

2.3.3 continued

\u sequences are processed BEFORE the code is parsed.

\u gotcha
related to
strings

"\u0022+\u0022" \Rightarrow "" + "" \rightarrow empty string

\uparrow
the compiler sees
2 quotes, a plus, and two quotes
NOT a string containing a plus
surrounded by double quotes

\u gotcha
related to
Comments

Comments aren't safe either

// \u000A here is text

\uparrow
newline, so compiler sees "here is text" on the next line,
uncommented, so:

// \u000A methodA();

\uparrow
this method will execute even though it looks like
it's in a comment

Also note:

// ~~c:\windows~~ c:\users

\uparrow
this looks like a unicode escape, but not followed
by hex digits, so syntax error.

multiple u's ok
\uunCAFE
= \uunCAFE

Can have any number of u in \u, e.g. \uun\uun\uun means something.
Done to allow conversion tools to be able to reverse conversions to get exact
source back.

exercise: write a program that demonstrates these gotchas.