fountain2latex

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`fountain2latex` is a simple utility to convert from the `.fountain` screenplay format to the LaTeX screenplay subformat. LaTeX provides superior typesetting for professional-looking documents.

This utility relies on the screenplay LaTeX class and the `screenplay-pkg` package, both by John Pate. The former implements a `document class` with Academy-recommended rules and macros; the latter creates an `enviroment` which allows inclusion of screenplay-formatted sections in larger documents. They're both available in the TeXLive and MiKTeX distributions, both of which offer packages for Linux, Windows and Mac.

`fountain2latex` is written in **Haskell** and compiled with GHC version 9.2.8.

Using `fountain2latex`

When it's installed (and in your path), `fountain2latex` can be invoked in several ways. *Legend*: braces ({}) mean you must select one of the alternatives separated by vertical bars (`|`). Brackets (`[]`) mean the alternatives are optional.

- To display the version:

  ```
  fountain2latex {-v|--version}
  ```

- To see basic usage instructions:

  ```
  fountain2latex {-u|--usage}
  ```

- To get a (somewhat) more comprehensive help text:

  ```
  fountain2latex {-h|--help}
  ```

- To convert standard input into standard output:

  ```
  fountain2latex [-p|--as-part]
  ```

  The argument `-p` (or its equivalent longer variant, `--as-part`) instructs `fountain2latex` not to generate a standalone document, but to emit a document fragment that can be included in another. The master document must use `screenplay-pkg`:

```
\usepackage{screenplay-pkg}
```

- To convert a file to standard output:

  ```
  fountain2latex [-p|--as-part] <input-file>[.fountain]
  ```

  `-p` (or `--as-part`) works exactly the same as in the previous case. If the `.fountain` extension is omitted, `fountain2latex` will try to find a file with the same name as the argument; failing that, it will append `.fountain` to it and then try again.

- To convert a file into another:

  ```
  fountain2latex [-p|--as-part] <input-file>[.fountain] {.|<output-file>[.tex]}
  ```

  `-p` and the optional `.fountain` extension work as stated above. For the output file, if the `.tex` extension is omitted, it will be added. If you use a period instead of an output filename, the output file will be named the same as the input one, with the extension changed to `.tex`.

More accurately, `fountain2latex` processes all options from left to right, each option overriding previous ones.

Why?

I find LaTeX to be more obtrusive to my writing flow, but its typesetting is without par. Fountain barely requires an extra character here or there, so it's more amenable to creative flow and it's plain text so I can use even my favorite code editor (with a helper plugin for some extra niceties) but no formatting magic.

That's where `fountain2latex` comes in: a simple console application. Just a few keystrokes in your terminal and that's it. Zero leak risks.

Installing from release

You know this one. Download the latest release, extract all the files to any directory, optionally add the directory to your `$PATH` for convenience.

Installing from sources

Needless to say, you need GHC 9.2.8+ to do this. If you don't have it, you can always install from release, as shown in the previous section.

Just `cd` to the `fountain2latex` directory and run:

```
make install
```

Which should take care of everything, including overwriting older versions.

Contact

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