

short(!) overview

Personal Library App

My project is now focusing on just the user's personal library catalog. It is not about buying books or anything like that, it is just for those people who like to have a running list of all their books and where/if they own them!

Things I have done so far:

- Connected to the OpenLibrary API
- Created the function to look up and store books to your personal library
- Made the ability to view the whole library

It is a pretty straight forward process:

1. You are presented with a menu

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Menu Options
1. Add book
2. View library
3. Search for a book
Please enter a number corresponding to your menu option:█
```

2. You select what you would like to do (in this case we are looking for a book to add)

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```
Menu Options
1. Add book
2. View library
3. Search for a book
Please enter a number corresponding to your menu option:3
You selected option: 3
Enter the title of the book you want to search for: Little Prince
Dinah Maria Mulock Craik
1800
Do you want to add this book to your library?
Enter 'yes' or 'no': █
```

3. Verify your book has been added

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5. Search for a book
Please enter a number corresponding to your menu option:2
You selected option: 2

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	title	author	type
0	Alex	25	paper
1	Poe	5	audio
2	title	author	type
3	Dylan	252	digital
4	Janie	15	book
5	Dylan	252	digital
6	Janie	15	book
7	NaN	NaN	NaN
8	Tiana	Mom	audio
9	Sarah	Mr.Beans	digital
10	LittlePrince	Alex Brent	paper
11	Running with Wolves	Albi Wale	digital
12	yes	Carl Hiaasen	audio
13	dracula	Bram Stoker	paper
14	hamlet	William Shakespeare	paper
15	hoo	Carl Hiaasen	audio
16	hol	Louis Sachar	digital
17	Good Omens	Neil Gaiman	audio
18	Little Prince	Dinah Maria Mulock Craik	paper

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Issues I faced

- I struggled a lot in the beginning just trying to wrap my head about the code stuff. I kept trying to just use what we had already done and was worried about trying new things. I eventually had to just start from scratch and reorganize how I was handling things.
- I could not figure out how to make an API work at first. I initially just scraped a site for books and was using that for my search database set. I never figured out the whole Google Books API but I searched for alternatives and found the OpenLibrary one and it was super straightforward to implement.
- At the moment I am not hitting any major issues! I have to add a notes input to the users library and maybe some sort of edit where they can update a book they already own, but those things seem pretty straightforward. I am going to just add a notes field and input to the set. Then I will probably use the `_append` option to allow users to edit what is currently in their library.

Milestones

- Error Reports
 - I need to identify where things could go wrong and create some sort of response. I am thinking of just creating a function and having it start if someone does something the app does not like.
- Have a Visual
 - I need to start working on how to visualize this app. While it works currently I think I need to work on creating a basic interface for it.

- More DATA!
 - I want to try and pull the covers of books in and also maybe make different datasets so users have multiple “shelves” to organize their collection. I think that could be really cool. But will need to figure out how to feed them all into the one main dataset.
- Toggles and Buttons and Inputs OH MY
 - I think the whole process could be made cleaner if there were not so many input fields. I think we can add some different fields to make everything feel a bit smoother.
- Gussy her up
 - I want to make it nice to look at for the users as they are going through.

Self Reflection

- I feel really good about my progress so far! I have learned a whole lot. I was really proud of myself that I accepted that what I had was not working and took a step back to reassess and come up with what I currently have which is much cleaner and smoother.
- I think I can definitely have a finished project. It might not be the most complex thing, but I think it will be what I was envisioning to a degree.
- Making all the inputs and interactions with users was way more straightforward than I thought it would be. The datasets were so confusing to me! I could not figure how to save or edit or delete and it was all suuuuper annoying.
- Nothing jumps out at me as a lightbulb moment. There was that day I spent like 3 hours trying to figure out why something was not working and it turns out I had commented out a line I didnt mean to...