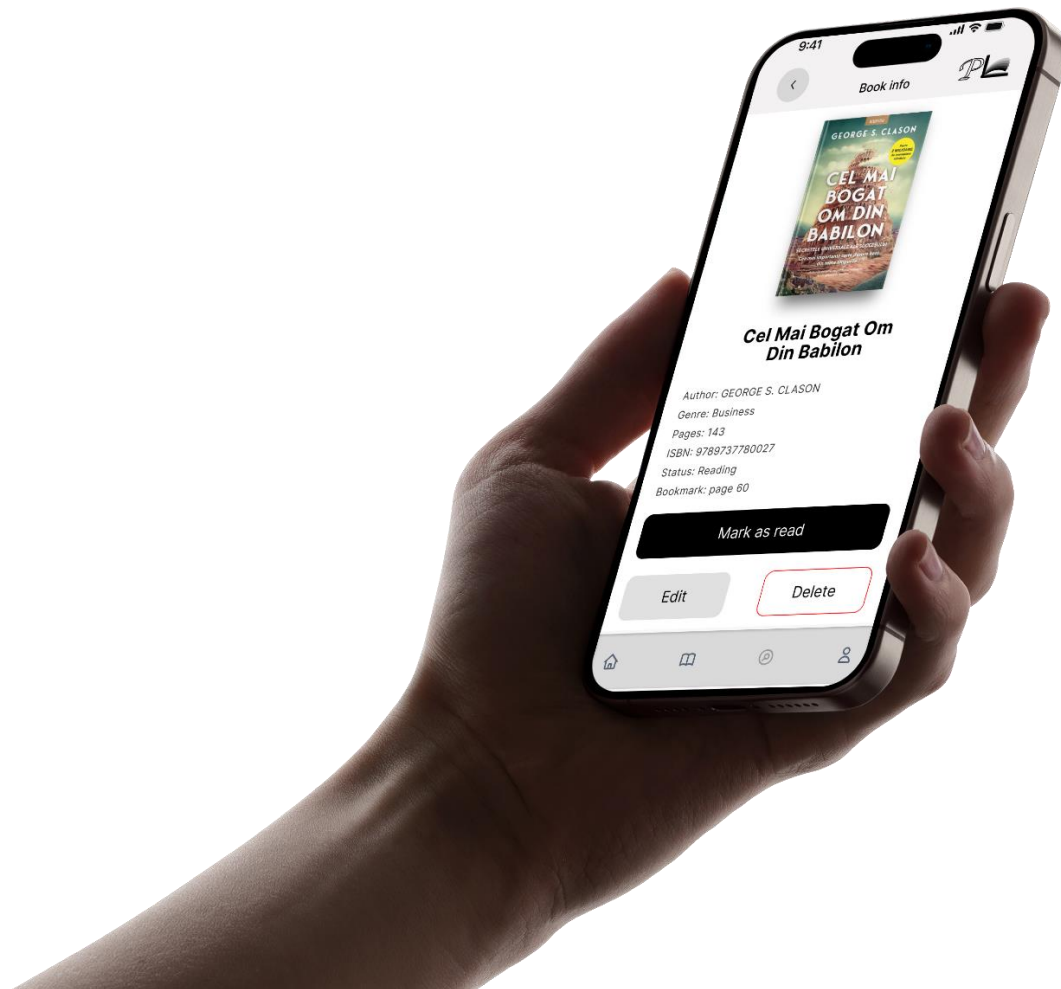


# PERSONAL LIBRARY APP

## Project Documentation



**PROJECT NAME:**      **Personal Library Desktop App**

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**COURSE:**             **C#**

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**ACADEMY:**          **IT School**

**GITHUB PROJECT:**   [Click here](#)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION (PROJECT DESCRIPTION)

### 1.1. About the Project

The Personal Library application is a project assignment for the C# course at IT School Academy. Built using C#, it provides a comprehensive set of features for organizing, filtering, and maintaining a record of your books. The application can be developed for multiple platforms, including console, Windows, and mobile. Future sections of this documentation will explore these implementations.

The application was initially designed for mobile application but the implementation was reconfigured for windows desktop use because the design framework learned in the C# course is “Microsoft Windows Forms”.

The phone layout design was implemented in windows application as a widget.

### 1.2. Main Application Features

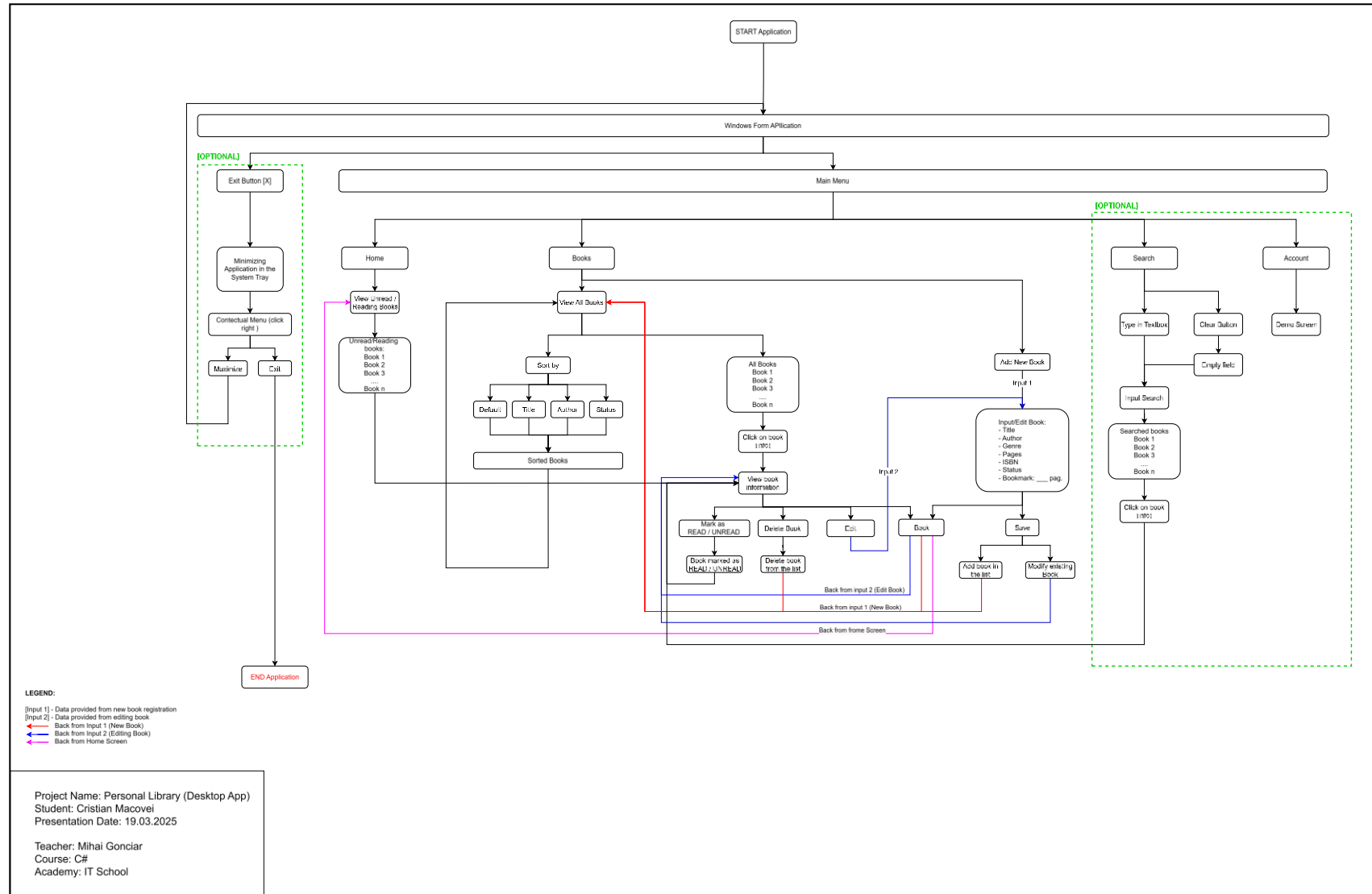
- **Home Page:** Displays books marked as 'Reading' or 'Unread' for a quick overview.
- **Book Management:** Add, edit, and delete books from your collection.
- **Sorting Options:** Sort books by title, author, or status.
- **Search Functionality:** Search for books by title or author.
- **Book Details:** View and modify book details.
- **System Tray Support:** The app minimizes in the system tray for easy access.
- **Settings Persistence:** Saves the last window location preferences.

### 1.3. Technology Used

- **Programming Language:** C# (Windows Forms for UI development)
- **IDE:** Visual Studio 2022

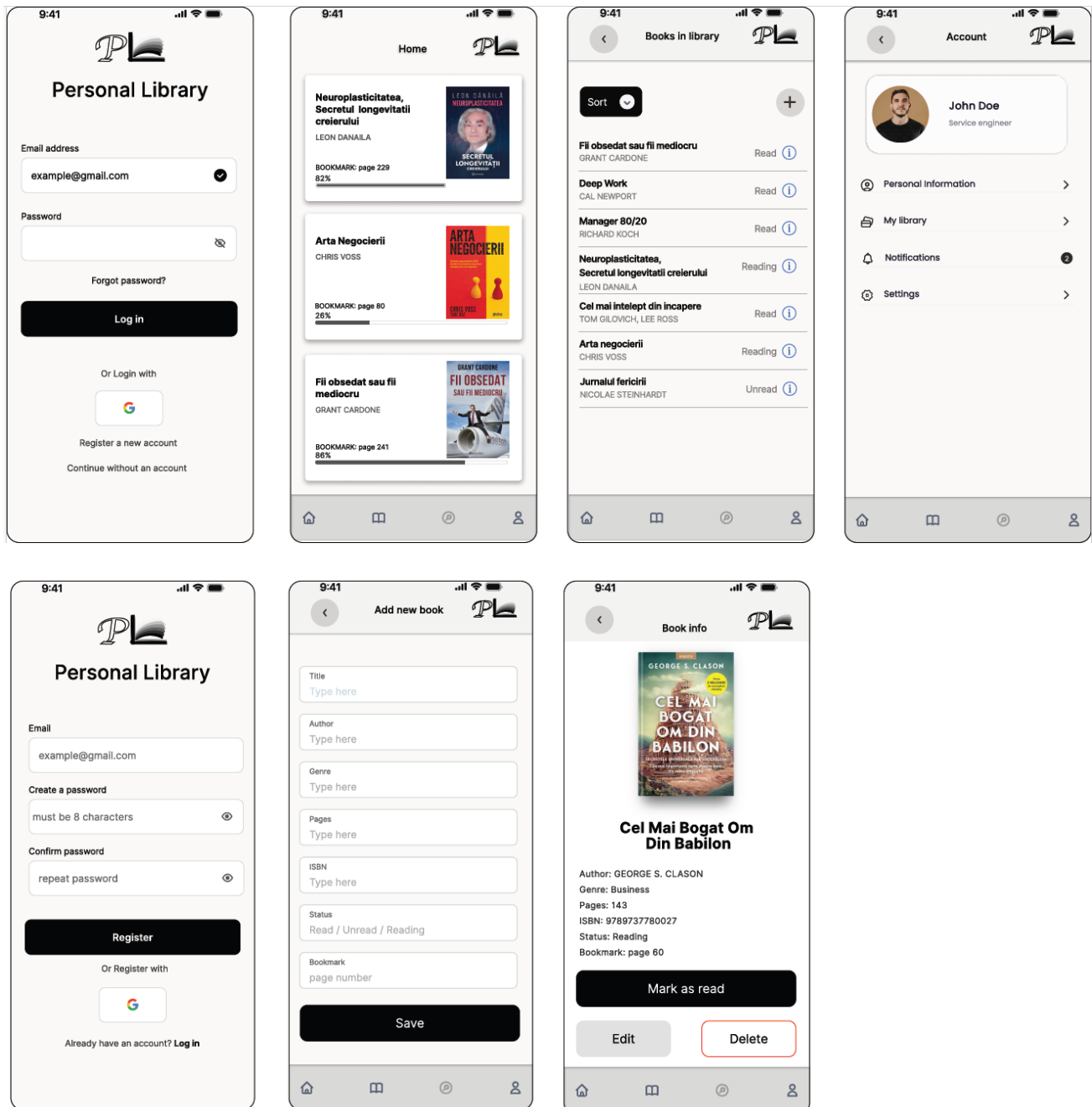
## 2. APPLICATION ARCHITECTURE

### 2.1. Logic Diagram

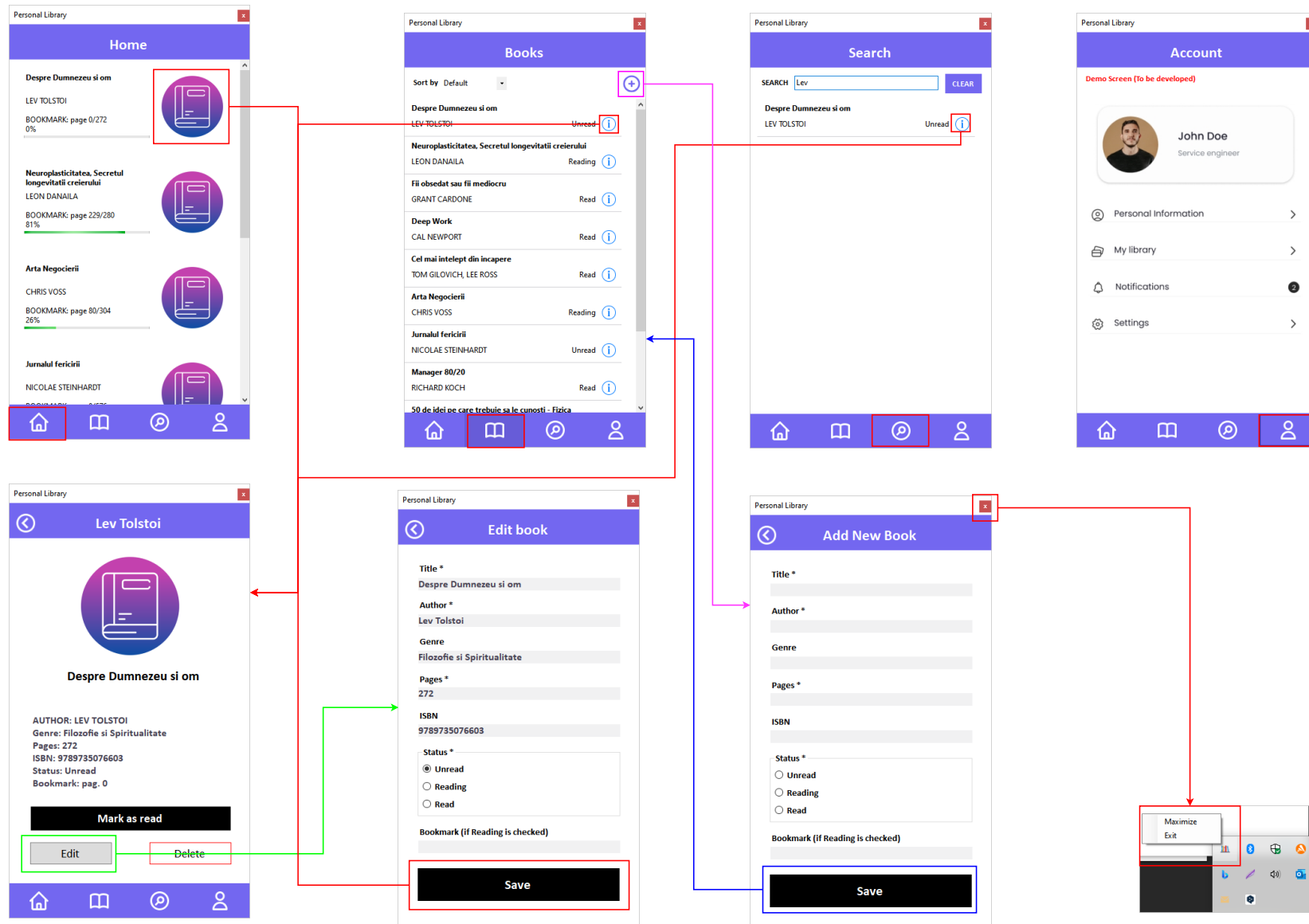


## 2.2. User Interface - Wireframe Sketch

Program used: Figma



## 2.3. User Interface Design – Windows Forms



## 3. INSTALLATION AND SETUP

### 3.1. System Requirements

Before installing the application, ensure that your system meets the following requirements:

- **Operating System:** Windows 10 or later
- **Development Environment:** Visual Studio 2022 (or later)
- **.NET Framework:** .NET 8.0 or later
- **Disk Space:** At least 500MB of free space

### 3.2. Installation Guide

Follow these steps to install and run the application:

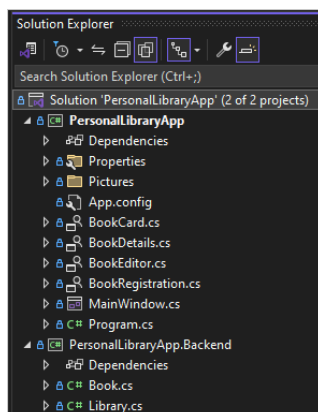
#### 1. Clone the repository

Open a terminal or command prompt and run the following command to download the source code:

“git clone <https://github.com/CristiMCV91/PersonalLibraryDesktopApp.git>”

#### 2. Open the solution in Visual Studio

- Launch **Visual Studio 2022**.
- Click on **File → Open → Project/Solution**.
- Navigate to the cloned repository folder and open the *PersonalLibraryDesktopApp.sln* file.
- Project structure with separate project for Frontend (Windows Forms) and Backend (Class Library):



#### 3. Build and Run the Project

- In Visual Studio, ensure the correct startup project is selected.
- Click **Build → Build Solution** (or press Ctrl + Shift + B) to compile the project.
- Click **Start** (or press F5) to run the application.

Once the application is running, you can start adding and managing your book collection.

### 3.3. Running the Application

After successfully building the project, you can run the **Personal Library** application and interact with its features.

#### Running from Visual Studio

If you are running the application from **Visual Studio**, follow these steps:

1. Ensure that the **Startup Project** is correctly set:
  - In **Solution Explorer**, right-click on the main project.
  - Select **Set as Startup Project** if not already selected.
2. Click the **Start** button in Visual Studio or press F5 to launch the application.

#### Running the Executable File

If you want to run the application without opening Visual Studio, you can execute the built .exe file:

1. Navigate to the bin folder in the project directory:
  - If built in **Debug** mode:  
`PersonalLibraryApp\PersonalLibraryDesktopApp\PersonalLibraryApp\bin\Debug\net8.0-windows\`
  - If built in **Release** mode (for distribution):  
`PersonalLibraryApp\PersonalLibraryDesktopApp\PersonalLibraryApp\bin\Release\net8.0-windows\`
2. Locate the `PersonalLibraryDesktopApp.exe` file.
3. Double-click the file to launch the application.



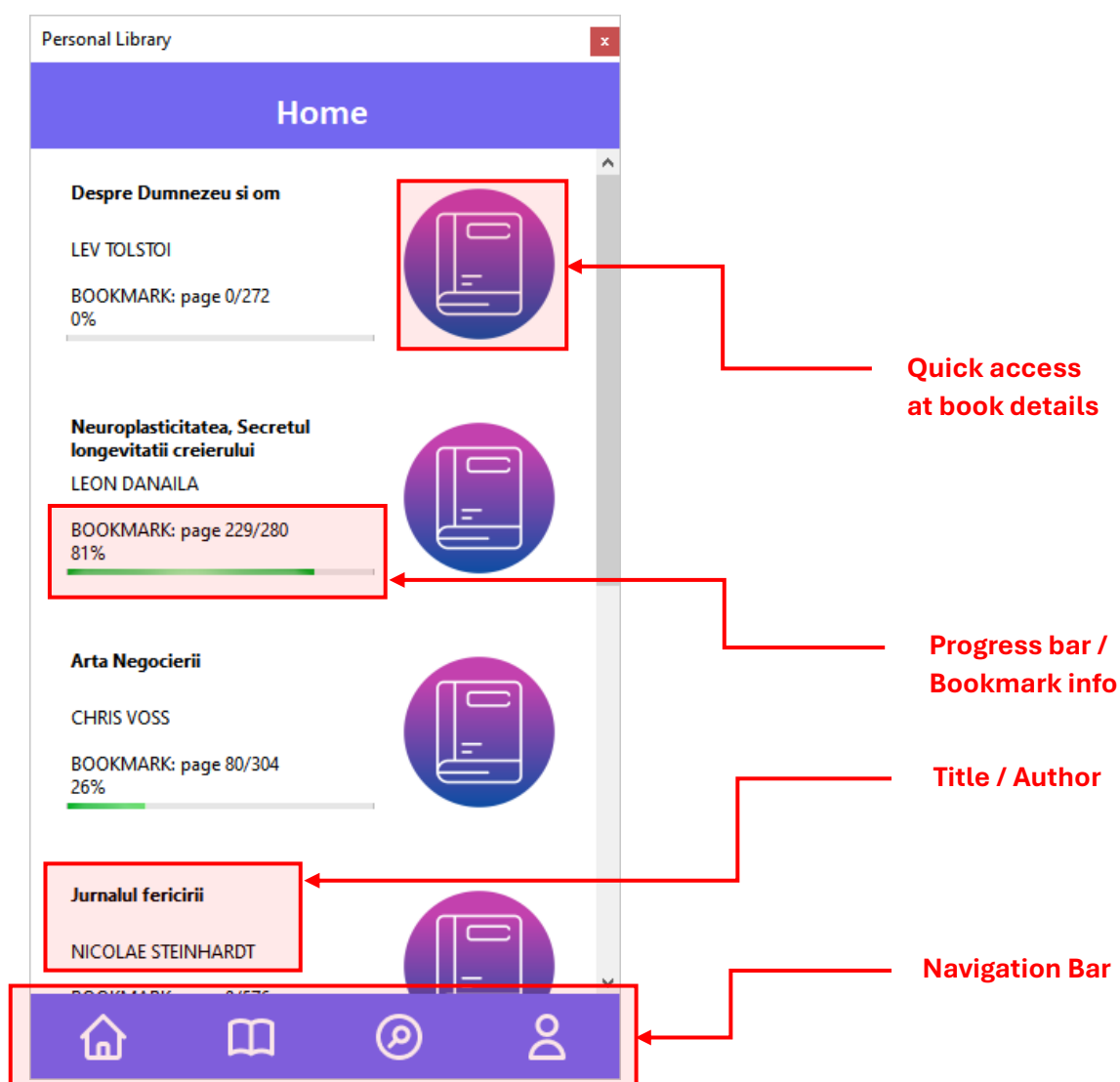
## 4. FEATURES AND USAGE

This section provides an in-depth look at the main features of the **Personal Library** application, explaining how to navigate and utilize its functionalities efficiently.

### 4.1. Home Page Overview

The **Home Page** serves as a dashboard of the application, offering a quick view at your book collection with status “**reading**” and “**unread**”. Key elements include:

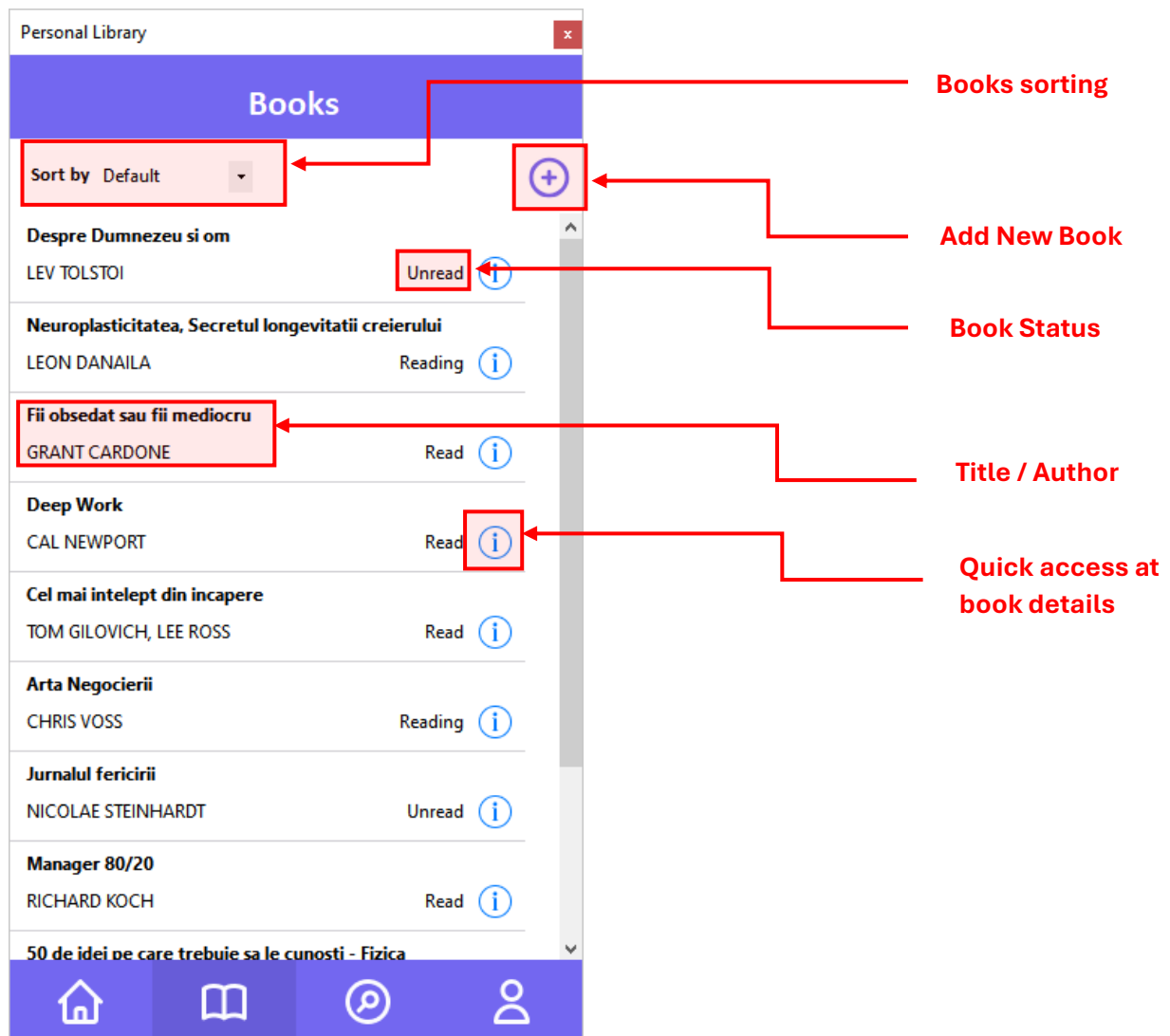
- **Books Display:** Shows books categorized as *Reading* or *Unread* for quick access
- **Navigation Menu:** Provides access to other sections, such as all books, find a book, and account (not developed yet).
- **Quick Actions:** Allows users to access details of a book by clicking on the pictogram 📖 of each book.



## 4.2. Adding and Managing Books

Users can add new books to their library and manage existing entries:

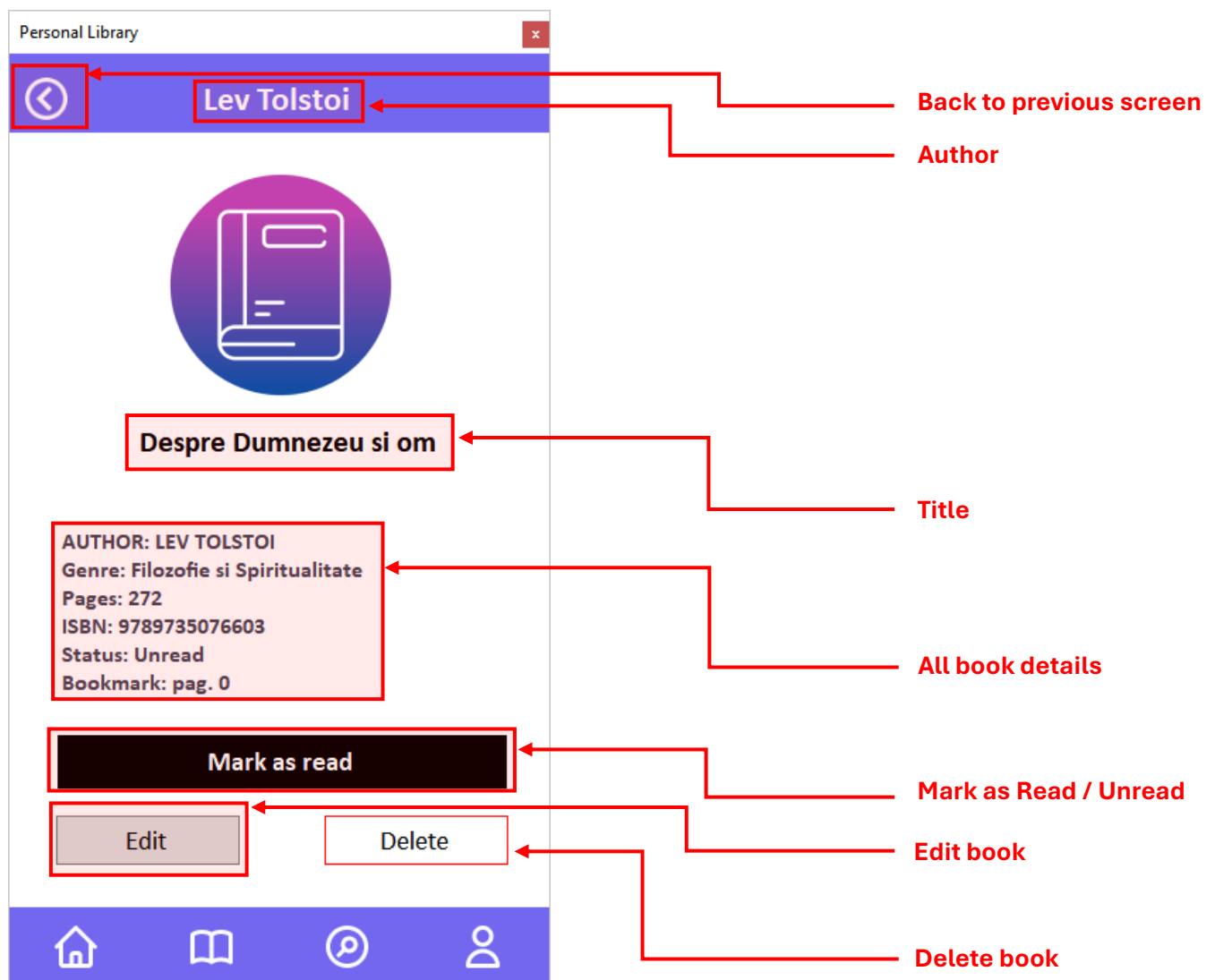
- **Adding a New Book:**
  - Click on the "Add Book" button.
- **Sort books by: Default / Title / Author / Status**
- **View Book details**



### 4.3. Viewing and Editing Book Details

Each book has a detailed view that includes:

- **Book Information:** Title, Author, Genre, and Status.
- **Change Book Status:** Read / Unread
- **Edit book:** Users can update book details anytime.
- **Delete Book:** user can delete a book



## 4.4. Adding and Editing Books

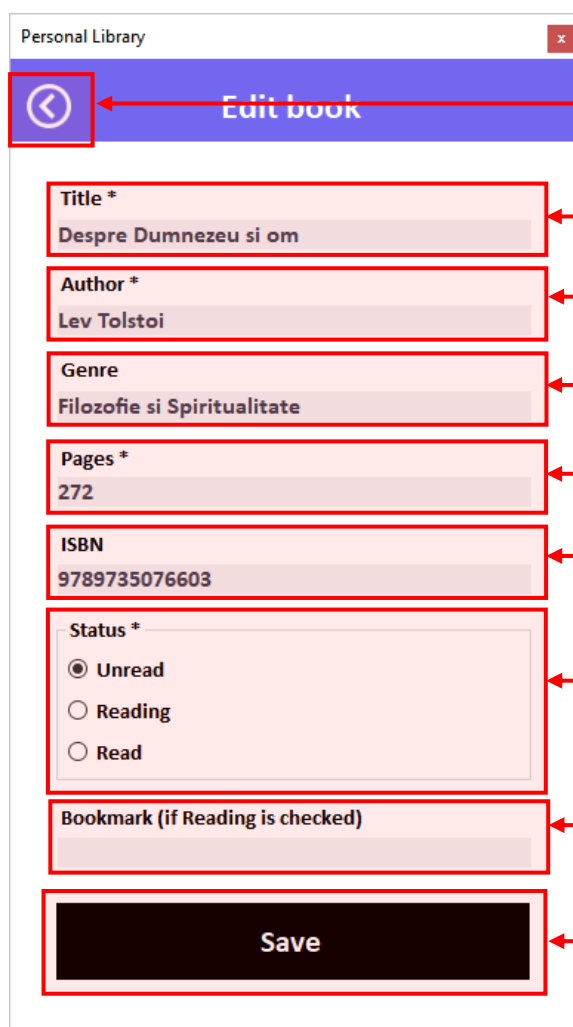
The **Personal Library** application allows users to efficiently add new books and edit existing ones through a structured form interface.

### Open the Book Form:

- Click **"Add New Book"** to create a new entry (section 4.2).
- To edit an existing book, select it from the list and click **"Edit"** (section 4.3).

### Enter or Modify Book Details:

- **Title (Required)** – Enter or update the book's title.
- **Author (Required)** – Provide or change the author's name.
- **Genre (Optional)** – Provide or change the genre of the book.
- **Pages (Required)** – Enter or change the number of pages.
- **ISBN (Optional)** – Provide or change the ISBN unique code of the book.
- **Status** – Select one of the reading statuses: *Unread* / *Reading* / *Read*
- **Bookmark (Required if Reading status is checked)** – Specify or update the last page read.
- **Save button:** This will save your new book or updated details.



Personal Library

**Edit book**

**Title \***

**Title (Required)**

**Author \***

**Author (Required)**

**Genre**

**Genre (Optional)**

**Pages \***

**Pages (Required)**

**ISBN**

**ISBN (Optional)**

**Status \***

☒ Unread

☐ Reading

☐ Read

**Status (Required)**

**Bookmark (if Reading is checked)**

**Bookmark (Required if Reading status is checked)**

**Save**

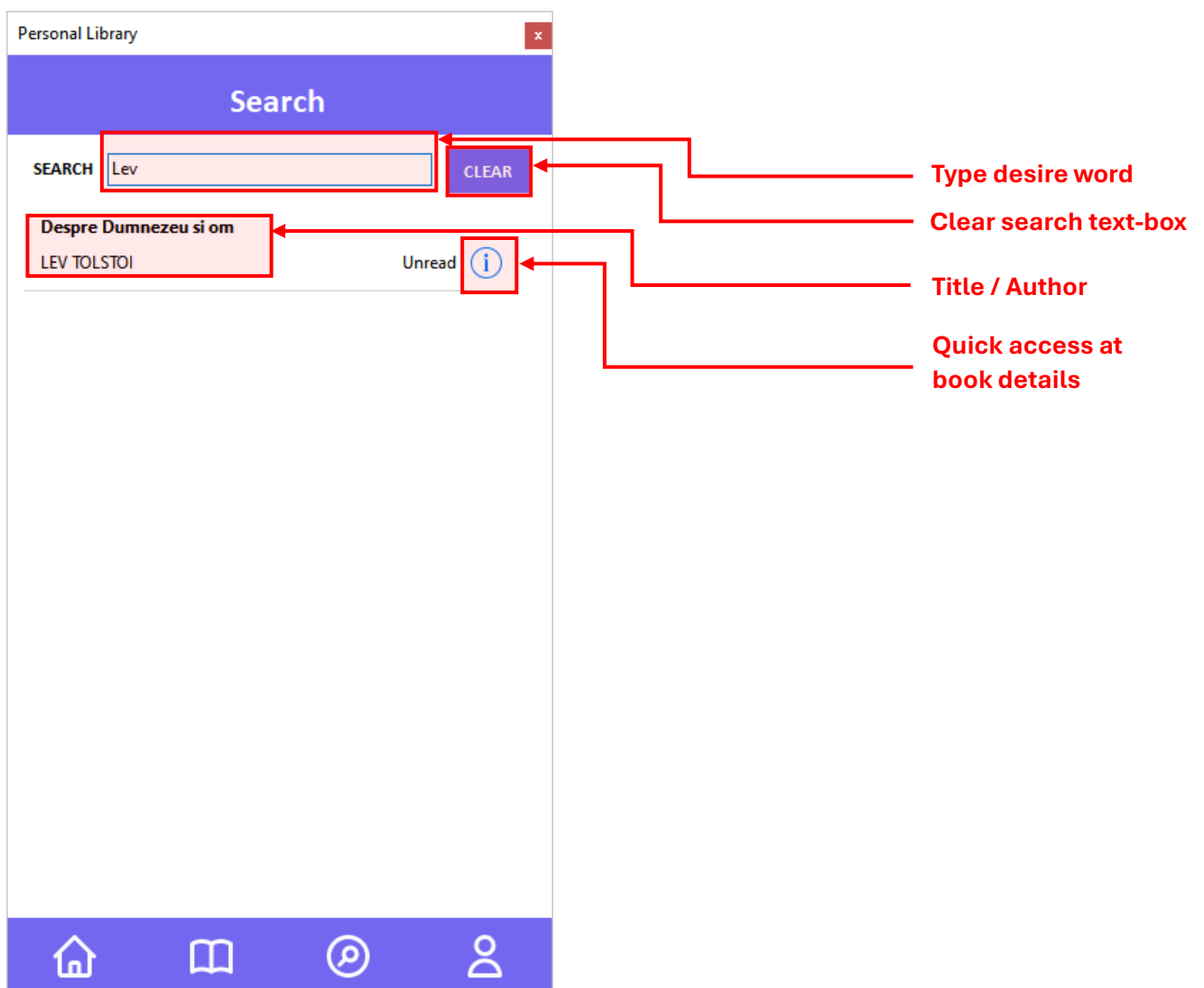
**Save**

**Back to previous**

## 4.5. Search Function

The application provides a **Search section**:

- **Search Functionality:**
  - Users can search for books by *Title* or *Author* using the search bar.
- **Clear button:**
  - User can clear the words typed in the text box by pressing clear button



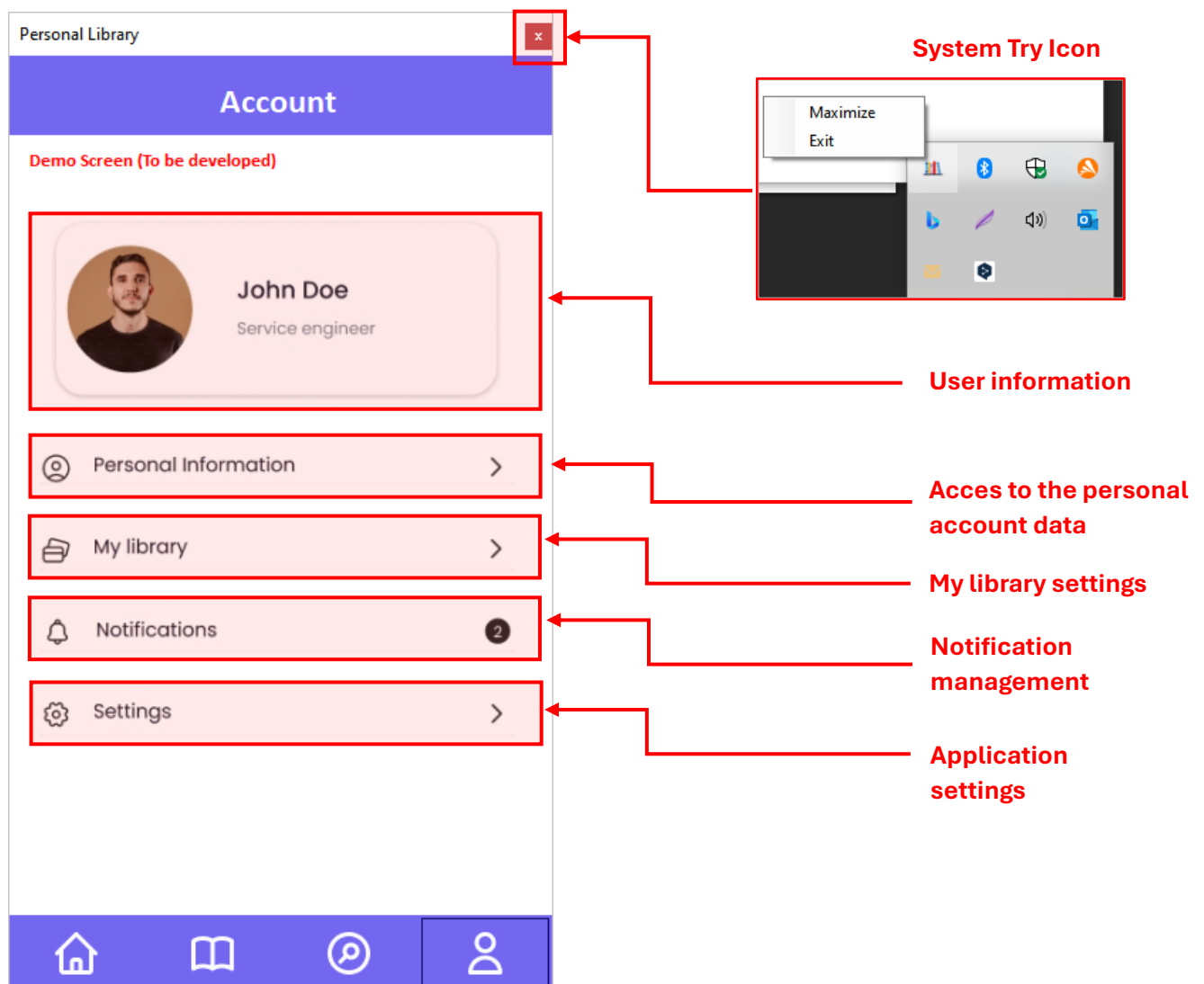
#### 4.6. Account Section and System Tray Functionality

In the future the application will be upgraded with authentication and data synchronization.

In this phase of the **Account** section is only a Demo Screen with an example picture.

Also the **Personal Library** application supports **System Tray Mode** for minimal disruption while working:

- When minimized, the application remains active in the **Windows System Tray**. For the first minimization will appear a pop-up notification in the bottom-right corner of the screen.
- Users can reopen the application by double clicking the **tray icon**.
- Right-clicking the tray icon provides quick actions such as **Maximize** and **Exit**.



## 5. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT & ENHANCEMENTS

As the **Personal Library** application evolves, I aim to leverage the knowledge from the **IT School** course of **C#** to implement planned improvements and expansions that will enhance its functionality and user experience.

### 5.1. Potential Features and Upgrades

I have in plan future updates to introduce additional functionality that will improve usability and expand the application's capabilities.

#### Feature Expansion Ideas:

- **Dark Mode & Custom Themes:** Users could personalize the interface with different themes for a better visual experience.
- **Advanced Filtering & Tagging:** Additional options to categorize books using custom tags, multi-level filtering, and reading history tracking.
- **Integration with Online Libraries:** Connecting to services such as **Google Books API** for automatic book information update by the unique code ISBN.
- **User Accounts & Profiles:** Implementing login functionality that will allow users to manage their personal book collections and to borrow books between friends.
- **Reminders & Notifications:** Setting reading goals with reminders for unfinished books or upcoming releases from favorite authors.

### 5.2. Mobile Application Plans

Although the initial design was intended for mobile, the current implementation is optimized for windows using **Windows Forms**. Future versions may revisit mobile development with modern frameworks such as **.NET MAUI**.

#### Planned Mobile Features:

- **Cross-Platform Compatibility:** The application could be developed for both **iOS** and **Android**, providing seamless access across devices.
- **Cloud Synchronization:** Users could sync their book collection across multiple devices using **cloud storage** or a **dedicated database**.
- **Offline Mode:** The mobile version would allow users to add, edit, and manage books without an internet connection, with data synchronization upon reconnection.
- **Mobile-Friendly UI:** A redesigned interface optimized for touchscreens, including swipe gestures for book navigation and quick actions.