QUILL Version 1.20, 10 Dec 90 (See also HISTORY)

Quill is a simple Desk Accessory, by which you can examine the text contained in documents saved in a variety of formats (listed below). I normally use it to consult the 'READ-ME' files while working with new programs, or the source files while debugging, but I am sure you can be far more creative in finding ways to spend your time with it. After all, not *everybody* owns those pricey copyrighted word processing programs, specially now that MacWrite has gone commercial!

Quill was suggested to me by a good friend of mine, Giovanni, who is pretty well known among Apple users here in Italy as 'Bix Byte', the sysop of the H.P.B. BBS. Although his nickname may remind you of a very large network of a very popular magazine, there's of course absolutely no link between the two (except perhaps during uploads and downloads!).

The use is straightforward: just pop it up and click on the open button; pictures embedded in a document are displayed as '<•>'.

Quill differs from similar DA's that have appeared before mainly because:

1) It supports all the most popular formats:
    -Plain Text (from QUED, EDIT, TeachText etc.)
    -MacWrite, both old (i.e. 2.2) <u>and</u> new formats
    -MacWrite II
    -Microsoft Word, 1.xx, 3.xx, 4.0 even 'fast saved'
    -WriteNow 1.xx & 2.0
    -Nisus

2) It allows for examination of documents larger than 32k (by not using TextEdit routines), yet it lets you scroll back and forth from the top to the bottom of the document.

What **Quill** does <u>not</u> do is caring about fancy formatting and word wrapping, except for aligning all tabs to modulo-4 columns.

The error management defaults to an exciting 'beep' whenever the document cannot be read in, without any further, possibly confusing, notice. Nice, huh?

This DA is <u>not</u> public domain, but you can freely give it to your friends as long as you don't charge for it.

I ask you for no money, but if you like **Quill** please let me know by sending me a postcard. I could be fool enough to be tempted to add a better error management, or support 'Copy', 'Find' or whatever you might suggest. Have a nice time; my address is:

Sergio Villone - Casella Postale 35 - 10100 TORINO, Italy

HISTORY

Version 1.00 Released. (19 Jan 1989)

Version 1.01, 28 Feb 89
-Added support for 'ttro' type files, the read-only documents generated by TeachText, and 'EPSF' files.
Also MW reading code was slightly modified to manage files generated by intermediate versions of MW.

Version 1.10 (19 Apr 1990)
-Added support for WriteNow & Word4. Corrected a small bug which sometimes let **Quill** yeld a '-1' error at the end of some Word documents. NISUS support comes as a bonus from the ingenuity and good programming practice of Nisus' authors. Note however that for NISUS documents no <•> is displayed for embedded pictures.

Version 1.20 (10 Dec 1990)
-Added support for MacWrite II.

Fine print:
Thanks to
Giovanni for coming up with the idea;
ICOM Simulations for always being kind, and sending updates EVEN to overseas customers!
T/Maker for their prompt and excellent support (WriteNow documentation)
Please mentally append ©'s and ™'s wherever necessary.