
ALT+F4

**Read & Relay
Vision Document**

Version 1.0

Read & Relay	Version: 1.0
Vision Document	Date: 28/10/2023
<document identifier>	

Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
28/10/23	1.0	First version of Read & Relay's vision document	Nguyễn Quỳnh Hương, Nguyễn Ngọc Vũ

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Vision

1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to collect, analyze, and define high-level needs and features of the Read & Relay Book-Selling Website. It focuses on the capabilities needed by the stakeholders and the target users, and why these needs exist. The details of how the system fulfills these needs are detailed in the use-case and supplementary specifications.

This Vision Document applies to the Read & Relay Book-Selling Website (referred to as Read & Relay from here on), which will be developed by the ALT+F4 team. ALT+F4 will develop Read & Relay to work on V8-engine web browsers. Read & Relay will help avid readers alleviate the drawbacks of acquiring and keeping physical books, which are detailed elsewhere in this document.

1.1 References

- Sommerville, I. (2011) *Software Engineering*. 9th Edition. Addison-Wesley.
- Pressman, R.S. (2001) *Software Engineering: A Practitioner's Approach*. 5th Edition. McGraw Hill.
- Lecture reference materials provided by the course's lecturers.

2. Positioning

2.1 Problem Statement

The problem of	physical books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • having high cost • being bulky • being difficult to maintain • are sometimes obscure or out of print
affects	people with a need to purchase physical books
the impact of which is	preventing avid readers from acquiring enough books to meet their academic and/or entertainment demands, as well as the potential wastefulness and physical damage of books that have been read and neglected
a successful solution would be	a platform that facilitates the reselling of used books, and allows users to purchase books from other users

2.2 Product Position Statement

For	people with a need to purchase physical books
who	are on a tight budget, with limited storage space for books, or are in search of obscure/out-of-print books (that is, who can benefit from selling and buying used books)
Read & Relay	is a web-based e-commerce platform
that	allows people to sell their books and buy used books from other users
Unlike	currently existing book-selling platforms
our product	puts the focus on used books and features our users as both the sellers and the buyers

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3. Stakeholder and User Descriptions

3.1 Stakeholder Summary

Name	Description	Responsibilities
Project Manager	The project manager oversees the entire project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans, manages and allocates resources Decides priorities Coordinates interactions with customers and users Keeps the project team focused
Engineering Team	The engineering team develops and maintains the technical aspects of Read & Relay. In this case, the engineering team consists of members of ALT+F4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops the platform according to the project requirements Ensures the platform is secure, scalable, and performs optimally Collaborates with other stakeholders to gather requirements and implement features
IT Team	The IT team takes care of the platform's IT infrastructure. In this case, the engineering team consists of members of ALT+F4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets up and maintains the servers, databases, and networking infrastructure required for the platform Ensures that the platform performs securely and optimally
Administrator	The administrator manages the day-to-day operations of the platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages user accounts, permissions, and access levels on the platform Monitors platform activities, ensures compliance with policies and regulations, and takes necessary actions to maintain order Collaborates with other stakeholders to define and enforce platform policies, such as privacy and data protection guidelines
Shipping service providers	The shipping service providers partner with Read & Relay to provide shipment for purchased books.	Communicate with book sellers about shipping schedules and further information regarding the shipping item(s).

3.2 User Summary

Name	Description	Responsibilities	Stakeholder
Book seller	Primary end user of the platform.	Uses Read & Relay to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> post books for sale respond to buying requests 	Self

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> contact shipping service providers to ship purchased books to the buyers 	
Book buyer	Primary end user of the platform.	Uses Read & Relay to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> browse for books on sale pick and purchase books mark favorite books provide reviews for purchased/owned books read book reviews from other users 	Self

3.3 User Environment

- Users of the platform are not required to create an account when simply browsing. However, an account is necessary to access the buying and selling functions, as well as saving information about favorite books and book reviews.
- Read & Relay does not have any geographical constraints; that is, users from any country or region may access and use the platform, provided that they possess an electronic device with a screen and input device, that is capable of Internet access, and has a supported web browser installed.
- Read & Relay may make use of the browser's location settings for shipping service integration.

3.4 Summary of Key Stakeholder or User Needs

Need	Priority	Concerns	Current Solution(s)	Proposed Solution(s)
Selling old books	High	Difficulty in finding buyers	Posting offers onto social media circles/communities; payment and shipping options are decided via negotiation between the seller and the buyer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A streamlined platform to resell used books, where prices and shipping fees are carefully regulated The platform's centralized nature ensures all buyers are interested in used books; this provides a higher chance of finding buyers and having successful transactions An online platform removes geographical constraints, ensuring convenience and efficiency

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Buying books	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High costs Certain titles are obscure/ out of print 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchasing physical books from conventional book stores, or old books from specialized stores Purchasing physical books from online book stores Purchasing e-books for consumption on electronic devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A centralized platform to purchase used books, where prices and shipping fees are carefully regulated The platform acts as an intermediate between the buyer and the seller, on which payment is kept until both parties agree that the transaction was completed securely and legitimately; this minimizes the risk of scams Support for favorite books and books reviews enhances the reading and purchasing experience An online platform removes geographical constraints, ensuring convenience and efficiency
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3.5 Alternatives and Competition

Competitor/ Alternative	Strength(s)	Weakness(es)	Read & Relay's advantage over competitor/alternative
Conventional book stores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ubiquitous Regulated prices Little to no risk of scams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconvenient Each store has a limited catalog Costly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More convenient Larger catalog of books, including out-of-print/rare titles Lower prices than buying new
Online book stores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely more affordable than buying from offline stores Convenient Massive catalog of books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate risk of scams Books might still be relatively costly Might be unable to find out-of-print books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of scams reduced with proper administration and payment policy Lower prices than buying new Might be able to find out-of-print/ rare titles

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Reselling/ buying old books from social media circles/ communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likely more affordable than buying new books • Convenient • Might be able to find obscure books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High risk of scams • Unregulated prices • Low centralization—might be difficult to reach out to potential buyers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of scams reduced with proper administration and payment policy • Regulated prices and shipping fees • Centralized for both buyers and sellers
E-books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likely more affordable than buying physical books • Portable • Relatively large catalog of books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If intended to consume on an e-reader, the initial cost is much higher than physical books • Health concerns related to consuming media on electronic screens, if not intended to consume on an e-reader • Prices are not well-regulated due to novelty—some publishers overcharge their e-books • Difficult to find non-English titles, or languages that are not supported by Amazon Kindle e-readers • Older titles might not have e-book versions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The platform only hosts physical books—which ensures availability • Regulated prices • No dependency on e-readers/ electronic devices, thus eliminating initial costs and health concerns

4. Product Overview

4.1 Product Perspective

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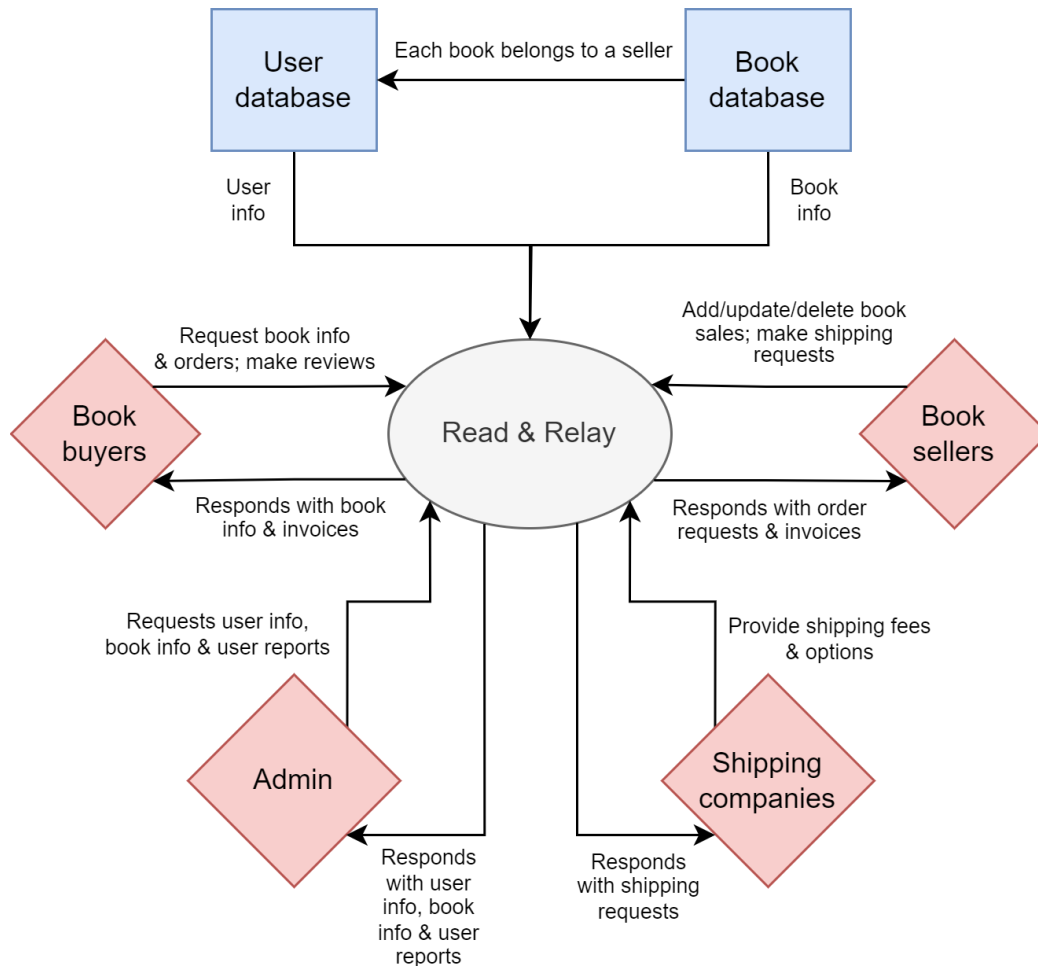


Figure. Read & Relay platform's context diagram

4.2 Assumptions and Dependencies

Assumptions to properly use the platform include:

- Internet connection with enough bandwidth to fully render various displays.
- A supported, up-to-date web browser.

External dependencies include:

- Google Maps API, for integration with shipping services.

5. Product Features

No.	Feature	Description	Priority
1	Browse and search for books	Users can browse all available book sales and filter them, or search for a particular book. Filters and search terms include the book's title, author, genre and ISBN.	<i>High</i>

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2	Account registration and login	Users can create an account and log in using said account. The account will store the user's contact information, the books they sell and purchased, as well as "Liked" and/or reviewed books.	<i>High</i>
3	Purchase books	Users can purchase a book posted by another user via several payment methods.	<i>High</i>
4	Post a book sale	Users can post books onto the platform for sale. The post may include the book's title, author, genre, ISBN, as well as a short description on the book's content, physical condition, further information, etc.	<i>High</i>
5	Contact a shipping service provider	Users that have their books picked for purchase can contact a shipping service provider to ship the book to the buyer.	<i>High</i>
6	Remove a sale post	Users can remove books posted for sales from the platform.	<i>Medium</i>
7	Edit profile	Users can edit details on their profile, including personal information, "Liked" books, or alter privacy options of certain sections (whether they should be publicly displayed).	<i>Medium</i>
8	Mark books as favorite	Users can mark their favorite books. These books will appear in the user's profile and be a point of reference for the search/browsing algorithms, as well as for other users of the platform to read reviews should they have the need to.	<i>Low</i>
9	Review favorite books in profile	Users can review the books in their profile's Favorite Books section and decide if the reviews will be publicly displayed on their profile or not. This might be helpful for buyers who are looking to purchase said books, or are simply looking for new books to read.	<i>Low</i>

6. Non-Functional Requirements

6.1 Constraints

- The platform shall not require any hardware development.
- The user interface shall be implemented with responsiveness, which ensures optimal performance on most common screen sizes.

6.2 Quality ranges

- Availability: The platform shall be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Usability: The platform's user interface should have a level of usability appropriate for the literate and computer-literate population. Users should not require the use of a hardcopy manual to operate the platform.
- Maintainability: The platform shall be implemented with ease of maintenance in mind. Data of users and

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books should be modifiable without recompilation of the platform.

6.3 Precedence and Priority

The features listed in Section **5. Product Features** shall be implemented within 2 releases of the platform:

- Features of High priority shall be implemented in Version 1.0 of the platform, to ensure basic functionality.
- Features of Medium and Low priority shall be implemented in Version 1.1 of the platform.

6.4 Other Product Requirements

The device used to access the platform must have a screen, an input device, Internet connection and a supported web browser installed.