

Example 6-4 shows what the code behind the landing page of *http://fettermansbooks.com* might look like without any Facebook integration.

EXAMPLE 6-4. Example book site logic

```
$books_user_id = establish_booksite_userid($_REQUEST);
$book_infos = user_get_likely_books($books_user_id);
display_books($book_infos);
```

This `user_get_likely_books` function operates entirely from the data that the book application controls, possibly using clever relevance techniques to guess at a user's interests.

However, imagine Facebook makes available two simple remote-procedure call (RPC) methods for users on sites outside its walls:

- `friends.get()`
- `users.getInfo($users, $fields)`

With these, and a mapping from *http://fettermansbooks.com*'s user identifiers to Facebook's, we can add social context to any content on *http://fettermansbooks.com*. Consider this new flow for Facebook users in Example 6-5.

EXAMPLE 6-5. Book site logic with social context

```
$books_user_id = establish_booksite_userid($_REQUEST);
$facebook_client = establish_facebook_session($_REQUEST,$books_user_id);

if ($facebook_client) {
    $facebook_friend_uids = $facebook_client->api_client->friends_get();
    foreach($facebook_friend_uids as $facebook_friend) {
        $book_site_friends[$facebook_friend]
            = books_user_id_from_facebook_id ($facebook_friend);
    }
    $book_site_friend_names = $facebook->api_client->
        users_getInfo($facebook_friend_uids, 'name');

    foreach($book_site_friends as $fb_id => $booksite_id) {
        $friend_books = user_get_reviewed_books($booksite_id);
        print "<hr>" . $book_site_friend_names[$fb_id] . "'s likely picks: <br>";
        display_books($friend_books);
    }
}
```

The bolded parts of this example are where the book application harnesses the data of the Facebook Platform. If we could figure out the code behind the function `establish_facebook_session`, this architecture would make available much more *data* in order to turn this book-aware application into a fully user-aware application.

Let's examine how Facebook's API enables this. First, we'll check out a simple technical walkthrough of the web service wrapping Facebook data, created through use of appropriate metadata by a flexible code generator called Thrift. Developers can use these techniques