

Taming Library Monsters:  
LibraryThing and Library Elf



Ellie Collier  
Reference Librarian, Austin Community College  
Texas Library Association Annual Conference, April 16, 2008

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

WHAT IS LIBRARYTHING?

- Social cataloging
  - Catalog = Searchable record of all your books
  - Social = Online, easy to share and aggregate info, easy to make connections to other people and organizations

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH LIBRARYTHING?

- Catalog your personal books
- Provide a catalog for an organization
- Connect with people who read the same things
  - Groups
  - Friends
- Tag your books and explore others' tags
- Get recommendations
- Write reviews

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

## LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- **Sign Up**
- **Add Books**
- **View Your Library**
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- **View Your Books**
- **Your Profile**
- **Talk & Groups**
- **Recommendations**
- **Share**




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



The screenshot shows the LibraryThing homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Home', 'Search', 'Library', 'Talk', 'Groups', 'Join', 'About', and 'FAQ'. Below the navigation, there's a main content area with a 'What is LibraryThing?' section. This section includes a brief description of the site as a library-quality catalog and a list of features such as 'Meet the world's largest book club', 'Catalog with Amazon', and 'Add recommendations'. On the right side, there's a 'Sign in' section with a search bar and a 'Sign up' button. The bottom of the page has a footer with various links and copyright information.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

## LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- **Sign Up**
- **Add Books**
- **View Your Library**
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- **View Your Books**
- **Your Profile**
- **Talk & Groups**
- **Recommendations**
- **Share**




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- Sign Up
- Add Books
- View Your Library
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- View Your Books
- Your Profile
- Talk & Groups
- Recommendations
- Share

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

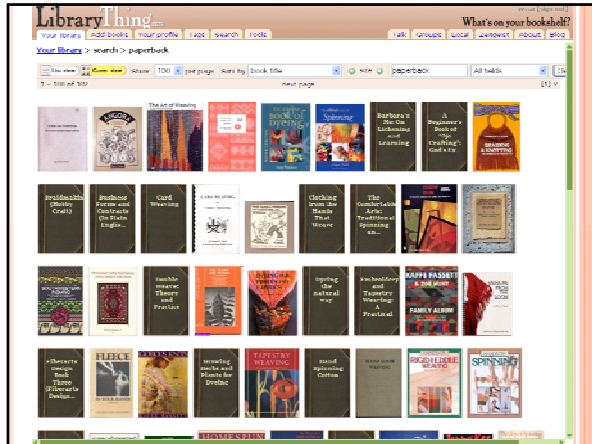
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- Sign Up
- Add Books
- View Your Library
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- View Your Books
- Your Profile
- Talk & Groups
- Recommendations
- Share

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- Sign Up
- Add Books
- View Your Library
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- View Your Books
- **Your Profile**
- Talk & Groups
- Recommendations
- Share




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

The screenshot shows a LibraryThing profile for the user 'wssa'. The profile includes a header with navigation links, a main section for the user's library (1,965 books), a list of tags, and an 'About me' section describing the Weavers and Spinners Society of Austin. There are also sections for 'Members with your books', 'Member connections', and 'Random books from wssa's library'.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- Sign Up
- Add Books
- View Your Library
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- View Your Books
- **Your Profile**
- **Talk & Groups**
- Recommendations
- Share




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### LIBRARYTHING - AN OVERVIEW

- Sign Up
- Add Books
- View Your Library
  - Apply tags
  - Rate your books
  - Write reviews or link to a review
- View Your Books
- Your Profile
- Talk & Groups
- Recommendations
- **Share**




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**LIBRARY**

Welcome to the library home page.

The Library Committee members for 2007-2008 are [Sue Plattsmier](#) (Chair), [Lisa Charbonnet](#), [Ellie Collier](#), and [Lori Renson](#).

We are very excited this year to have Jennifer Hughes, a student from UT's [School of Information](#) working with us to catalog our periodicals and other non-book items.

We are also working to catalog our books on LibraryThing. Feel free to view [our profile](#) or visit [our catalog](#). We'll be adding more of our books to our LibraryThing catalog throughout the year. If you would like to review any of our books, help with tagging, or help photograph covers, let any committee member know and we will send you the login information and let you know about library work days.

You can search the catalog below:

WSDA LibraryThing




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Thank You

And thanks to Barbara Johnson for sharing her previous presentation on which this one was based.




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

CONTACT INFO

- LibraryThing
  - [librarything.com](http://librarything.com)
- Weavers and Spinners Society of Austin
  - [wssaustin.org/library.html](http://wssaustin.org/library.html)
  - [librarything.com/profile/wssa](http://librarything.com/profile/wssa)
- Ellie Collier, Austin Community College
  - [ecollier@austincc.edu](mailto:ecollier@austincc.edu)
  - [ellieheartslibraries.wordpress.com](http://ellieheartslibraries.wordpress.com) (blog)
  - [del.icio.us/acclibrarians/librarything](http://del.icio.us/acclibrarians/librarything) (links about LibraryThing)



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---