HOW TO READ "WIND & RAIN"

Since some may only be familiar with reading "scripts" in the form of so called "chatfics" that often have nothing to do with legitimate scriptwriting conventions, I typed up this little tutorial about how to read Wind & Rain.

The examples in this guide are tongue in cheek and do not reflect the actual tone of Wind & Rain.

FRAME:

In this script, the "frame" is the camera's current field of view. It's what would be visible on the TV screen were this were seen on television.

SCENE HEADINGS:

Scene headings are rendered in RED and tell you the location and time of place of the action.

"INT." and "EXT." stand for exterior and interior, specifying indoors or outdoors.

EXAMPLE:

EXT. FLOWER GARDEN - DAY

Or,

INT. UTILITY CLOSET - NIGHT

ACTIONS:

Actions are rendered in orange and describe what characters, objects, vehicles, machines, are doing.

Generally, actions described within the script are presumed to be the depicted on frame.

EXAMPLE:

The BARTENDER slides the drink across the counter.

SHOTS:

Shots are rendered in purple and in all caps. They are sometimes supplemented by actions or general descriptions.

These provide specific details on what the camera is focusing

in upon at that particular moment, and how the camera is moving.

The camera may PAN, RISE, FALL, ZOOM IN, ZOOM OUT, FOLLOW (CHARACTER), and so on.

Several shots in successions form a montage.

Actions take precedent over shots in describing what's "on screen".

THE MANHATTAN SKYLINE

DIALOGUE (1):

Dialogue is what characters are saying, or sometimes what they're emoting wordlessly.

Characters who are not speaking human language are rendered in *italics*.

In Wind & Rain, "Poké-speak" understood only by other Pokémon is sometimes translated into English.

In these cases, the speakers name AND dialog is rendered in italics.

EXAMPLE:

                    ASH
          Hi, I'm Ash from Pallet Town!

                    PIKACHU
          Hi, I'm Ash's Pikachu, and I hate my
          life!

          Please kill me!

                    ASH
          Gee, I sure wish I knew what Pikachu just
          said.

                    MEOWTH
          Pikachu's saying dat it hates its twerpy
          little life and wants to die.

PIKACHU sighs.

                    PIKACHU
          Pika pi...

SPLIT SCREEN PHONE CALLS:

Split screen phone calls are represented as follows.

EXAMPLE:

SPLIT SCREEN -

LEFT - BARACK OBAMA (INT. OVAL OFFICE)

RIGHT - KIM JONG UN (INT. EVIL BASE)

OBAMA and KIM JONG UN each hold mobile phones.

> OBAMA
> Hey, Kim, wanna give up your nuclear weapons?

> KIM
> No. Go away.

KIM hangs up.

END SPLIT SCREEN

INT. OVAL OFFICE

> OBAMA
> Well, at least I tried.

PARENTHETICAL:

Sometimes, notes, or minor actions will be rendered in in green parenthesis.

Speaking characters may sometimes be "off screen", or be speaking via a voice over in which case something like (voice over) or (via phone) will appear beneath their name in parenthesis.

> MORGAN FREEMAN
> (voice over)
> Hi. I'm Morgan Freeman, and I'll be narrating this documentary.

TRANSITIONS:

Transitions are aligned to the right.

They specify the frame transitioning from one time or location to another.

EXAMPLES:

CUT TO:

GNERAL:

This is normal black text, just as you're seeing here. Its used to provide additional descriptions of settings, characters, and other details.

It's also used for...

PROSE:

Unlike a traditional screenplay, Wind & Rain is written in a hybrid format and sometimes breaks into prose contained in-between special tags.

EXAMPLE:

[PROSE]

(in the actual script, there would be prose here in between those tags, justified to the far left)

[/PROSE]

PROFILES:

Certain key locations or other elements may receive an in-line profile upon their first mention or appearance.

EXAMPLE:

[LOCATION PROFILE: Walt Disney World Resort]

Walt Disney World was built in the 1960's and has a bunch of rides and stuff that kids like.

It is rumored to be a secret base for Team Rocket.

[/PROFILE]

MUSIC:

Music is sometimes specifically notated as the soundtrack for a for particular scene. When the music is public domain or legitimately available freely on the internet, a link will be provided.

Music appears like this,

[MUSIC: "Meet me Tonight in Dreamland" - Henry Burr]

[http://youtu.be/NAeMqGibd9g]

(in the actual script the scene
would appear here)

[END MUSIC]

CONCLUSION:

For those unfamiliar with reading scripts, you now know most
everything you need to know to dive into Wind & Rain!

Note that Wind & Rain's format is modified for the purpose of
this unique story, so the formatting compared to scripts of
actual TV shows and films may differ.

Thanks for reading this and thanks for giving my unusual fic
a chance!