
Subject: Re: American -> English Spellings
Posted by [PlastoJoe](#) on Tue, 01 May 2007 15:29:43 GMT
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Chaucer (usually The Canterbury Tales) is mandatory reading for most high schools in the US. The thing about him is that he wrote before there were any standardized spellings of words. That means he ended up like this:

This frere bosteth that he knoweth helle,
And God it woot, that it is litel wonder;
Freres and feendes been but lyte asonder.
For, pardee, ye han ofte tyme herd telle
How that a frere ravyshed was to helle
In spirit ones by a visioun;

which means:

This friar boasts that he knows hell,
And God knows that it is little wonder;
Friars and fiends are seldom far apart.
For, by God, you have oftentimes heard tell
How a ravished friar went to hell
In spirit, once by a vision;

And we have to read this and write papers on it.
