

The Recto Rule

A short book that always opens its chapters on the right

CHAPTER 1**Of Pages and Their Sides**

Paragraph 1. A chapter that must begin on a right-hand page will, when the page before it is itself a right-hand page, leave the intervening left-hand page empty rather than start on the wrong side. That empty page is a real page: it carries the running head and its folio, and it counts toward the total.

Paragraph 2. A chapter that must begin on a right-hand page will, when the page before it is itself a right-hand page, leave the intervening left-hand page empty rather than start on the wrong side. That empty page is a real page: it carries the running head and its folio, and it counts toward the total.

Paragraph 3. A chapter that must begin on a right-hand page will, when the page before it is itself a right-hand page, leave the intervening left-hand page empty rather than start on the wrong side. That empty page is a real page: it carries the running head and its folio, and it counts toward the total.

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CHAPTER 2

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COLOPHON**Where the Break Is Declared**

This heading opens on a right-hand page like every chapter before it, but the rule that puts it there is written on the heading rather than on the division that contains it. A heading is the first thing in its division, so there is no earlier sibling for the break to fall after; the break point before it is the same break point as the one before the division, and it is resolved there.

A break declared on the very first thing in a document is a different matter. Nothing precedes it, so there is nothing to break from, and no page is manufactured in front of it.