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1234567890ABCDEFGHIJ1234567890ABCDEFGHIJ1234567890ABCDEFGHIJ

60 CHARACTERS WIDE, Courier Prime, 12pt.

Revision notes:

* For your own use.
* Your script starts at .COLD OPEN. You can jump there by Ctrl clicking the title in the table of contents above: hold down Ctrl then click the title above.

Here's instructions on how to use this document.

1. Install the font "**Courier Prime**" which you can find from the John August website or the links below. As will any link in a document from the internet, Google search the domain first to see if it looks safe or is linked-to from reputable source, only then click it. Here's John August's blog on Courier Prime, a free font intended for screenwriters created by screenwriters to circumvent the need for FinalDraft's not-free font variant of Courier. (https://johnaugust.com/2013/introducing-courier-prime) (https://quoteunquoteapps.com/courierprime/)
2. Write in the **Fountain format** (https://fountain.io/). This is a mark-down text format that has no styling, but can be styled using any professional or free screenwriting software into a proper Hollywood pdf.
3. **Export** to Fountain format using guidance below.
4. Open .fountain file or paste into **Screenwriting Software**. I recommend a free account with WriterDuet which allows one free script but can export to PDF in proper format. CelTx is also free, but didn't export with Courier Prime as of 2020.

EXPORTING TO FOUNTAIN:

1. **Delete Heading 2**. Right click Heading 2 in the Styles tab (Menu Bar > Home > Styles), then click "Select All:" then hit delete. Repeat for any other heading you may have added.
2. Make sure character blocks are **all caps**. Right-click "Character" style, then click "Select All:" then go to Menu > Home > Font > Aa (Change Case) > UPPERCASE.
3. Do the same for Scene Heading.
4. Find the **start of your scrip**t, then select all info after it and copy-paste it into a Notepad or simple text editor, then save that data as a TEXT file with the extension ".fountain" instead of ".txt".
5. Insert Title Page info at top. Copy the elements from your Title Page to the top of your .fountain document. If your software can import fountain, then it will try to use this info for the title page, but you should verify that it imported correctly. If you copy and paste the contents into your software, this info might not be imported correctly.

Fountain/Word-Formatting Guidance:

Write in basic text (unformatted) Fountain syntax, then format paragraphs in Word by clicking the appropriate Style in the "Styles" tab.

* Heading 1 is a style used for Acts.
* Heading 2 I use for organizing my plot beats. I surround them by double-square-brackets [[ Beat Summary ]] so they appear in the table of contents (TOC) or Navigation > Headings tab (hit Ctrl+F then in the bar on the left click Headings instead of Results).
* Every other style (Character, Dialogue, Parenthetical, Scene Heading) is based off the "Action" Styles which started as the "Normal (No Spaces)" style. These won't appear in TOC.
* You can right-click each style to change its appearance to your liking. For example, you can make Scene Headings bolded without underline. Parentheticals are separate paragraphs so they can't be formatted like the inline TV-Sitcom-Multi-Cams style.

Title:

 \_\*\*Friends Like Us and Always Sunny\*\*\_

Credit: Written by

Author: David Crane & Marta Kauffman

Copyright: March 3, 1994

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WGAW Reg No: not a valid field, but useful place to store this if you have one, or other similar information.

# [[ Title Page ]]

# .CAST OF CHARACTERS

This is not needed, but is in the Pilot (First Episode) script of Friends.

MONICA - Smart. Cynical. Defended. Very attractive. Had to work for everything she has. An assistant chef for a chic uptown restaurant. And a romantic disaster area.

RACHEL - Spoiled. Adorable. Courageous. Terrified. Monica's best friend from high school. Has worked for none of what she has. On her own for the first time. And equipped to do nothing.

PHOEBE - Sweet. Flaky. New Age waif. Monica's former roommate. Sells barrettes on the street and plays guitar in the subway. A good soul.

ROSS - Intelligent. Emotional. Romantic. Monica's brother. Suddenly divorced. Facing singlehood with phenomenal reluctance. A paleontologist. Not that it matters.

JOEY - Handsome. Macho. Smug. Lives across the hall from Monica and Rachel. Wants to be an actor. Actually, wants to be Al Pacino. Loves women, sports, women, New York, women and most of all Joey.

CHANDLER - Droll. Dry. A wry observer of everyone's life. And his own. Works in front of a computer doing something tedious in a claustrophobic cubicle in a nondescript office building. Survives by way of his sense of humor. And snacks.

===

# .COLD OPEN

TITLE: 2:30 am

TITLE: On a Monday

TITLE: Philadelphia, PA

.OVER TITLES, WE HEAR:

MAC (V.O.)

C'mon, one more, one more.

CHARLIE (V.O.)

Mac, that's enough.

MAC (V.O.)

Just one more.

FADE IN:

INT. PADDY'S PUB - NIGHT

CHARLIE, MAC, and DENNIS stand around the bar holding shots of whiskey over full pints.

DENNIS

Fine we'll do one more. Then we go to the strip club. Okay?

Note, that the FADE IN is left-aligned by tradition and should end with the colon so the formatting software doesn't interpret it as a character name. OVER TITLES, WE HEAR: is formatted as a scene heading (slugline) by adding a period at the beginning. ".COLD OPEN", ".END OF" and ".ACT" are specially formatted Act Breaks if formatting to TV Script Format.

(V.O.) stands for voice over. And indicates that the character is not seen and therefore their dialogue can be recorded in a recording booth. (O.S.) means off-screen and indicates, they're not seen but just off screen so they're likely recorded on location with the same room acoustics. (O.C.) is off-camera and common in TV scripts, O.S. is film scripts. (V.C.) is also used in TV scripts.

The first appearance of characters in scripts are usually all-caps, exemplified in the first action block after Fade In.

Transitions are preceded by greater than symbol. Also any line that's all caps and ends with a colon or "TO:" sometimes will be formatted into a transition. You can manually format these lines by right-aligning them (Ctrl+R).

The following page is the opening of the Friends Pilot which had no cold open. It starts formatted, then resolves to unformatted fountain format. It also lacks double-spaces after sentences which was much more common decades ago when it was written.

Here's how Always sunny handles it's main titles:

SLAM! Charlie is shot straight up into the air, onto the trunk and finally rolls off into the street.

>CUT TO:

.MAIN TITLES

TITLE: "Charlie Gets Crippled"

TITLE: "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

.END OF COLD OPEN

===

# .ACT ONE

>FADE IN:

INT. COFFEE HOUSE - AFTERNOON

A rainy afternoon. MONICA, JOEY, CHANDLER and PHOEBE are hanging out, talking. We hear snatches of conversation, broken up by a series of dissolves.

MONICA

I'm telling you, I've had it with the whole dating thing.

JOEY

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

MONICA

I mean it this time. If I have to laugh at another stupid anecdote or eat another Caesar salad, I'm going to kill myself.

PHOEBE

I don't hate dating.

MONICA

That's 'cause you don't date. You just move in with guys.

PHOEBE

(with a shrug)

That's true.

JOEY

You know what \**my*\* favorite kind of date is?

MONICA

The kind where \_you\_ don't leave your \*\***gum**\*\* in her ear?

Note: I've added three emphases not in the script: my, you, and gum. Which illustrate italics, underline, and bold. Word formatting of italics, underscore and bold will not be carried into the fountain format, so it's essential you using the proper symbols.

Also, the formatting for parentheticals like "(with a shrug)" is that of screenplay format. In your favorite formatter, it will change this to the format you want: TV Multi Cam for Friends, TV Single cam for Always Sunny.

Finally, if you want it to look nice while writing, you can change the format in your editing pass (don't worry about formatting while synthesizing, creating should be done without formatting slowing you down).

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# .ACT TWO

Period precedes all act starts. And new-page precedes all acts which is done by a triple-equals. Word's new-page character (Ctrl+Enter) won't be carried into the fountain text file.

.END OF ACT TWO

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.ACT THREE

The final act will have a fade out followed by End of Show.

>FADE OUT.

.END OF SHOW