

The Venerable Bede

I decided to make use of my brother Dennis in my rehearsal for this exercise. I asked him before we began if he knew anything at all about the Venerable Bede, to which he answered no, and told me he thought I was talking about an anime or something to that effect.

I read entirely from my cards for Dennis, though since they only contain a few words outlining Bede's life, I was still recalling most of the information from memory. I told him all I had learned; Bede's date of birth is of some debate, he earned the name Venerable posthumously, he was a scholar, he studied history and kept a written record of it that is still made use of today, he wrote about interpretations of scripture, and knew of science far ahead of his time.

When I had finished, Dennis had only two questions for me. First, why I was studying this, and second, how he balanced science and faith. I'm studying this, of course, because of the time period the literature I'm reading at the moment is from. Reading up on folks like The Venerable Bede is like reading a huge prologue for the era's arts. To answer his other question, Bede subjected all his science to his faith. He was not like Galileo, everything Bede observed and studied he viewed through the lens of his religious faith.

I think the thing I learned from this the most is how important it is that I make the practice and the performance as close as possible. I was told after I had finished today that I have a way of making people uncomfortable when I present like this. It's just nervousness, I tend to get hyper and walk around excitedly when I'm intimidated by a task like this. I didn't really step away from the cards and go from memory when I was

rehearsing this, it probably showed. Practicing like its the performance is something I know to do, it must have slipped my mind this time.

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