

# **The Text::Amuse markup manual**

**The writer's guide**

2020

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# **The Muse markup**

A Muse document uses special, contextual markup rules to determine how to format the output result. For example, if a paragraph is indented, Muse assumes it should be quoted. Indentation is heavily used to determine if the paragraph is something different from “normal” text.

There are not too many markup rules, and all of them strive to be as simple as possible so that you can focus on document creation, rather than formatting.

This document describes Muse, which was written by John Wiegley, then maintained by Michael Olson and heavily edited and partially rewritten for this implementation by Marco Pessotto.

# Paragraphs

Paragraphs in Muse must be separated by a blank line.

## Centered and right aligned paragraphs and quotations

A line that begins with six or more columns of whitespace (but less than 20) indicates a centered paragraph.

Alternatively, you can use the `<center>` tag to surround regions that are to be published as centered paragraphs.

Like this

But if the line begins with more than 20 spaces, you'll have a right aligned paragraph. This is handy for signatures.

Like this right-aligned one.

The same result is done with the `right` tag.

Using the tags:

Like this centered one

And this is right

This is a quotation:

But if a line begins with whitespace (at least 2 spaces), though less than six columns, it indicates a quoted paragraph. Alternatively, you can use the `<quote>` tag to surround regions that are to be published as quoted paragraphs.

## Source

A line that begins with six or more columns of whitespace (but less than 20) indicates a centered paragraph.

Alternatively, you can use the `=<center>=` tag to surround regions that are to be published as centered paragraphs.

Like this

But if the line begins with more than 20 spaces, you'll have a right aligned paragraph. This is handy for signatures.

Like this right-aligned one.

The same result is done with the `=right=` tag.

Using the tags:

```
<center>
Like this centered one
</center>
```

```
<right>
And this is right
</right>
```

This is a quotation:

But if a line begins with whitespace (at least 2 spaces), though less than six columns, it indicates a quoted paragraph. Alternatively, you can use the `=<quote>=` tag to surround regions that are to be published as quoted paragraphs.

**Please keep in mind that indentation must be consistent if you prefer to keep the lines short** and break them inserting a new line. Long lines (using the rule 1 line, 1 paragraph) are perfectly fine. The rule of paragraphs separated by blank lines still apply, though.

Also, `<tags>` which start and stop blocks, **must be placed on a line by themselves and don't mix with environments marked by leading spaces, notably lists and tables.**

## Literal paragraphs

The `<example>` tag is used for examples, where whitespace should be preserved, the text rendered in monospace, and any characters special to the output style escaped.

Example:

```
<example>
The =<example>= tag is used for examples, where
whitespace should be preserved, the text rendered in
monospace, and any characters special to the output
style escaped.
</example>
```

There is no `<literal>` tag as in the original Muse markup, because it's not a private tool and will be exposed to the internet.

**Please note** that the output will keep the lines untouched. This means that it's very likely that you will get overflowing lines. To avoid this, a safe value for a line length could be 60 characters. Use longer lines at your perils.

An alternate syntax for the `<example>` tag is `{{{ }}}`:

```
{{{
This is verbatim as well
}}}
```



## Line breaks

If you need a line break, then use the `br` tag. Most of the time this tag is unnecessary, because Muse will automatically detect paragraphs by means of blank lines. If you want to preserve newlines in several lines of text, then use verse markup instead.

This line will break `<br>` And continue

Yields:  
This line will break  
And continue.

If you want to add a blank, line, put the `br` tag on a line by itself:

Here we add a blank line

`<br>`

Here we go.

Here we add a blank line

Here we go.

## Page breaks

If you put exactly five `“*”` separated by whitespace on a line by itself, indented by 6 or more spaces (like a centered paragraph), you’ll get a page break in the PDF.

This code will break the page.

\* \* \* \* \*

Anyway, using three of them is just a decorator and it's not treated specially.

\* \* \*

It's just a centered paragraph with 3 "\*".

# Levels of headings

A heading becomes a chapter or section in printed output — depending on the style. To indicate a heading, start a new paragraph with one or more asterisks, followed by a space and the heading title. Then begin another paragraph to enter the text for that section.

All levels of headings will be published. There is support for 5 levels.

The first level is a “part”, and should be used only for larger texts. In this document is used for the License and for the main title.

The second level is a “chapter”. It starts a new page on the PDF output.

The third level is undoubtedly the most used. It usually separate a section of an article. For example the “Literal paragraph” above.

The fourth level goes down further.

## Fourth level, a “subsection”

The fifth level is very, very low and does not create a Table of Contents entry.

### Fifth level 1

Some text.

### Fifth level 2

Some other text.

## The example of levels

\* First level, aka part

\*\* Second level, aka chapter

\*\*\* Third level, aka section

\*\*\*\* Fourth level, aka subsection

\*\*\*\*\* Fifth level, aka subsubsection

## How to indicate alternate headings

*[This syntax is available with Text::Amuse version 1.40, released on 2020-02-16.]*

Sometimes it’s desirable to have an alternate, usually shorter, title for the table of content. You can indicate that using this syntax:

\*\* Alternate headings | How to indicate alternate headings

I.e. separate the short and the long title with a pipe character | surrounded by spaces.

In this example, “The Alternate headings” will go into the table of contents, while the second part will go in the document.

# Directives at the beginning of a document

Directives are lines beginning with the ‘#’ character that come before any paragraphs or sections in the document.

Directives are of the form `#directive content of directive`.

You can use any combination of uppercase and lowercase letters for directives, even if the directive is not in the list below. The directives are completely arbitrary. You can put there whatever you want. It’s the template job to pick them up. In the templates shipped with this bundle there is support for the following directives:

The following is a list of directives that Muse uses.

- `#author`

The author of the text.

- `#title`

The title of the document

- `#lang`

The language code of the document (2 or 3 letters). Defaults to `en`.

- `#LISTtitle`

This directive is used (defaulting to `#title`) to alphabetically sort the titles. It’s handy if you want, for example, sort “A title” under “T” and not under “A”.

In this case you may write `#LISTtitle Title`

- `#subtitle`

The subtitle (if any)

- `#SORTauthors`

If not provided, this default to `#author`. It’s a list separated by semicolons or commas with the various authors. While `#author` affects the display only, this one is used to index the document.

- `#SORTtopics`

As for authors, it’s a list (comma- or semicolon-separated) list of topics for the current text. Used to index the document.

- `#date`

The **year** of publishing of the document. More information should be provided in the `#notes` directive.

- `#notes`

This directive is used for additional information here (original title, translators, credits, etc.).

- `#source`

This directive is used for the source or the text (url, scanned from original, original contribution, etc.). The preferred format is “Retrieved on March 8, 2012 from the url”

- #publisher  
Publisher data, if any.
- #isbn  
ISBN, if any.
- #rights  
Copyright info, if any.
- #seriesname  
If the book belongs to a serie, put it here.
- #seriesnumber  
If the book belongs to a serie, use this slot for the number.
- #hyphenation  
See below.

## Correcting the hyphenation in the PDF output

Sometimes you may notice some words with incorrect hyphenation in your document. You can fix this adding the breakpoint in the #hyphenation directive.

E.g.

```
#title Test
#lang it
#hyphenation al-be-rel-lo que-sto
```

Questo alberello...

You can as many words with breakpoints as you wish, separated by spaces, but you can't insert numbers or special characters (accents and diacritics are fine, though). You specify a breakpoint with the hyphen character "-". Using a word without any hyphen will prevent the hyphenation for that word.

# Bold, italicized and monospace text, non breaking space.

To emphasize text, surround it with certain specially recognized characters.  
The following example will produce:

```
emphasis strong emphasis very strong emphasis verbatim and monospace  
*emphasis*  
**strong emphasis**  
***very strong emphasis***  
=verbatim and monospace=
```

Each of these forms may span multiple lines, but not multiple paragraphs.

You can also use the `<code>` tag to indicate code and monospace text. This is handy for regions that have a “=” in them.

If the “\*” confuse you or the preview is screwed up, you can use inline tag `<em>` and `<strong>`, which are guaranteed to work in any case.

The above example rewritten with tags:

```
<em>emphasis</em>  
<strong>strong emphasis</strong>  
<strong><em>very strong emphasis</em></strong>  
<code>verbatim and monospace</code>
```

And produces the same thing.

```
emphasis strong emphasis very strong emphasis verbatim and monospace
```

Please note that there is no support for the underline. Underlining is an handwritten substitute for the italics. You simply don’t need it.

Also, small caps are missing, mainly because on the HTML they look awful and a very few fonts have decent small caps.

Since Text::Amuse version 0.96 (released 2018-01-27), which restored Emacs Muse compatibility in this regard, material in `<code>` tags and equivalent markup between equal signs is also verbatim, but with a monospace font.

Other tags are `<sub>` and `<sup>` for subscript and superscript. And there is also a `<del>` tag for overstriking.

This is the `<sup>superscript</sup>` and this is a `<sub>subscript</sub>`, and this is `<del>something deleted and overstriced</del>`

```
This is the superscript and this is a subscript, and this is something deleted and overstriced
```

If you nest the same tag (e.g. `<em>this <em>and this</em></em>`), you are going to get weird results (and doesn’t make any sense), so don’t do it. = and \* when surrounding words have the same meaning of the respective tags:

```
*this* is the same as <em>this</em>
```

```
=this= is the same as <code>this</code>
```

## **Non-breaking space.**

Non breaking space (`0xA0` Unicode, NO-BREAK SPACE) is just a regular character, but it's somehow complicate to manage, because very often appears like a normal space. You can use a double tilde `~~` to insert a non breaking space which is explicit in the muse document.

This feature was added in Text::Amuse 0.94 but it was present in Emacs Muse.

# Footnotes

A footnote reference is simply a number in square brackets. To define the footnote, place this definition starting the line with a digit in square brackets.

This is the text, and we refer to a footnote [1]

Here the text continues.

[1] This footnote  
spans more lines in the source

You can continue the footnote on another paragraph, as long as it has the same amount of indentation of the previous item.

[2] But this is not, because of the initial  
whitespace.

[3] Footnotes which don't have a referrer will  
disappear on the PDF output and preserved in the  
HTML. But will lead to incorrect code, as it will  
point to a non-existent anchor

This is the result:

---

This is the text, and we refer to a footnote<sup>1</sup>

Here the text continues.

[2] But this is not, because of the initial whitespace.

---

You can break the footnotes lines (even if it's not recommended), but keep the indentation consistent, as shown above.

## Secondary footnotes (support added in Text::Amuse 0.91, 2017-12-10)

Rarely needed, but supported, are the secondary footnotes, i.e. an additional apparatus. They obey the same rules as the regular footnotes, but they are marked with curly brackets instead of square ones. You can also place secondary footnotes in regular footnotes. This is meant for critical edition, but you may use them to differentiate between author's notes and translator's notes.

---

<sup>1</sup> This footnote spans more lines in the source



This is a regular [4] footnote, and this a secondary {1}

[4] Regular footnote, and has a secondary one on it {2}

{1} Secondary footnote body (1)

{2} Secondary footnote body (2)

Which produces:

---

This is a regular<sup>2</sup> footnote, and this a secondary<sup>(1)</sup>

---

---

You can continue the footnote on another paragraph, as long as it has the same amount of indentation of the previous item.

<sup>2</sup> Regular footnote, and has a secondary one on it<sup>(2)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> Secondary footnote body (1)

<sup>(2)</sup> Secondary footnote body (2)

# Poetic stanzas

Poetry requires that whitespace be preserved, but without resorting to monospace. To indicate this, use the following markup, reminiscent of email quotations, or use the verse tag.

```
> A line of Emacs verse;  
>   forgive its being so terse.
```

```
<verse>  
  A line of Emacs verse;  
    forgive its being so terse.  
</verse>
```

This yields:

```
  A line of Emacs verse;  
    forgive its being so terse.  
  
  A line of Emacs verse;  
    forgive its being so terse.
```

Multiple stanzas may be included in one set of <verse> tags, as follows.

```
<verse>  
A line of Emacs verse;  
  forgive its being so terse.
```

```
In terms of terse verse,  
  you could do worse.  
</verse>
```

Or this

```
> A line of Emacs verse;  
>   forgive its being so terse.  
>  
> In terms of terse verse,  
>   you could do worse.
```

```
  A line of Emacs verse;  
    forgive its being so terse.  
  
  In terms of terse verse,  
    you could do worse.
```

Or this

```
  A line of Emacs verse;  
    forgive its being so terse.  
  
  In terms of terse verse,  
    you could do worse.
```

# Lists

Lists are given using special characters at the beginning of a line. Whitespace must occur before bullets or numbered items, to distinguish from the possibility of those characters occurring in a real sentence.

Description lists are marked by some initial whitespace, the term, a double colon surrounded by whitespace, and the description body.

Normal text.

- bullet item one
- bullet item two

An enumerated list follows.

1. Enum item one
2. Enum item two

A list with roman numbering

- i. First
- ii. Second
- iii. Third

A list with upper roman numbering

- I. First
- II. Second
- III. Third

A list with upper letters

- A. first
- B. second
- C. third

A list with lower letters

- a. first
- b. second
- c. third

A description list

First term :: definition and description  
Second term :: definition and description

Please note the consistent indentation, **especially** for roman numbering.  
Normal text.

- bullet item one
- bullet item two

An enumerated list follows.

1. Enum item one
2. Enum item two

A list with roman numbering

- i. First
- ii. Second
- iii. Third

A list with upper roman numbering

- I. First
- II. Second
- III. Third

A list with upper letters

- A. first
- B. second
- C. third

A list with lower letters

- a. first
- b. second
- c. third

A description list

**First term** definition and description

**Second term** definition and description

## Breaking lists

If for some reason you want to break the list without starting a regular paragraph, you can do so by inserting a `<br>` tag (which adds some white space between them) or a comment (invisible). E.g.

List:

- a. bullet item one
- a. bullet item two, and will break

; a comment

- a. bullet item one
- a. bullet item two, and break

<br>

- a. bullet item one
- a. bullet item two, and end

Resulting in:

List:

- a. bullet item one
- b. bullet item two, and will break
- a. bullet item one
- b. bullet item two, and break
  
- a. bullet item one
- b. bullet item two, and end

## Nested lists

It is possible to nest lists of the same or different kinds. The “level” of the list is determined by the amount of initial whitespace.

Normal text.

- Level 1, bullet item one
  - 1. Level 2, enum item one
  - 2. Level 2, enum item two
- Level 1, bullet item two
  - 1. Level 2, enum item one
  - 2. Level 2, enum item two
    - i. Level 3, enum item i
    - ii. Level 3, enum item ii
  - 3. Level 2, enum item three
- Back to Level 1, third bullet
  - a. Level 2, enum item “a”
  - b. Level 2, enum item “b”
    - I. Level 3, enum item “I”
      - One term :: description
      - Another term :: description
- Back to the bullets

Normal text.

- Level 1, bullet item one
  1. Level 2, enum item one
  2. Level 2, enum item two
- Level 1, bullet item two
  1. Level 2, enum item one
  2. Level 2, enum item two
    - i. Level 3, enum item i
    - ii. Level 3, enum item ii
  3. Level 2, enum item three
- Back to Level 1, third bullet
  - a. Level 2, enum item “a”
  - b. Level 2, enum item “b”
    - I. Level 3, enum item “I”
      - One term** description
      - Another term** description
- Back to the bullets

## Breaking list items

If you want to break up a line within any list type, just put one blank line between the end of the previous line and the beginning of the next line, using the same amount of initial indentation.

Keep in mind that if you put random indentation you’ll get random and probably unexpected results (but it should not crash — if it does, please contact me).

Also, you can be lazy with numbered list. The parser actually doesn’t care if you number them properly, or just do something like that.

1. first
1. second
1. third

or

- a. first
- a. second
- a. third

There results will always be:

1. first
2. second
3. third

or

- a. first
- b. second
- c. third

## Complete example

Normal text.

- Level 1, bullet item one, this is the first paragraph. I can break the line, keeping the same amount of indentation  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.
- 1. Level 2, enum item one. I can break the line, keeping the same amount of indentation  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.
- 2. Level 2, enum item two which continues  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.
- Level 1, bullet item two which continues  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.
- 1. Level 2, enum item one which continues  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.
- 2. Level 2, enum item two which continues  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.
- i. Level 3, enum item i  
  
Here I have the same amount of indentation,

and it continues the item above.

ii. Level 3, enum item ii

Here I have the same amount of indentation,  
and it continues the item above.

3. Level 2, enum item three  
which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and  
it continues the item above.

- Back to Level 1, third bullet

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it  
continues the item above.

a. Level 2, enum item "a"  
which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and  
it continues the item above.

b. Level 2, enum item "b"  
which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and  
it continues the item above.

I. Level 3, enum item "I"

Here I have the same amount of indentation,  
and it continues the item above.

And inside this item :: a description

Which continues here.

Another term :: a description

Which continues here.

- Back to the bullets

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it  
continues the item above.

Normal text.



- Level 1, bullet item one, this is the first paragraph. I can break the line, keeping the same amount of indentation

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

1. Level 2, enum item one. i can break the line, keeping the same amount of indentation

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

2. Level 2, enum item two which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- Level 1, bullet item two which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

1. Level 2, enum item one which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

2. Level 2, enum item two which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- i. Level 3, enum item i

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- ii. Level 3, enum item ii

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

3. Level 2, enum item three which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- Back to Level 1, third bullet

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- a. Level 2, enum item “a” which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- b. Level 2, enum item “b” which continues

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

- I. Level 3, enum item “I”

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

**And inside this item** a description

Which continues here.

**Another term** a description

Which continues here.

- Back to the bullets

Here I have the same amount of indentation, and it continues the item above.

## List continuation

If you need to start a list from an index different than 1, starting with Text::Amuse 0.90 (released on August 30, 2017), you can do so simply using it in the list. Indexes provided are so respected, unless they are the number 1. So the rule is: **if you need automatic numbering, just use 1. or a. or**

**A. or i. or I., otherwise use your custom numbering.** Any other solution will be confusing and you can expect undefined behaviour.

- b. This list with start with b
- d. This will be “d” as well
  - 3. This starts at 3
  - 2. This is 2 as well.
    - iv. Roman iv.
    - i. Roman v. as i. acts as automatic numbering
- a. This will be e. because it’s index 1 and continues the list (interrupted at d.)
- a. This will be f. because it’s incrementing the previous item.
  - 1. Normal numeric
  - 1. Normal numeric 2.
  - 1. Normal numeric 3.
    - V. Roman V.
    - X. Roman X.

And results in:

- b. This list with start with b
- d. This will be “d” as well
  - 3. This starts at 3
  - 2. This is 2 as well.
    - iv. Roman iv.
    - v. Roman v. as i. acts as automatic numbering
- e. This will be e. because it’s index 1 and continues the list (interrupted at d.)
- f. This will be f. because it’s incrementing the previous item.
  - 1. Normal numeric
  - 2. Normal numeric 2.
  - 3. Normal numeric 3.
    - V. Roman V.
    - X. Roman X.

# Generation of data tables

Only simple tables are supported. The syntax is as follows (just keep the indentation consistent and separate each cell by one or more textbars).

Indentation (one or more leading spaces) is required to trigger the table rendering.

```
Triple bars ||| Separate footer fields
Double bars  || Separate header fields
Single bars  | Separate body fields
Here are more | body fields
|+ This is the caption +|
```

Double bars	Separate header fields
Single bars Here are more	Separate body fields body fields
Triple bars	Separate footer fields

This is the caption

The ordering of the footer, header and table body blocks is irrelevant for the output (HTML requires you put first the header, then the footer, then the body). Ordering of the single rows is of course preserved. Inside the cells you can do pretty much what you want (besides headers and lists): mark them up freely.

## GitHub Markdown tables

They mainly work like the native tables, with some differences:

- the line starts with the pipe symbol and doesn't need to have leading whitespace.
- You can mark the header with hyphens (at least 3), drawing a dashed line, as shown above (it needs to be the second line for this purpose).
- You can control the alignment of the column using the line marking the header, placing a colon on the left, on the right, or on both ends (centering) of the dashed line. Please note that the header itself is not required. See the examples below.

The line marking the header determines the alignment of the column (see where the colons are):

```
| Left aligned | Centered | Right aligned | Justified text |
| :-----: | :-----: | -----: | ----- |
| Content Cell | Cell 1 | *Right* | This text is justified and can be very long |
| See **here** | Cell 2 | Right | This *text* is justified and can be very long |
|+ legend +|
```

Output:

And without header (but still controlling the alignment):

Left aligned	Centered	Right aligned	Justified text
Content Cell	Cell 1	<i>Right</i>	This text is justified and can be very long
See <b>here</b>	Cell 2	Right	This <i>text</i> is justified and can be very long

legend

```
| :----- | :-----: | -----: | ----- |
| Content Cell | Cell 1 | *Right text* | This text is justified and can be very long |
| See **here** | Cell 2 | Right | This *text* is justified and can be very long |
|+ legend +|
```

Output:

Content Cell	Cell 1	<i>Right text</i>	This text is justified and can be very long
See <b>here</b>	Cell 2	Right	This <i>text</i> is justified and can be very long

legend

This feature was introduced on Text::Amuse 1.51, released 2020-04-02.

## Floating tables

When composing tables, please keep in mind the following:

- tables are never splat over pages. If they don't fit a page, they will run off the page. So keep them short or split them yourself.
- tables *without* a caption are inserted at the point they are in the source. Table *with* a caption are converted into a float, so they are in no way guaranteed they will appear in the same exact point of the source. Anyway, the result is way better, and you have a caption, so you can refer to them in the text.

# Hyperlinks with or without description (and images)

A hyperlink can reference a URL or a place on the same document. In addition, descriptive text can be specified, which should be displayed rather than the link text in output styles that supports link descriptions. The syntax is as follows.

```
[[link target][link description]]  
[[link target without description]]
```

So, the home of this project is  
[[http://amusewiki.org][AMuseWiki]],  
which can be found at  
[[http://amusewiki.org]] Bare links will not  
get the hyperlinking. So http://thisisspam.org won't  
get the hyperlinking.

So, the home of this project is AMuseWiki, which can be found at http://amusewiki.org Bare links will not get the hyperlinking. So http://thisisspam.org won't get the hyperlinking.

## Images

Images are special case of this kind of linking.

```
[[m-l-manual-logo.png]]
```

We assume that we have the “m-l-manual-logo.png” file on the same directory of the file, and the result is:

Now, let's add a caption.

```
[[m-l-manual-logo.png][This is *our* logo]]
```

Remote urls are not permitted. Also, the path checking is rather strict, so please use just alphanumeric filenames for your images.

## Floating images and adjusting width

By default, image width in the HTML output is kept to the original one, whatever it is, but limited via CSS, while in the PDF expands to fill the page width. This creates problems.

Starting with version 0.07, it's possible to set the width of the image, **in percent**, just appending it to the file name after a whitespace.

It's also possible to make it a right or left float, adding the character l or r, or to mark it as a “fullpage” with f.

This one will have a width to 80% of the page width:

```
[[m-l-manual-logo.png 80]]
```





This is *our* logo

This one will have a width to 80% of the page width and will be a left float.

```
[[m-1-manual-logo.png 80 l]]
```

This one will have a width to 80% of the page width and will be a right float.

```
[[m-1-manual-logo.png 80 r]]
```

The Following will be marked as a fullpage.

```
[[m-1-manual-logo.png f]]
```

Floating without a width doesn't make sense, as in the PDF will be no room for wrapping text around it.

## Examples

The next figures use these codes:

```
[[m-1-manual-logo.png 10r][right float]]  
[[m-1-manual-logo.png 10l][left float]]  
[[m-1-manual-logo.png 50f][full page]]
```

Suggestions that I write my memoirs came to me when I had barely begun to live, and continued all through the years. But I never paid heed to the proposal. I was living my life intensely — what need to write about it? Another reason for my reluctance was the conviction I entertained that one should write about one's life only when one had ceased to stand in the very torrent of it. "When one has reached a good philosophic age," I used to tell my friends, "capable of viewing the tragedies and comedies of life impersonally and detachedly — particularly one's own life — one is likely to create an autobiography worth while." Still feeling adolescently young in spite of advancing years, I did not consider myself competent to undertake such a task. Moreover, I always lacked the necessary leisure for concentrated writing.

My enforced European inactivity left me enough time to read a great deal, including biographies and autobiographies. I discovered, much to my discomfiture, that old age, far from ripening wisdom and

mellowness, is too often fraught with senility, narrowness, and petty rancour. I would not risk such a calamity, and I began to think seriously about writing my life.

The great difficulty that faced me was lack of historical data for my work. Almost everything in the way of books, correspondence, and similar material that I had accumulated during the thirty-five years

of my life in the United States had been confiscated by the Department of Justice raiders and never returned. I lacked even my personal set of the Mother Earth magazine, which I had published for twelve years.

It was a problem I could see no solution for. Sceptic that I am, I had overlooked the magic power of friendship, which had so often in my life made mountains move. My staunch friends Leonard D. Abbott, Agnes Inglis, W. S. Van Valkenburgh, and others soon put my doubts to shame.

Agnes, the founder of the Labadie Library in Detroit, containing the richest collection of radical and revolutionary material in America, came to my aid with her usual readiness. Leonard did his share, and Van spent all his free time in research work for me.

The great difficulty that faced me was lack of historical data for my work. Almost everything in the way of books, correspondence, and similar material that I had accumulated during the thirty-five years



right  
float



left float



of my life in the United States had been confiscated by the Department of Justice raiders and never returned. I lacked even my personal set of the Mother Earth magazine, which I had published for twelve years.

It was a problem I could see no solution for. Sceptic that I am, I had overlooked the magic power of friendship, which had so often in my life made mountains move. My staunch friends Leonard D. Abbott, Agnes Inglis, W. S. Van Valkenburgh, and others soon put my doubts to shame.

Agnes, the founder of the Labadie Library in Detroit, containing the richest collection of radical and revolutionary material in America, came to my aid with her usual readiness. Leonard did his share, and Van spent all his free time in research work for me.



full page

# Inserting a horizontal line

Four or more dashes indicate a horizontal rule. Be sure to put blank lines around it, or it will be considered part of the preceding or following paragraph, like this: —.

Example

----

Results:

---

# Named anchors

If you start a line (regardless of the indentation) with a word prefixed by an hash, e.g. #anchor – where anchor can be any (ASCII) word that starts with a letter and contains only ASCII letters, digits and dashes – it defines an anchor at that point into the document. This point can be referenced using “#anchor” as the target in a Muse link.

If you need to start a line with an hash, wrap it in <verbatim> E.g.

```
<verbatim>#hashtag</verbatim> verbatim.  
=#hashtag= verbatim as code.
```

Yielding:

```
#hashtag verbatim. #hashtag verbatim as code.
```

The support for this feature was introduced in Text::Amuse version 0.70 and improved in 0.82. Compatibility with Emacs Muse was restored in version 1.10, released on April 23, 2018, allowing text material on the same line of the anchor.

Anchors adjacent to section headers will be attached to them, while lonely anchors not adjacent to any material will attach to the next first regular text.

Example:

```
#title My text
```

```
#badanchor
```

This is not an anchor, it’s part of the header with a dummy name.

```
<br>
```

```
#begin
```

This will work.

```
#an-anchor At the beginning of the line.
```

```
<verbatim>#hashtag</verbatim> verbatim.
```

```
=#hashtag= verbatim as code.
```

```
#anchor-to-section
```

```
*** Section
```

```
#anchor
```

Here we have our text.

More text.

```
*** Next section with an anchor
```

```
#nextsection
```

And here we can link to `[[#anchor][our anchor]]` and to the `[[#begin][begin]]` and to `[[#nextsection][this section]]`.

Please note that the name in the HTML output is not kept verbatim. Instead a `text-amuse-label` prefix is added (if you need to link it externally).

Also note that the link is lost when producing imposed PDFs (and implicitly lost when printing any PDF), so it's recommended to keep this in mind when writing the document, as the text of the link should work even if the link is not present.

Bad example:

See `[[#anchor][here]]`

The poor soul printing it and reading it on paper will see just "See here". Here where?

Good example:

See `[[#anchor][the previous chapter]]` for more information.

If you give preference to the printing, you may want to have a page number instead of a hyperlink. You can then use this syntax:

See `[[#anchor][the previous chapter on page ??]]` for more information.

I.e., the double question mark `??` will be replaced by the page number in the PDF and kept verbatim in the HTML. This feature was introduced on Text::Amuse 1.50, released 2020-03-28.

# Lines to omit from published output

```
; Comment text goes here.
```

That is, only a semi-colon at the beginning of a line, followed by a literal space, will cause that line to be treated as a comment and hidden from the visible output.

You can alternatively surround the region with the `<comment>` tag.

The HTML output will be wrapped in a `<div>` with the `display:none` property, so it can be turned visible changing the CSS.

```
<comment>
```

```
This won't be published, but in the HTML is there, only hidden
```

```
</comment>
```

# Plays and bibliographies

Unlike the original Muse, this implementation doesn't support external sources for citations, but provides an environment which can be used to compose the list of cited works without resorting to lists, wrapping all in a <biblio> tag.

```
<biblio>
```

```
The author, *Title*, published on  
[[http://amusewiki.org][AMuseWiki]], with a very, very,  
very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very,  
very, long description
```

```
Another author, *Another title*, published in the real  
world. with a very, very, very, very, very, very, very,  
very, very, very, very, very, long description
```

```
</biblio>
```

The author, *Title*, published on AMuseWiki, with a very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, long description

Another author, *Another title*, published in the real world. with a very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, long description

The list is wrapped in a <div> with class set to biblio, while the TeX source gets wrapped in the amusebiblio environment. You are free to change class and environment definition if you need to. A reversed indentation is suggested.

The same goes with the <play> environment, which is supposed to wrap theatrical plays, when you want a reverse indentation and more spacing between the paragraph (without resorting to <verse> and hardcoding the spaces.

```
<play>
```

```
**Pol.** Ophelia, walke you heere. Gracious so please ye <br>  
We will bestow our selues: Reade on this booke, <br>  
That shew of such an exercise may colour <br>  
Your lonelinesse. We are oft too blame in this, <br>  
'Tis too much prou'd, that with Deuotions visage, <br>  
And pious Action, we do surge o're <br>  
The diuell himselfe
```

```
**King.** Oh 'tis true: <br>
```

```
How smart a lash that speech doth giue my Conscience? <br>  
The Harlots Cheeke beautied with plaist'ring Art <br>  
Is not more vgly to the thing that helps it, <br>  
Then is my deede, to my most painted word. <br>  
Oh heaueie burthen!
```

```
</play>
```

**Pol.** Ophelia, walke you heere. Gracious so please ye  
We will bestow our selues: Reade on this booke,  
That shew of such an exercise may colour  
Your lonelinesse. We are oft too blame in this,  
'Tis too much prou'd, that with Deuotions visage,  
And pious Action, we do surge o're  
The diuell himselfe

**King.** Oh 'tis true:  
How smart a lash that speech doth giue my Conscience?  
The Harlots Cheeke beautied with plaist'ring Art  
Is not more vgly to the thing that helps it,  
Then is my deede, to my most painted word.  
Oh heauie burthen!



# Preventing the markup to be interpreted (verbatim)

Sometimes you want to write something like [1] without meaning a footnote reference, or asterisks without meaning an emphasis, e.g. \*this\*.

You can do so wrapping the words with the `<verbatim>` tag.

Example:

Sometimes you want to write something like `<verbatim>[1]</verbatim>` without meaning a footnote reference, or asterisks without meaning an emphasis, e.g. `<verbatim>*this*</verbatim>`.

Since Text::Amuse version 0.96 (released 2018-01-27), which restored Emacs Muse compatibility in this regard, material in `<code>` tags and equivalent markup between equal signs is also verbatim, but with a monospace font.

# Differences between Text::Amuse and Emacs Muse

Unfortunately, the Emacs Muse project is dead. However, pandoc supports the muse syntax.

## Inline markup

### Underlining

Underlining has been dropped.

### Tags for emphasis

Emphasis and strong can also be written with tags, like `<em>emphasis</em>`, `<strong>strong</strong>` and `<code>code</code>`.

### Superscript and subscript tags

Added tag `<sup>` and `<sub>` for superscript and subscript.

### Allowed characters before lightweight markup

Asterisk and equal symbols (`*`, `**`, `***` =) are interpreted as markup elements if they are paired (an opening one and a closing one).

The opening one must be preceded by something which is not an alphanumeric character (or at the beginning of the line) and followed by something which is not a space.

The closing one must be preceded by something which is not a space, and followed by something which is not an alphanumeric character (or at the end of the line).

Unlike Emacs Muse (as of version 3.20.2), any non-alphanumeric characters are allowed before the opening `*` and `=`. For example, the following markup is interpreted as bold code by Amusewiki

```
**=Bold code=**
```

while Emacs Muse interprets it as bold `"=Bold code="`.

## Block markup

The tables supported are the native one (with `|||` as separator) and the GitHub Markdown tables.

While Emacs Muse requires the bars to be surrounded by spaces to trigger a table, Text::Amuse requires some initial indentation. To write compatible table, please indent and keep the bars surrounded by spaces.

Since version 0.60, the code blocks, besides the `<example>` tag, can also be written as `{{{ }}}`, e.g.

```
{{{  
  if ($perl) {...}  
}}}
```

Since 0.91, there is full support for secondary footnotes with number inside curly brackets. Emacs Muse is missing this feature.

Lists require whitespace after list item marker.

-This is not a list item.

1.This is not an ordered list item.

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