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Manuscript Formatting via CSS: A Long-Form Example (typical)

A Compliant Manuscript with Chapters and Scenes

by Penfirstname Penlastname

This is an epigraph. Some stories, parts, chapters, and even scenes will kick off with an epigraph.

A dreamer is one who can only find his way by moonlight, and his punishment is that he sees the dawn before the rest of the world.

Oscar Wilde, 1888

Chapter 1

This document templates a long-form narrative that is divided into the more typical chapters and scenes (no parts). Most short stories are just a series of scenes. Most books-length (long-form) manuscripts are divided into chapters and scenes w/o parts. But some books are also divided into books or parts. Of the three components, only scenes are required. But here, we demo the long-form typical: chapters and scenes.

Side note: the dotted lines in the HTML view are simulalated page breaks. They can be turned off by setting the --m-page-break-simulated-long to 0. If you look in the <style>...</style> block above, I have that commented out. Uncomment it to see the change. HTML doesn't "page break" so we put in an indicator as an approximation of the behavior.

The only time I turn off the page break similation is when I am sharing the document as an HTML page. I.e., when the HTML becomes the primary end artifact.

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Chapter 2

Only one scene for chapter 2 because I think you get the idea.

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Epilogue

You get the idea. I am ending this manuscript with this scene.

Also, did you notice the # dinkuses between the scenes? And the The End at the end? That's a typographical marker called a -30-. You can turned them off or change them by redefining CSS variabbles --m-dinkus and --m-30-. For example, set --m-dinkus to an empty string "" to turn it off and set --m-30- to "La Fin" just because you think your critique readers reviewers will be impressed with your French.

The End