CSC 309: PROJECT PROPOSAL

Novel Sharing Web Application

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Overall Purpose

The website we have decided to build is a community driven novel sharing website. Users will be able to sign up to the website and share books that they are writing/written. Users are also able to read the novels that people share. Our website serves people who are passionate about writing (or are new to writing and want to explore what it is like), as well as those who enjoy reading and discovering new material. The benefit our site provides is that it helps writers (aimed towards smaller writers) gain exposure by releasing their material to a large audience. They can also receive feedback on their books. It also provides a benefit to people who enjoy reading and like to discover new material written by different people.

Users of the website have two main functionalities: 1. Author, 2. Reader. As an author a user can create a novel on the website and upload the chapters they have written. The website will function in a way where the writer can publish their book incrementally (chapter by chapter) as they write it. The majority of the website's functionality comes as a reader. A user can see a list of popular books and writers, as well as newly created books. They can search for books and view other users' profiles. Viewing a profile consists of seeing what books the user has written and what books they are following. Users can follow other users to see when they release new material or follow individual books to get notified when that book has been extended. Users can read these books on a device.

Required Features

User Profiling:

1. Main User (can create or read books)
   - Has personal Information: name, email, description, image, and password
   - Can view the text of a book
   - Has a list of books that they have written
   - Has a list of books that they are following
   - Has a list of writers that they are following
   - Has a updates/notifications list
   - Has the ability to follow/unfollow other users (receive update when followee creates new content)
   - Has the ability to follow/unfollow books (receive update when book gets new chapter)
   - Can search for books
   - Can view other users' profiles
   - Can comment on a book and rate it

2. Admin

- Change personal information for all users
- Delete comments on books
- Delete books
- Delete users

User Authentication and Authorization:

Users will be able to see everything on another user's profile as their own except that user's personal information. Only users and admin can see and change their personal information. They can add or remove books/authors they follow. Users cannot change what things other users follow and they can not add to or delete another user's book or modify its information they must be the book author to do this). Users are refrained from commenting or rating a book that they are the author of. The user needs to be logged in to view any page other than the homepage and to interact with any of main data.

Data

- User:
  - Id
  - personal information
  - id of books following
  - id of books written
  - id of users following
  - notifications
- Book:
  - Information: Title, author, date published, genre, image
  - Rating
  - Comments: commenter, comment text
  - Cover Image
  - Number of followers

Admin

The admin will have access to the admin panel. Here they can see the raw data, including user and book data. Some key functionalities of the admin will be:

- Change personal information for all users
- Delete comments on books
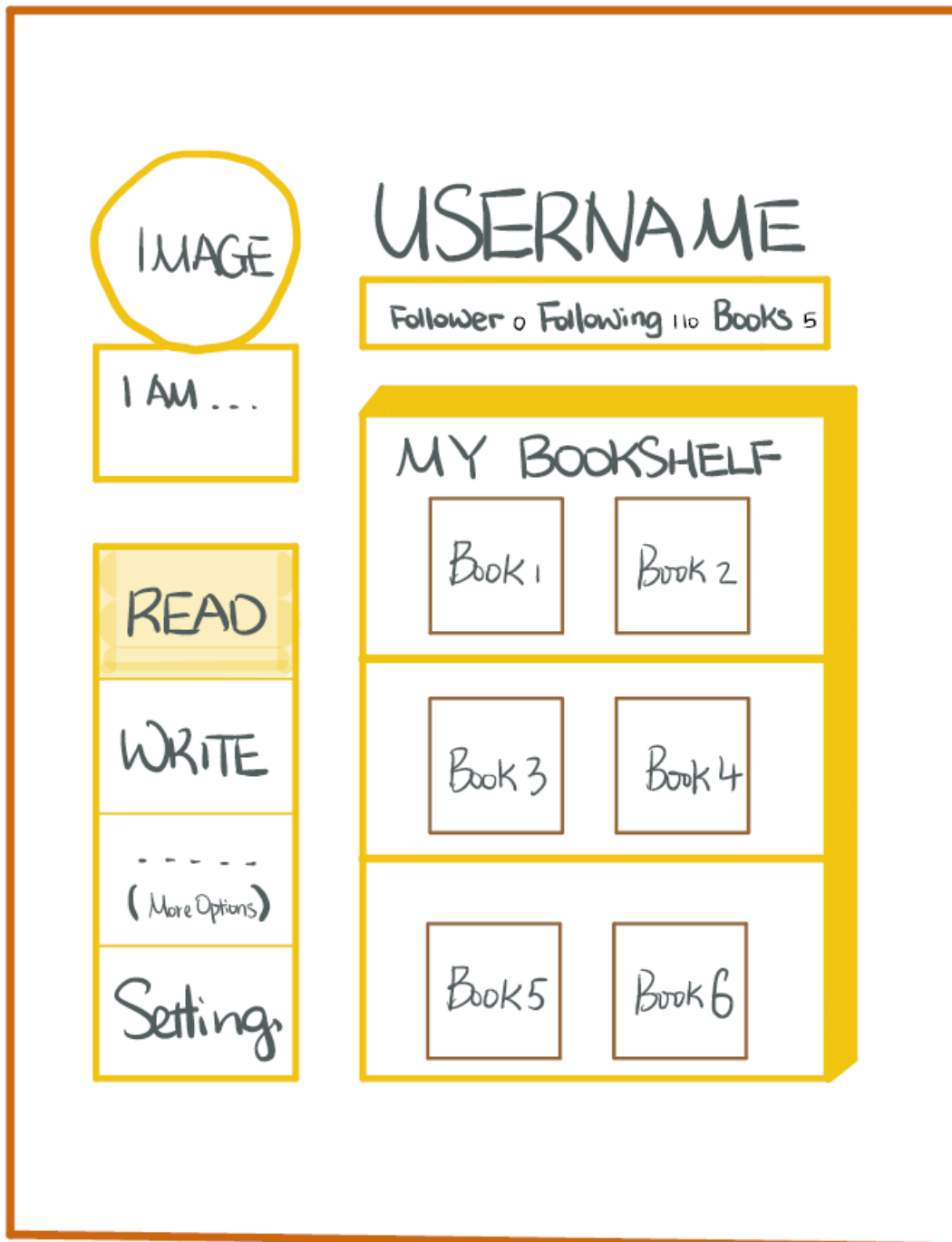- Delete books
- Delete users

User interactions:

- Login/logout:
    - Load user data on successful login
- Follow/unfollow user or book:
    - Add/remove uid to following list
- Create a book
    - Creates a new book and adds it to user's (written) book list
    - Creates a notification for everyone following the user
- Add chapter to book:
    - Adds a new chapter to a book
    - Creates a notification for everyone following the book or user
- Comment on or like a book:
    - Creates a new comment for the book
    - Add and update books total rating
- Search for a book:
    - Check if a title in the websites database of books matches the search
- Remove a book:
    - Remove the book from the website book list and user's written book list
- Change personal info
- View other user's profile:
    - Get other user's information to display
- View a book:
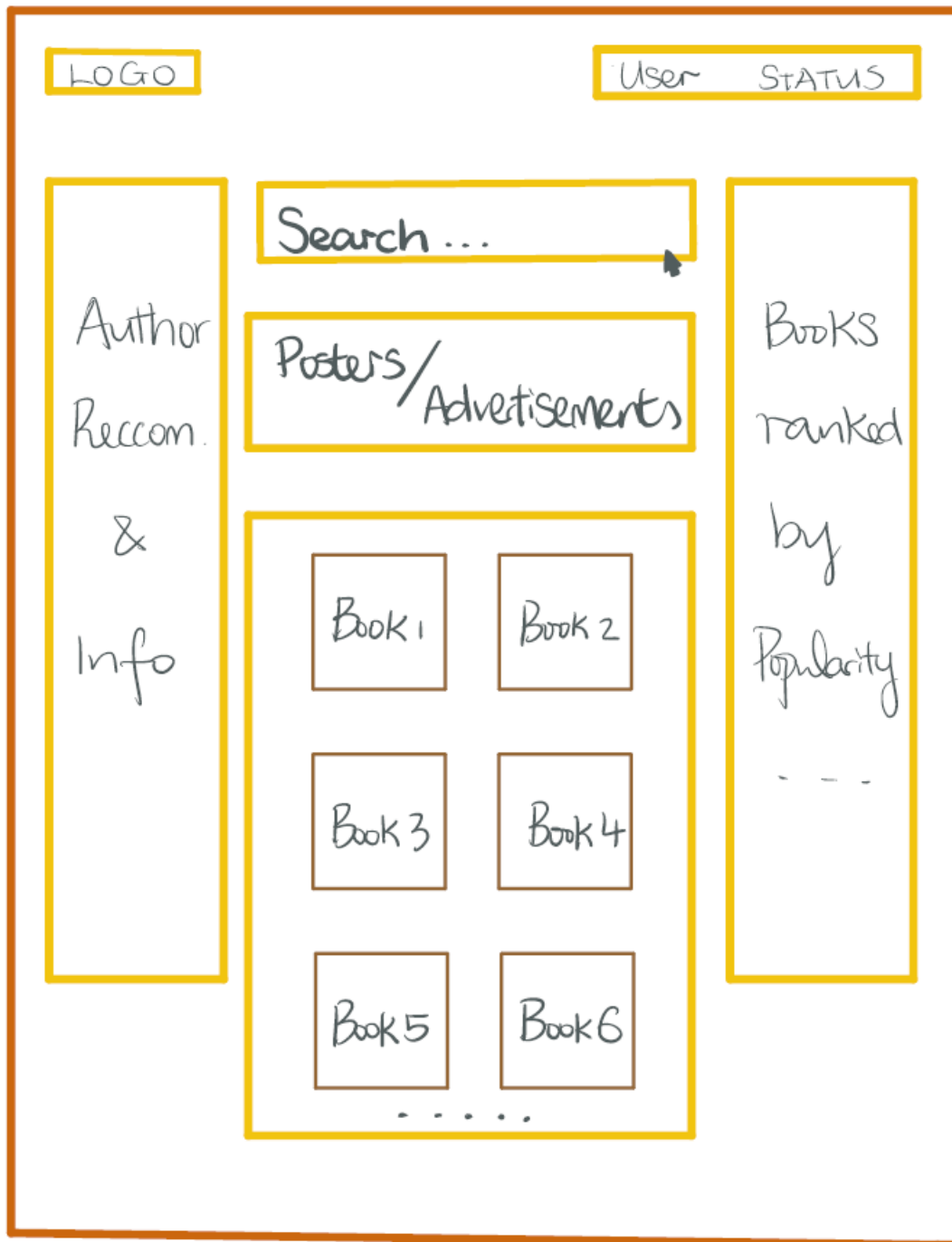   - Retrieve book data to display

Views

Profile

The profile view will show info about the user's profile. On the left we will have selection tabs that will update what data is show in the view (some tabs will not be accessible unless you are the user of the profile). There will be profile info(settings), books following, books written, and some other specific user data that is static (name, image, etc).

Home Page

The home page will be a general page that guides the user to discover new books. There will be a list of popular books and authors, list of newly created books (possibly a list of recommended books as an additional feature), a link to login/go to own profile, and a search bar.

LOGO

User STATUS

Search ...

Author Reccom. & Info

Posters/Advertisements

Book 1   Book 2

Book 3   Book 4

Book 5   Book 6

Books ranked by Popularity

Book Page

The Book Page appears when a user selects a book from the home page or from the user profile page. This page displays generic book information and allows the user to interact with the book (comment, like, follow). Owners of the book will be given access to modify the book information and add chapters (prompt an upload). Selecting a chapter will move the user to the reading page.

Book Cover

LIKE

READ

TITLE

Author: . . . .

Description . . .

Chapters . . .

1. ～～～ FREE

2. ～～ FREE

55. ～～ FREE

56. ～～ VIP

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Comments (999+) . . .

Read Page

The reading page lets the user read the book. There is a read page for each chapter and it scrolls to read the entire chapter. The arrows allow the user to navigate to between chapters.