mybrary Instructions Manual v0.2



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About

mybrary is a ebook library managing system based on php and sqlite3. It can be run on pretty much any NAS with a regular web server or a personal computer with a PHP interpreter installed.

Development

Taking part in development is possible and strongly encouraged. Everyone is invited to participate, let it be testing and filing bugs, translating, programming...or just spreading the word. Please check out the following webpage for more details:

https://github.com/dsancheznet/mybrary

Interface

There are only two windows to control the whole library.

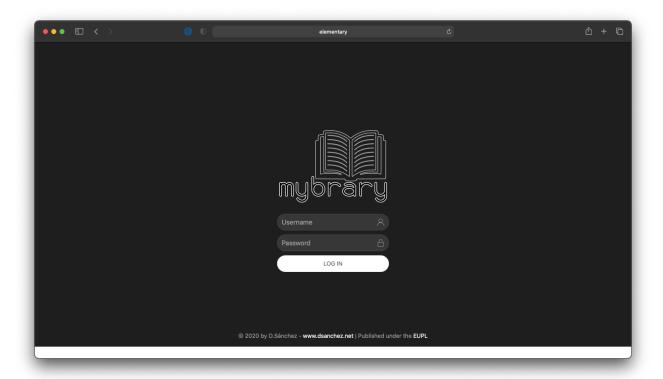


FIG.1 LOGIN SCREEN

This is the first screen you will encounter upon loading mybrary's url into your browser.



The default username with an empty database is *admin* and the default password is also *admin*. I suggest changing it immediately for security reasons.

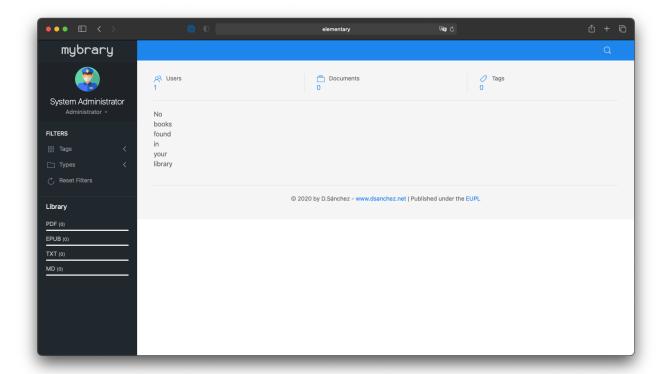


FIG.2 MAIN INTERFACE

The main interface is where you will spend most of the time. All of the functions are designed to be executed via AJAX calls, this means that you do not need to reload the page during its use. Only relevant portions of the page are being reloaded during it's normal lifecycle.

Userlevels

There are three different user levels in mybrary.

- (1) Administrators
- (2) Users
- (3) Readers

1. Administrators



Administrators have full control over the database. All functions are available to them.

2. Users

	Privilege table
Change other user's data or create new users	×
Change own user data	✓
Upload Books	✓
Add, Edit and Delete Tags	✓
Add, Edit and Delete Book Metadata	✓
Search, Filter and Read Books	✓

Users do have full control over the contents of the database, but are not allowed to create new users, nor can they administer existing ones.

3. Readers

	Privilege table
Change other user's data or create new users	×
Change own user data	V
Upload Books	×
Add, Edit and Delete Tags	×
Add, Edit and Delete Book Metadata	×
Search, Filter and Read Books	V

Readers may only modify their own user profile and execute search and read functions on the database.

Administration Menu

The administration menu depends on the privileges a certain user has. The different items disappear if a certain function is not available to the user.

The available items (depending on the user level) are:

- · Personal Info
- · Users
- · Upload
- · Tags
- · Sign Out

See next page ←

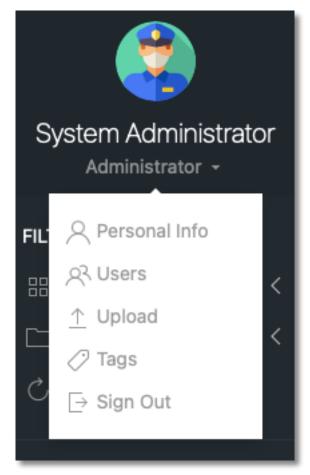


FIG.3 ADMINISTRATOR MENU

Personal Info (Fig. 4)

The personal info item, allows you to change the user data. If you are an administrator, you are allowed to change other user's data, if not, you can only edit your own data.

It is worth noting that wile there is a text box showing the username, this username is not changeable since it is the key of the corresponding table.

Any user may change his or her avatar, the full name and the password. When changing the password, you are required to provide the password twice. The password is only updated if both password strings are the same, if not, anything introduced in any of the fields will be ignored.

The user level may only be changed by an administrator. Users are not allowed to edit their own levels.



Be careful when assigning your own privileges. If you remove the administrator privilege from yourself, you could end up not being able to administer the system anymore. This would require a manual DB insert. (See the trouble shooting section)

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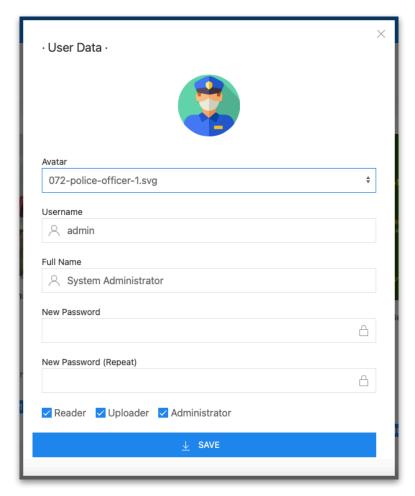


FIG.4 USER PROFILE DATA

Users

If you are administrator, you may create new users or delete existing ones.

Upload (Fig.6)

If you are anything else than a "reader", you may upload files from this menu option.

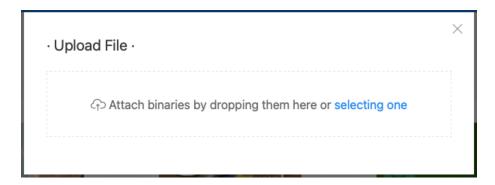


FIG.6 UPLOAD

Files may be dragged onto the pad or selected through the system dialog. This upload field allows multiple files to be uploaded at once. Whenever a file is uploaded, it's original filename is taken as the book title. This information has to be curated manually by clicking on it's cover image.

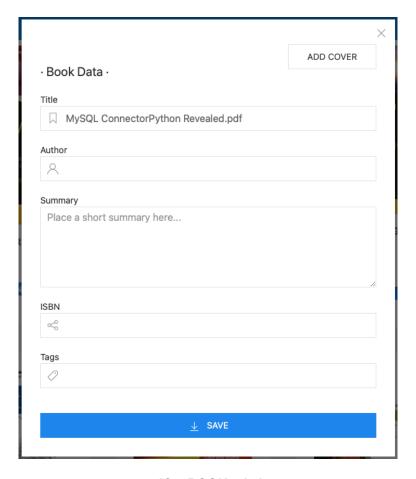


FIG.7 BOOK DATA

The book data dialog allows you you to edit each of the metadata fields that exists in the database. Certain things like the language of a book may be classified using tags. We will come back to this concept in the next chapter, when talking about tags.

After uploading a book (whichever format you have chosen) the cover is not detected automatically, so if a cover is to be shown on the file list, you will have to upload it manually.



If you are on a system with the *Imagemagick* utility convert installed, you may extract the cover from a pdf with a little command line work (see below), but this only works for pdf files. ePUB, txt and md files do not have this possibility.

convert input.pdf[0] output.jpg

In this case, input.pdf is a file which has a cover we want to extract on the first page (convert starts counting at 0, thus the first page is 0) and output.jpg is the image we want the cover to save as. If we had multiple pdf files we intend to download, we could even batch-extract all covers from the files typing (one liner for bash)

for F in *.pdf; do convert "\$F[0]" "\${F/.pdf/.jpg}"; done;

This will create a file with the same name, but *.jpg extension containing the first page of the pdf. You may now upload every cover to each book.

Tags

If you are a "user" or "administrator" you may delete and edit existing tags from here.

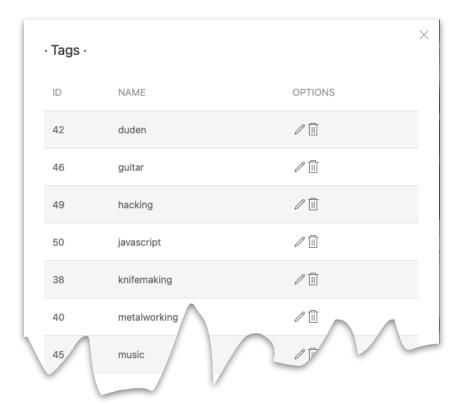


FIG.7 TAG LIST

If a tag is deleted, all of it's references from the database. If a tag is changed, all tag names already assigned will change to the new name.

Tags can only be created from the book data dialog, but whenever they are deleted from a book, they remain in the database until they are deleted from the list by a "user" or an "administrator".

Tags can be not only words, but also emojis or any special signs.



Pro tip: Books may be classified by adding a language flag in first place to the tags. This way it is very easy to search for books ins certain languages.

Tags are stored and reproduced in lowercase letters.

Tags can not contain any whitespaces.

An unlimited number of tags can be created and/or assigned for each book, although I recommend using a maximum of 3 for every book.

Server configurations

php.ini

Since the default parameters of the php runtime does limit the file size for posts and uploads, we need to modify the configuration files to allow big files. I my case, the default php.ini says the following (I've listed only relevant parameters, the file is pretty long)

```
; http://php.net/post-max-size
post_max_size = 8M

; Maximum allowed size for uploaded files.
; http://php.net/upload-max-filesize
upload_max_filesize = 2M
```

You will want to change the max post size and the max file size. This poses a problem if you are on a system with little amount of RAM, so you must balance between file size and the available amount of RAM available. I personally use a limit of 1GB which is more than enough to upload any ebook whichever format it is in...so in my case, the config file looks like

```
; Maximum size of POST data that PHP will accept.
; Its value may be 0 to disable the limit. It is ignored if POST data reading
; is disabled through enable_post_data_reading.
; http://php.net/post-max-size
post_max_size = 1000M

; Maximum allowed size for uploaded files.
; http://php.net/upload-max-filesize
upload_max_filesize = 1000M
```

In future versions, I hope to be able to implement a chunked upload, so the max file size is no problem anymore and you'll be able to upload files of any size without the need of modifying the ini files.

Troubleshooting

Resetting a password

If an administrator or a user has forgot his or her password, anybody with access to the database file may execute the following:

```
sqlite3 mybrary.db 'UPDATE users
md5pass="5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99" WHERE
user="user"'
```

This will set the password of user "user" to "password".

Resetting user privileges

Similarly, if a user level is misconfigured, a given user may be promoted to administrator level by typing:

sqlite3 mybrary.db 'UPDATE users role=7 WHERE
user="user"'

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank the following persons for contributing tu this project:

Néstor Bethencourt, Francisco García