1 WHAT DESIGN DECISIONS CHANGED?

Throughout development of the Many Voices Publishing Platform, only a few changes were made throughout development that strayed from the original requirements and planning.

	Design	Description of What Happened	Comments
1	User login & Authentication	We were unsure if we would be using 3rd party login or rolling our own; we used Google's oAuth backend	3rd party login allowed us to simplify the new account creation experience.
2	Book compilation	LaTeX files are constructed in-memory and saved to disk before compilation, rather than being saved individually and constructed with `\include` and `\input`.	This allows us to more easily change the document design and to implement an easier data flow.
3	Make text formatting transparent to user	Users can choose to write scraps with full LaTeX enabled, or in plain-text mode.	This change allows for much more powerful document creation. Creating a table or a chart is now possible, which would not have been possible if the user had to use a GUI-based editor.
4	Use passwords to authenticate users	Instead of passwords, a user logs in with their Google account. A token is generated that is then stored in their browser and in the backend database.	Users no longer need to remember a password and instead of storing a password, we can store unique, randomly generated tokens, removing the risk of password leakage.
5	Passwords must be salted and hashed	Instead of passwords, tokens are used. Tokens are hashed but not salted to allow for token lookup directly.	Tokens do not need to be salted, as they are already unique to the service and leaking a token does not harm user security. Tokens are stored salted, and so still require a large amount of computation to break a single token.
6	Use a SQL database for user data	Instead of a SQL database, a document storage database was used.	Using a document storage database made sense, since the data we were storing was already created as document-style JSON objects. Storing these and retrieving these as JSON simplified the marshalling to and from SQL statements would have required.