

Facsimile Transcription English Broadside Ballad Archive:

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Abstract:

The English Broadside Ballad Archive (EBBA) is a constantly growing online archive of seventeenth century broadside ballads, which are gathered from university collections from around the world. My work with EBBA involved transcribing ballads from the Houghton collection.

Process:

As a transcriber for EBBA, my job was to read through the scanned facsimiles of the broadside ballads in the Houghton collection and transcribe them from their original type into three different styles of the Times New Roman font.

Black-letter (Black-letter) font, as illustrated [here](#), was transcribed in plain, unaltered Times New Roman.

White-letter font, as illustrated [there](#), was transcribed in italic *Times New Roman*, and:

Italic White-letter font, as illustrated [there](#), was transcribed in bolded and italic *Times New Roman*.

Through these transcriptions, I learned to find patterns within the documents that would indicate a change in type.

Conclusion:

By transcribing these broadside ballads into plain text, and by making them easily accessible on an online database, EBBA is allowing for these works to be preserved. The care taken in ensuring the accuracy of each transcriber's transcription makes sure that the ballad persists in its original form, even if it's viewed on a computer screen, rather than a broadsheet.

