



# Readium 2



## Tool Description

Readium R2 is a eBook reader. It can read both the norms epub 2 and epub 3. It proposes some features that are very interesting for Dys people.

Readium 2 has been developed by EDRLAB, an “international, non-profit development laboratory, working on the deployment of an open, interoperable and accessible digital publishing ecosystem in Europe.”

## What is the challenge the tool can solve?

Dyslexic people see the alphabet letters in 3D.

For them, text rows easily overlap, letters are viewed upside down, some words are mistaken for others.

All of that makes reading a difficult and exhausting tasks for dyslexic children but also for dyspraxic children who experiment difficulties focusing their eyes on the right place on the page, for instance.

## What are the benefits for Dys persons?

R2 Reader proposes some features that make dyslexic people's life easier.

It is a well known fact that dys people have difficulties reading a justified text (which is a text which edges are aligned both on the right and left border of a page). They also need a bigger space between rows and between letters on a page.

R2 proposes such features. The reader can manually adjust:

- the size of the margins
- the justification of the text (left instead of justified)
- the space between rows
- the space between letters

Moreover, R2 proposes the OpenDyslexia font, especially adapted for dyslexic readers.

## Example of use in daily life

Many specialised readers for dyslexic persons don't include epub2 and even less epub3 formats.

Radium 2 allows those persons to read a eBook with specific adaptations for dys people.

Here are three screenshots of the two first pages of Thea von Harbou's "Metropolis", which is the script of the Fritz Lang's movie of the same title.

### First screenshot: Standard display, justified text:

The text is ironed on both sides, right and left, which is called "justified". The small spacing between words and letters, the weak row height, all those features make those pages particularly difficult to read for dys persons

## Chapter 1

Now the rumbling of the great organ swelled to a roar, pressing, like a rising giant, against the vaulted ceiling, to burst through it.

Freder bent his head backwards, his wide-open, burning eyes stared unseeingly upward. His hands formed music from the chaos of the notes; struggling with the vibration of the sound and stirring him to his innermost depths.

He was never so near tears in his life and, blissfully helpless, he yielded himself up to the glowing moisture which dazzled him.

Above him, the vault of heaven in lapis lazuli; hovering therein, the twelve-fold mystery, the Signs of the Zodiac in gold. Set higher above them, the seven crowned ones: the planets. High above all a silver-shining bevy of stars: the universe.

Before the bedewed eyes of the organ-player, to his music, the stars of heavens began the solemn mighty dance.

The breakers of the notes dissolved the room into nothing. The organ, which Freder played, stood in the middle of the sea.

It was a reef upon which the waves foamed. Carrying crests of froth, they dashed violently onward, and the seventh was always the mightiest.

But high above the sea, which bellowed in the uproar of the waves, the stars of heaven danced the solemn, mighty dance.

Shaken to her core, the old earth started from her sleep. Her torrents dried up; her mountains fell to ruin. From the ripped open depths the fire welled up; The earth burnt with

all she bore. The waves of the sea became waves of fire. The organ flared up, a roaring torch of music. The earth, the sea and the hymn-blazing organ crashed in and became ashes.

But high above the deserts and the spaces, to which creation was burnt, the stars of heaven danced the solemn mighty dance.

Then, from the grey, scattered ashes, on trembling wings unspeakably beautiful and solitary, rose a bird with jewelled feathers. It uttered a mournful cry. No bird which ever lived could have mourned so agonisingly.

It hovered above the ashes of the completely ruined earth. It hovered hither and thither, not knowing where to settle. It hovered above the grave of the sea and above the corpse of the earth. Never, since the sinning angel fell from heaven to hell, had the air heard such a cry of despair.

Then, from the solemn mighty dance of the stars, one freed itself and neared the dead earth. Its light was gentler than moonlight and more imperious than the light of the sun. Among the music of the spheres it was the most heavenly note. It enveloped the mourning bird in its dear light; it was as strong as a deity, crying: "To me... to me!"

Then the jewelled bird left the grave of the sea and earth and gave its sinking wings up to the powerful voice which bore it. Moving in a cradle of light, it swept upwards and sang, becoming a note of the spheres, vanishing into Eternity...

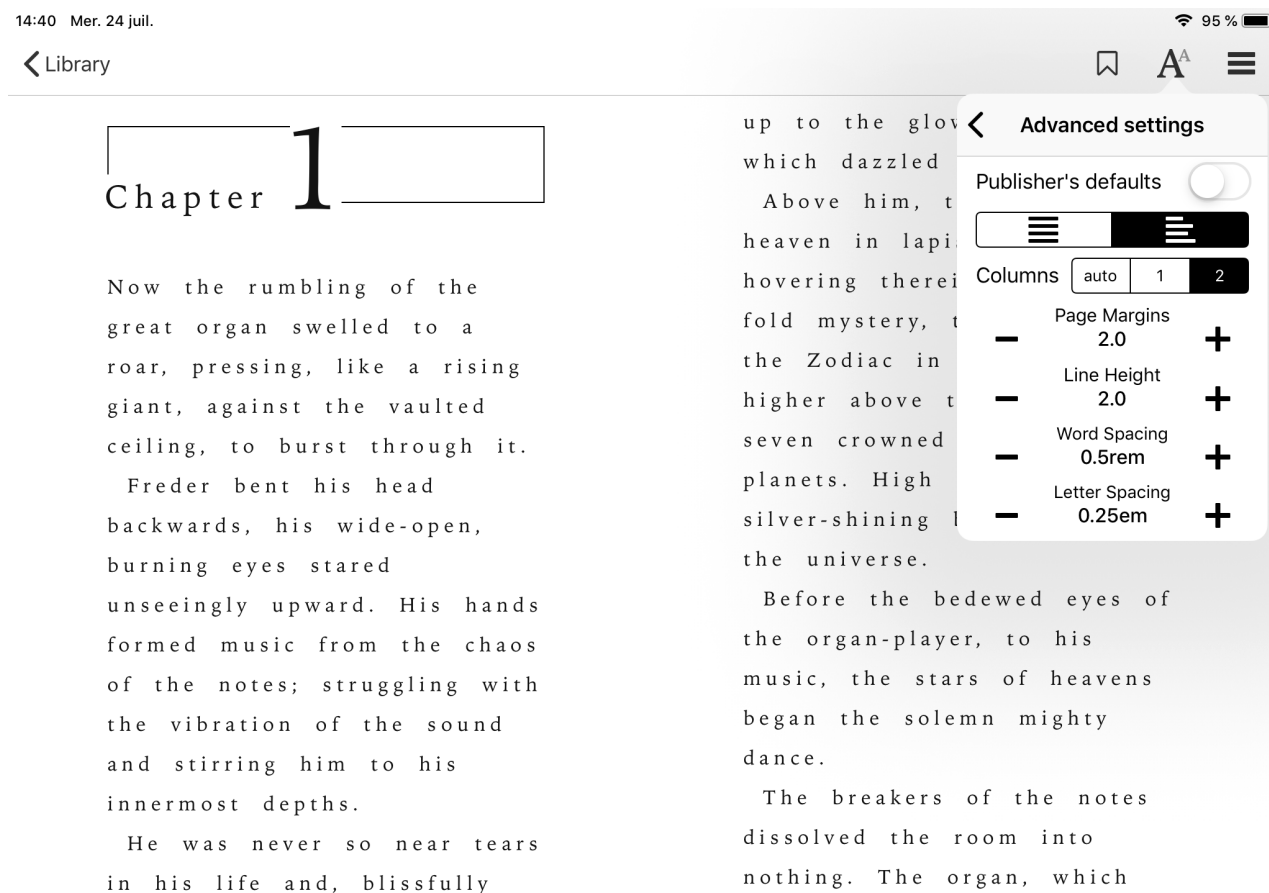
Freder let his fingers slip from the keys. He bent forward and buried his face in his hands. He pressed his eyes until he saw the fiery dance of the stars behind his eyelids. Nothing could help him—nothing. Everywhere, everywhere, in an agonising, blissful omnipresence, stood, in his vision, the one one countenance.

The austere countenance of the virgin, the sweet countenance of the mother—the agony and the desire with which he called and called for the one single vision for which his racked heart had not even a name, except the one, eternal, you... you... you!

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## Second screenshot: Same text, with bigger margins, augmented space between rows, words and letters:



## Third screenshot: Same pages with adapted margins, bigger spaces between rows, words and letter, and use of the OpenDyslexic font type:

