URL Site #1: <https://www.fantasticfiction.com/>

URL Site #2: <https://www.goodreads.com/>

**Tools Used to Evaluate Websites:**

CyberPowerPC running on Windows 10 with an AMD FX-6300-Six-Core Processor, 3.5 GHz, and 8 GB RAM. It is a 64-Bit operating system. The browser is Google Chrome 63.0.3239.132. and the internet connection is through a direct line.

**Compare and Contrast:**

These websites differ quite a bit. Fantasticfiction.com does not utilize the space of their page as effectively as goodreads.com does. There is a lot of empty space on both sides of the browser. This gives the reader more to focus on in a smaller space. In this regard it appears cluttered, even though the web page is very evenly distributed. Goodreads.com maximizes the space they have, but it is quite cluttered. While browsing the webpage, my eye didn’t know which part to focus on first. The user also has the ability to create their own profile in goodreads.com to favorite the books they find, and the website will make recommendations based on the items they select. Their browse feature is also easy to find to search through genres. Fantasticfiction.com does not have a membership function like this, and their browse feature is located on the bottom of the page. Their search bar is easier to find and is located at the top of the page. The one thing fantasticfiction does have the better design in is their search bar. It is much easier to locate with it being at the top of the page next to the title. Despite these differences, the web pages do hold some things in common.

Both websites have their main page linked to their title at the top left corner of the page. The websites are aesthetically pleasing in different ways. Fantasticfiction has the darker tone while goodreads is bright and cheery. They both have explanations for the purpose of the site in the very first portion of the page. The user knows exactly what the website is intended for without having to browse through all of their site. Another feature shared between the two is the hyperlink extensions to the book stores. This allows the user to go to the web pages of the seller directly without having to search for the links on their own.

**Strengths and Weaknesses:**

Goodreads allows their users to post feedback on the book. This is a way for people to discuss the novel and give out their opinion s about recommendations of the material. They have a rating system based on five stars for the user to determine if they wish to read it based on other people’s evaluations. This is a strength for people that are not used to venturing into a different genre but can also be a weakness. Not everyone has the same taste, and this might dissuade somebody from reading something they might enjoy.

Fantasticfiction’s biggest strength is their new fiction section of the web page. This is where novels are changed regularly to show the user new items coming out. However, there is no date showing when the item was released. The user needs to go to each subpage to learn the details. There is also a “coming soon” list to the side of the page showing items that will be coming to markets, the date it comes out, who the author is, and whether the item is part of a series. One weakness of this website is when a user comes into the website with no clue where to start. The first glimpse of the webpage does not give the user a sense of where they might begin to explore the site. It can be overwhelming if they have not been to the page a couple of times before.

The big weakness both of these webpages share is no citation. Both have bibliographies for the author but there is no citation for where the information is coming from. The books also have paragraphs for the summaries and there is no citation about where the information came from. This is the one glaring weakness seen from both websites. Without this citation, there is no way of telling if the information is accurate.

**Scenarios:**

In scenario one, the user is a teacher trying to find a new item coming out for their class to study this year. They go to the site hoping to find something new with a connection to the society of today. The teacher searches for contemporary realistic fiction and searches through items that might best suit the class. They are then able to discover what the price for the novel is and whether this would be in the school’s budget.

Scenario two shows the user browsing through a library catalog and being unable to find something they wish to read. The user stumbles upon the website hoping this will finally help with the struggle of finding something they would like to read. With the browse feature going through more obscure subgenres, they are able to find a book to explore and return to the library catalog with renewed vigor.

**Comments:**

## [James Dubreuil](https://missouri.instructure.com/courses/11430/users/68936)

Yesterday Jan 28 at 1:22pm

Hi Michael.

I think you did an excellent job analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of these two websites.  I definitely liked Goodreads.com because of its better use of space and functions (profile, recommendations, etc.) that make it much more user-friendly.  I also agree that the search bar at the top of the page, on Fantasticfiction.com is better than having to scroll to find it.  Overall, I thought that Goodreads was a much more professional looking site.  In other words, it looked like it was thoughtfully designed by people who were concerned about the look and feel as well as the content they were providing.  Fantasticfiction has a good catchy name, which I believe will attract people to the site.  But even though it could be a reliable resource, it looks like it may have been put together rather quickly and without much thought to ease of use or the attractiveness of the site.  I checked the “About Us” links for both and discovered that Fantasticfiction.com was started as a hobby by someone in the UK and Goodreads listed a CEO so it seems to be more of a commercial venture.  That doesn’t mean they are not both legitimate and valuable sources.  It’s up to the user to determine which one to use and I would lean toward Goodreads.  Thanks for doing these.  I never thought about resources like this as an effective way to find reading materials.