Library of Gan

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COMPSCI 235 Design Report

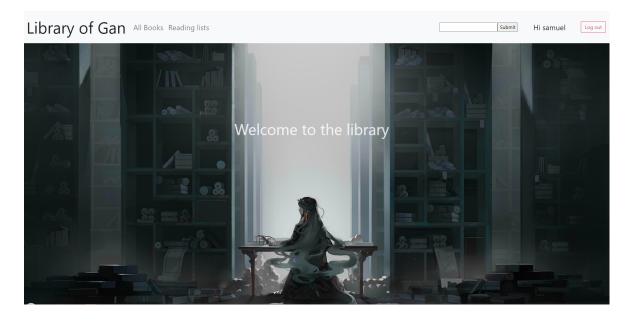
Summary

The Library of Gan is an online web application designed to allow a user to interact with a growing collection of books. Our application features a simple, clean, adaptable user interface designed to encourage exploration across the website using many easily visible buttons and search features. The exemplary user interface would be so simple that it fades into the background and becomes second nature for our users to interact with.

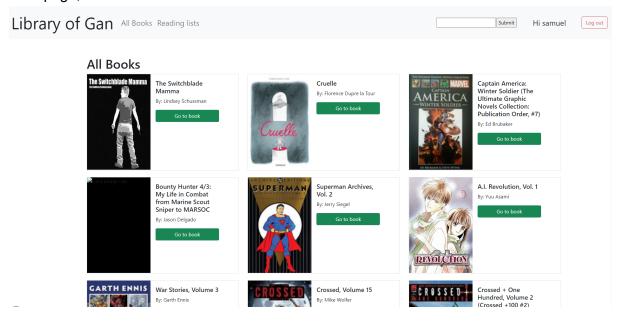
Design Justification

Our team developed our website to be adaptable and easy to navigate, starting with the navigation bar. Our navigation bar remains at the top of every web page for users to navigate the website easily. Bootstrap allowed us to make our navigation bar resizable, making it look great at any screen size. The navigation bar adapts to a hamburger menu on smaller displays, so all the same links are available. Our navigation bar has links on the left to the homepage and an all books page, making it easy for users to find books and quickly navigate the site. On the right, we have a search bar and the sign-in / out button, which lets users interact with features on the website.

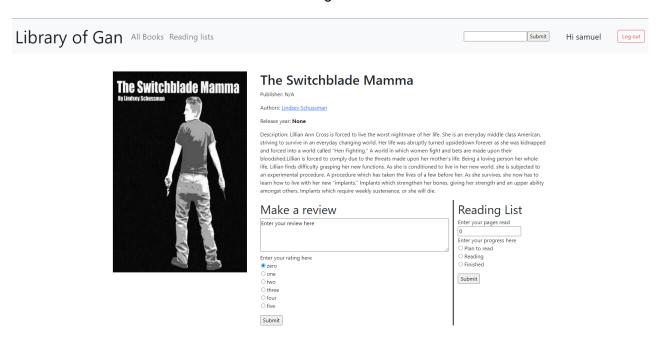
Our homepage is the first page a user will see, so our team wanted it to stand out. We did this by having a large, full-screen image with the pulsing text "Welcome to the Library" drawing in the user. Scrolling down brings users to the editors top picks along with three random books, as we wanted our library to show different content each time a user visits.

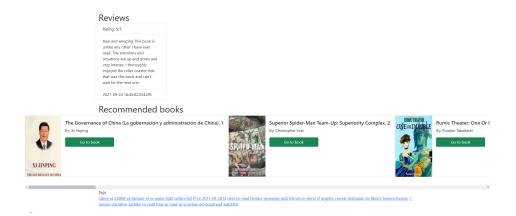


The all books page is another staple of the website, providing an overview of all books available on the service. We wanted this page to show all the books clearly in the bootstrap card format, which allows our page to be dynamic to the user's screen size. The cards also provided us with a template that makes it easy for more books to be added. Our team applied this card design to other pages where we wanted other books to show up, like the homepage, recommended books and search bar.



Each book has an individualised page, which is dynamically created using the information from the book. This page shows a large scale image of the front cover along with the title, publisher, authors, release year and description. This page also allows users to write and read reviews for each book which are then stored in our application. A users reading list can also be modified per book on this page. At the bottom, we have recommended books for the user to read for more interaction with the website and the tags for each book that the user can click on to find other books with the same tags.

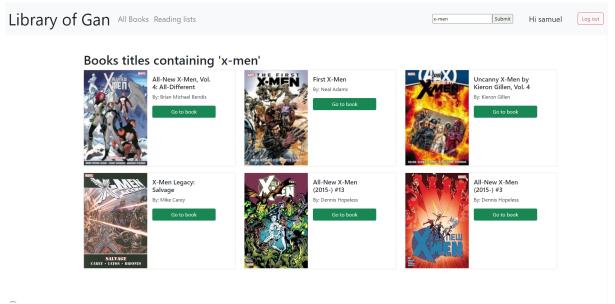




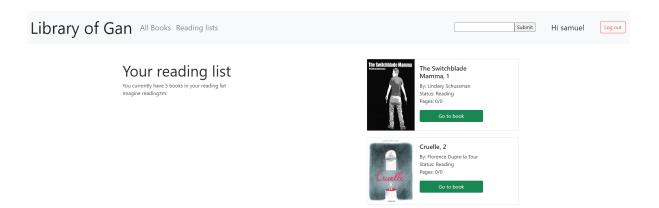
Our team designed our footer to be simple and responsive while providing a border to the bottom of the page, which has been accomplished. We decided against adding links to the footer as we didn't want to overcomplicate the website and our navigation bar is static.

Extra Features

Our team decided to develop a more robust search engine that allows users to search for books via the title, author or book tags. We decided to add this feature to make finding books on the application more manageable, as finding a specified book from a large set will be essential as the library size grows. We added the search bar to the website's navigation bar so it would always be easily accessible from every page, as we believe it to be one of the essential features to meet our design goals.



When discussing features for our library web application, we looked into other services where media was distributed online and found that a reading list feature was common among them. Our team decided to implement this into our application by having an easily accessible reading list button on each books page. When signed in, the button will add the book to the users individual reading list. The reading list is accessible from the navigation bar and shows the number in the list and the individual books and links to the book's webpage.



Throughout the design process of our application, we decided early on that it would be vital for us to make our website dynamic. We did this by using bootstrap to closely control individual elements of pages to ensure they worked correctly at any screen size.

