Romanization and Pronunciation:

- The romanization system of Gerna Moussha used to transcribe the language in scripts is described below:

  ◉ *A, a*: Pronounced like the "a" in "father" when stressed; otherwise pronounced like the "a" in "sofa".

  ◉ *B, b*: Pronounced like the "b" in "bad".

  ◉ *Ch, ch*: Pronounced like the "ch" in "chief".

  ◉ *D, d*: Pronounced like the "d" in "diet".

  ◉ *E, e*: *Always* pronounced like the "e" in "get".

  ◉ *Ei, ei*: *Always* pronounced like the "a" in "gate".

  ◉ *F, f*: Pronounced like the "f" in "fit".

  ◉ *G, g*: Pronounced like the "g" in "goat" (never like the "g" in "genius").

  ◉ *H, h*: Pronounced like the "h" in "hop". This sound is *always* pronounced, even if it comes after another consonant, or at the end of a word. The only cases in which it is *not* pronounced is when it occurs in the digraphs *ch* and *sh*.

  ◉ *Hl, hl*: Pronounced like an *h* followed by an *l*. Alternately, pronounced like the Welsh pronunciation of "ll" in "Lloyd" or the voiceless "l" one sometimes hears in quick pronunciations of "clean".

  ◉ *Hr, hr*: Pronounced like an *h* followed by an *r*.

  ◉ *Hw, hw*: Pronounced like an *h* followed by a *w*. Alternately, pronounced like older American pronunciation of "wh" in words like "where", "which" and "why".

  ◉ *Hy, hy*: Pronounced like an *h* followed by a *y*. Alternately, pronounced like the "h" in "huge".

  ◉ *I, i*: Pronounced like the "i" in "machine" when stressed; otherwise, pronounced like the "i" in "kid".

- *J, j*: Pronounced like the "j" in "jam".

- *K, k*: Pronounced like the "k" in "kite".

- *L, l*: Pronounced like the "l" in "love" (*never* like the so-called "swallowed l" in "filth").

- *M, m*: Pronounced like the "m" in "matter".

- *N, n*: Pronounced like the "n" in "never".

- *Ng, ng*: Pronounced like the "ng" in "song".

- *Ngg, ngg*: Pronounced like the "ng" in "anger".

- *Nw, nw*: Pronounced like the "ngw" in "wrongway"

- *Ny, ny*: Pronounced like the "ni" in "onion" or the initial "N" in an East Coast pronunciation of "New York".

- *O, o*: Pronounced like the "aw" in "law".

- *Ou, ou*: Pronounced like the "o" in "tote".

- *P, p*: Pronounced like the "p" in "pike".

- *R, r*: Pronounced like the "t" or "d" in the English pronunciation of "matador". It's a lightly tapped *r* and should not be lingered on or rolled unless doubled.

- *S, s*: Pronounced like the "s" in "sad".

- *Sh, sh*: Pronounced like the "sh" in "shade".

- *T, t*: Pronounced like the "t" in "take".

- *U, u*: Pronounced like the "u" in "ruminate" when stressed; otherwise, pronounced like the "oo" in "hood".

- *W, w*: Pronounced like the "w" in "wet".

◉ ***Y, y***: Pronounced like the "y̲" in "y̲et".

◉ ***'***: This is referred to as a glottal stop, and is pronounced just like the catch in one's throat that occurs in between the "uh" and "oh" in English "uh‑oh". This isn't a difficult sound to produce; it just requires a bit of practice to insert it into words. It will occur naturally in a string of vowels pronounced separately in English (e.g. if one were to say "A A A A A A A" [saying the actual name of the letter each time] over and over, a glottal stop will naturally occur before each instance of the vowel). If one simply stops pronouncing a word mid-vowel and starts again, it will naturally occur. (<u>Note:</u> It is important to remember that this apostrophe is ***<u>not</u>*** a stray mark, and ***<u>not</u>*** simply there for decoration. The apostrophe stands for a consonant which has the same status as ***g*** or ***k*** or any other consonant.)

◉ ***Double Consonants***: Doubled consonants, or geminates, occur frequently in Gerna Moussha. To pronounce a doubled consonant, simply pronounce it twice. You might think of it as lingering over the consonant. Think of the "s̲" sound you pronounce in "Mis̲s̲ S̲ally". It's a longer "s̲" than if you pronounce the similar phrase "Mis̲s̲ Ally". The same goes for the doubled consonants of Gerna Moussha. One important note about the romanization: If a digraph (e.g. ***sh***, ***ny***, etc.) is *doubled*, only the first letter will be doubled (hence, ***ssh*** not ***shsh***). The consonant is pronounced like a doubled consonant, though, as actual combinations such as ***s*** followed by ***sh*** are impossible.

Stress:
• Stress tends to be lexical, falling on the main root of the word, with secondary stresses radiating outwards from there, skipping every other syllable. Stress will only be marked if it falls on the last syllable of a word, in which case the last vowel will be marked with an acute accent (i.e. ***á, é, í, ó*** or ***ú***). In Final Draft documents, stressed syllables will always be written in all caps: ***Gerna Moussha*** > `GER-na` `MOUSH-sha`.