps  
To learn of less familiar traps.  
Beware of heard, a dreadful word  
That looks like beard and sounds like  
bird.

wel dʌn ənd naʊ jə wɪʃ pə'hæps  
tə lɜːn əv les fə'mɪliə træps  
br'weə əv hɜːd ə 'dredfl wɜːd  
ðæt lʊks laɪk brɪəd ənd saʊndz laɪk bɜːd

And dead; it's said like bed, not bead -  
For goodness sake don't call it 'deed'!  
Watch out for meat, and great, and  
threat,  
(They rhyme with suite, and straight and  
debt);

ænd ded ɪts sed laɪk bed nɒt biːd  
fə 'gʊdnəs 'seɪk dəʊnt kɔːlɪt diːd  
wɒtʃaʊt fə mi:t ənd greɪt ənd θret  
ðeɪ raɪm wɪð swɪt ənd streɪt ənd det

A moth is not a moth in mother,  
Nor both in bother, broth in brother,  
And here is not a match for there,  
Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,

ə mɒθ ɪz nɒt ə mɒθ ɪn 'mʌðə  
nɔː bəʊθ ɪn 'brʌðə brɒθ ɪn 'brʌðə  
ənd hɪə ɪz nɒt ə mætʃ fə ðeə  
nɔː dɪər ənd fɪər fə beər ənd peər

And then there's dose and rose and lose  
Just look these up - and goose and  
choose,  
And cork and work, and card and ward,  
And font and front, and word and sword,

ænd ðen ðeəz dəʊs ənd rəʊz ənd luːz  
dʒʌst lʊk θɪz ʌp ənd guːs ənd tʃuːz  
ænd kɔːk ənd wɜːk ənd kɑːd ənd wɔːd  
ænd fɒnt ənd frʌnt ənd wɜːd ənd sɔːd

And do and go, and thwart and cart  
Come, I've hardly made a start!  
A dreadful language? Man alive,  
I'd learned to speak it when I was five.

ænd duː ənd gəʊ ənd θwɔːt ənd kɑːt  
kʌm aɪv hɑːdli meɪd ə stɑːt  
ə dredfʊl 'læŋgʊɪdʒ mæn ə'laɪv  
aɪd lɜːnd tə spiːk ɪt wen aɪ wəz faɪv

And yet to write it, the more I sigh,  
I'll not learn how 'til the day I die.

ænd jet tə 'raɪtɪt ðə 'mɔːrəɪ saɪ  
aɪl nɒt lɜːn haʊ tɪl ðə deɪ aɪ daɪ

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ðeɪ raɪm wɪð swɪ:t ənd streɪt ənd det

ə mʌθ ɪz nɒt ə mʌθ ɪn 'mʌðə  
nɔ: beʊθ ɪn 'brðə brʌθ ɪn 'brʌðə  
15 ənd hɪə ɪz nɒt ə mætʃ fə ðeə  
nɔ: dɪər ənd fɪə fə beər ənd peə

ænd ðen ðeəz dəʊs ənd rəʊz ənd lu:z  
dʒʌst lʊk θɪ:z ʌp ənd gu:z ənd tʃu:z  
ænd kɔ:k ənd wɜ:k ənd kɑ:d ənd wɔ:d  
20 ənd fɒnt ənd frʌnt ənd wɜ:d ənd sɔ:d

ænd du: ənd gəʊ ənd θwɔ:t ənd kɑ:t  
kʌm aɪv hɑ:dli meɪd ə stɑ:t  
ə dredfʊl 'læŋgʊɪdʒ mən ə'laɪv  
aɪd lɜ:nd tə spi:k ɪt wen aɪ wəz faɪv

25 ənd jet tə 'raɪtɪt ðə 'mɔ:raɪ saɪ  
aɪl nɒt lɜ:n haʊ tɪl ðə deɪ aɪ daɪ

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