

# EECS 2311 SecZ Winter 2024 Team 3

## Project Proposal

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# Project Vision Statement

The purpose of this project, named LongBox, is to provide concise documentation of out of print comic books published from either small or defunct publishers, and independently published ones as well.

It will include information such as the creators (writer, editor, penciler, inker, colourer, letterer, etc), publisher(s), publication dates, the cover page, and description of the book itself. An application created by hardcore comic fans for hardcore comic fans to provide a digital means to archive these books and ensure their longevity at a time where the comics medium faces a decline in sales due to publisher neglect.

Furthermore, the project does not stay strict to cataloging only out of print and independent comics. This is simply the focus and motivation. If users are keen on cataloging more mainstream publications they are free and encouraged to do so.

Now to explain the choice of name as it may be an unfamiliar term. A short box is a home comic book storage device and a long box is a commercial comic book storage device. This application is called longbox as it serves to help users store and archive their comic book collection in a digital long box. As well, future iterations of this project are to be ported to a web-application. We hope that it does eventually become a popular hub for comic book enthusiasts to archive and learn about comic books.

Acting as a sort of digital library management system, LongBox aims to provide a concise documentation of out of print comics, where users can upload, browse, and classify comic books. The value in a project such as this is to provide an open source desktop-based option to push back against the over digitization of print media. While it is good to create digital media, doing so at the expense of print media, thereby rendering it obsolete is not a good direction for the world to take. There is a serious problem of classic print literature of all forms becoming hard or impossible to obtain.

This project is built from scratch and not based on any existing project. It will only use libraries/frameworks. The project will allow users to make profiles and submit comic books to be added to the system's catalog. Furthermore, the project will also have a recommendations system to suggest comic books to users based on popularity and recently added items.

# Big User Stories

## Iteration 1 Detailed User Stories

# Customer Meeting & Summary

The customer for this application will be an avid fan of comic book/graphic novel literature. His name is Rocco. He is a young male in his 20s from the Greater Toronto Area and has no formal/professional technology background.

# Appendix: Rough Work Done Before ITR0 Document Was Given

## Requirements/Features

This program will have multiple tabs, such as a favorites, search (with filtering), account, view history, and an add comic tab.

Nothing will be possible if not logged in, a user must initially sign up or log in with an email, password, and username. All of this will be stored on a database with the password hashed for safe encryption. The user tab will contain information about the user's account, a brief description, and a profile picture. There will also be some user settings as well as a logout button.

The main feature will be the search tab, as you can search and filter comics based on their characteristics such as title, creative team, publisher, year, and genre. A user will be able to search for a certain comic with either a title search or with more elaborate filters. When a user selects a certain title, they will also be presented with the publication information and creative team of the comic complemented by a picture of the first issue's title page as well as a brief description. To add on, there will also be an interactive forum where users will be able to discuss the comic and interact with others.

Furthermore, once a user has selected a comic, it will be added to their view history, which is a separate tab that can be accessed. The final feature will be to favorite a comic, which will then store it in the favorites tab. The user will be able to navigate to this section and view all their favorite content.

Additionally, the users will be able to also upload a comic entry into a separate database and include all the relevant characteristics for a comic as discussed previously. The database will also forbid any duplicate entries.

### Features:

- Search tab to filter and search for desired title(s)
- Favorites tab to store and view favorited comics
- Add tab to add a comic entry to the database
- History tab to view previously viewed titles
- Accounts tab to view and edit user information and log out

### Unique Features:

- Users are able to upload a comic to the database, which can be viewed by other users
- User can comment and interact with others on a comics' forum section

- Users can filter with great detail for the title(s) they want to search for
- User will have a favorites tab to keep track of their favorite titles
- User will have a view history to see all the comics they viewed
- A trending page, which entries will be based on their favorites count

## Use Cases

UC1A: Users can sign-up to create an account

UC1B: Users can log-in to view their account

UC2: Users can upload the cataloging information for a comic book to add it to a shared system repository of comic books

UC3: Users can search and filter comics based on title, author, genre, publisher, year, and creative team

UC4A: Users can create and maintain a list of their favorite comics. They can add/remove comic books from this list if they choose.

UC4B: Users can view the full catalog of books added to the database and select these for their own personal collection

UC5A: Users can comment their thoughts on a comic book

UC5B: Users can view the comments by others on a comic book

UC6: users can view trending comic books in a trending page