

# User Manual

## What is this?

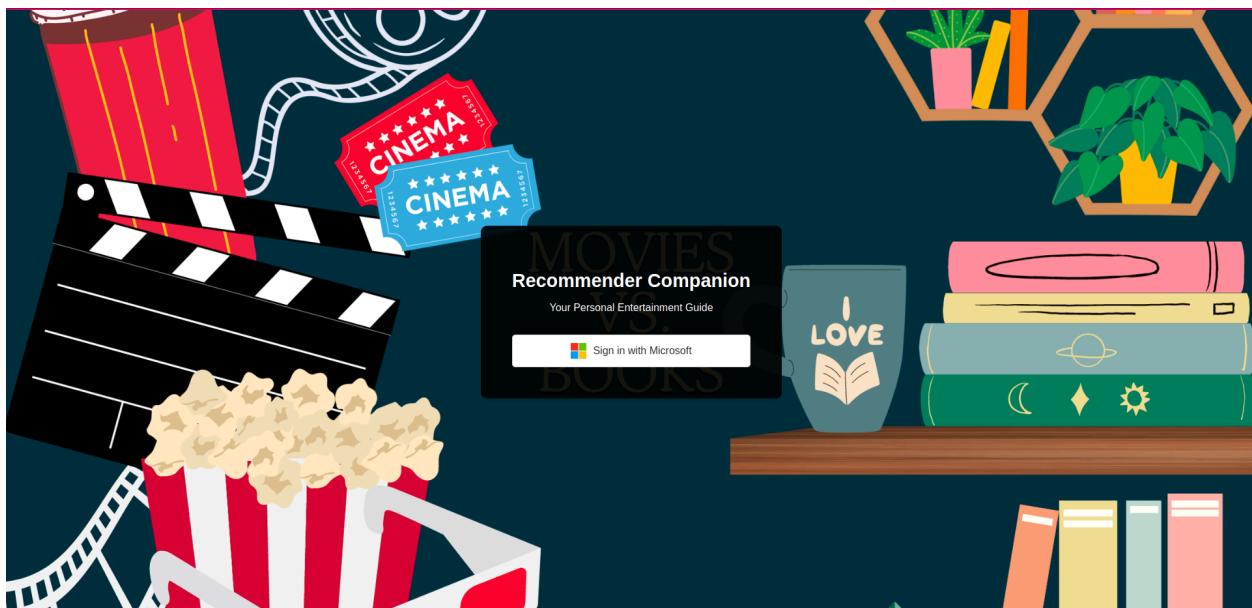
Welcome to Recommender Companion, your personalized book and movie recommendation platform! Simply rate at least three books and movies you've experienced, and the app will generate tailored suggestions just for you. Discover books and movies that align with your unique taste and make content discovery effortless and enjoyable.

[Website link](#)

## How to use?

### **Sign up / Log In:**

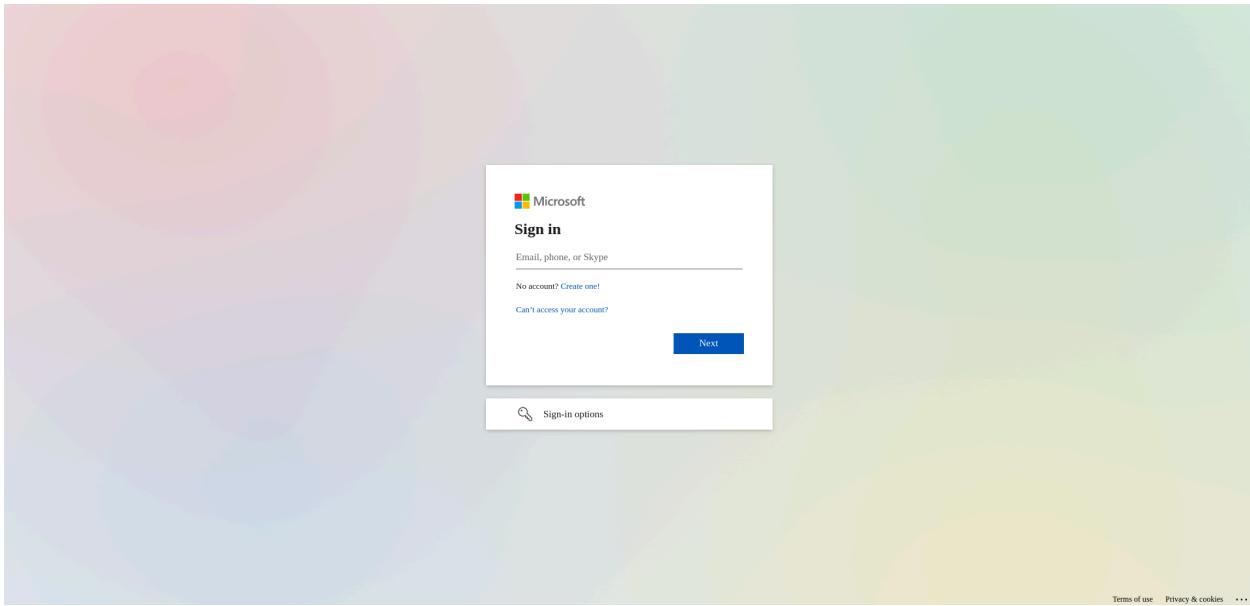
When you click on the website link, you will be redirected to our login page which will look like the image below. Our application creates accounts associated with your existing MSFT email accounts, so make sure you have a valid MSFT email address, before attempting to login.



When you click on the login button for the first time, it will redirect you to a page which has the standard MSFT login authorization. Please enter your MSFT credentials to login/sign up. The app will automatically detect if you are a new user or a previously registered one.

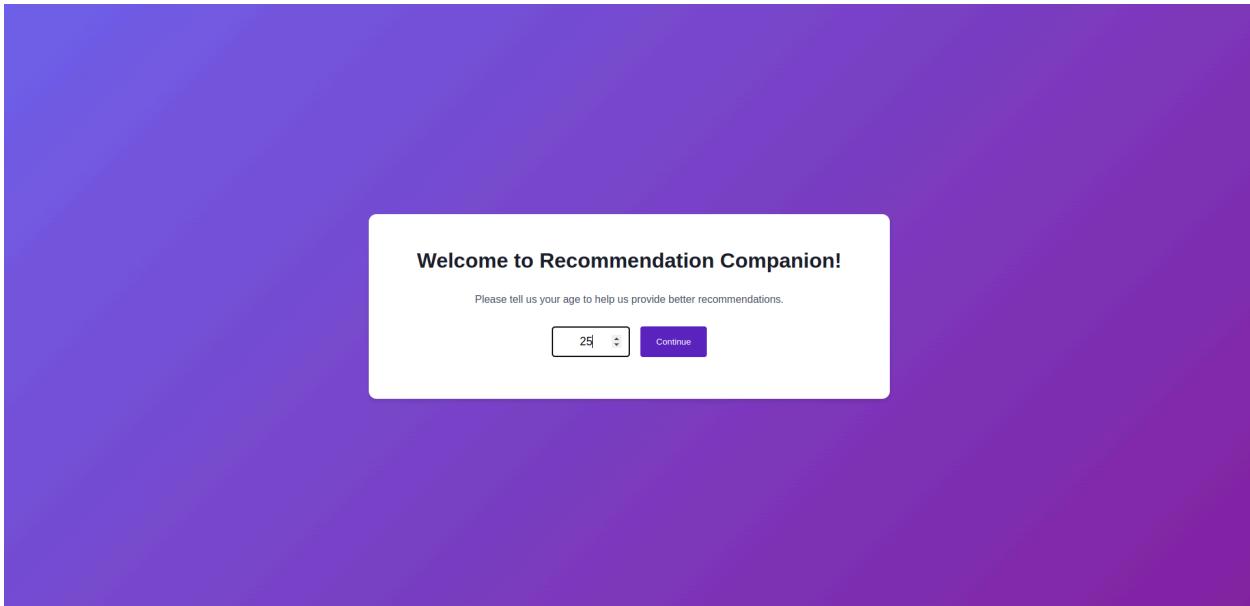
Once your account is created, the app will usually retain your login information for a certain duration (if cookies are enabled). If you find yourself logged out, just click on sign in and re-enter

your details (if needed), and you will find yourself back on the home page; but this time you will directly see the home page (assuming you signed up successfully).



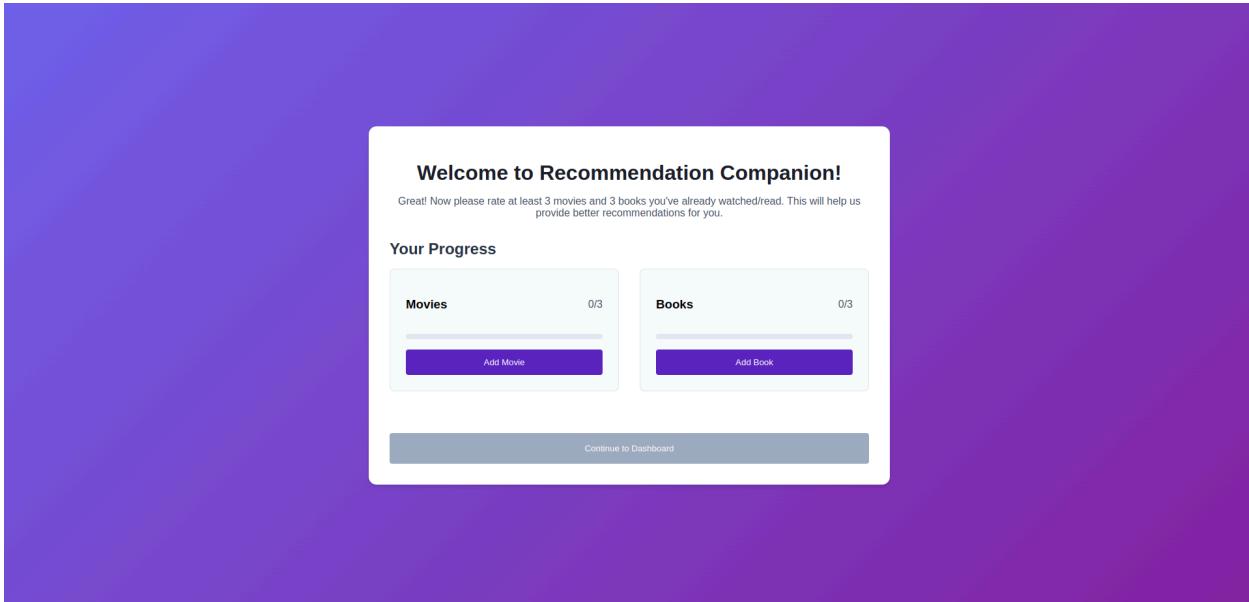
### Sign-up Only:

The instructions below are only for when you are signing up. Once you click on the login button, you will be redirected to a page as seen below. You are required to enter your age here, so that it can be factored into your recommendation generation to ensure that they are age appropriate. Once you have entered your age, please click on “Continue”.

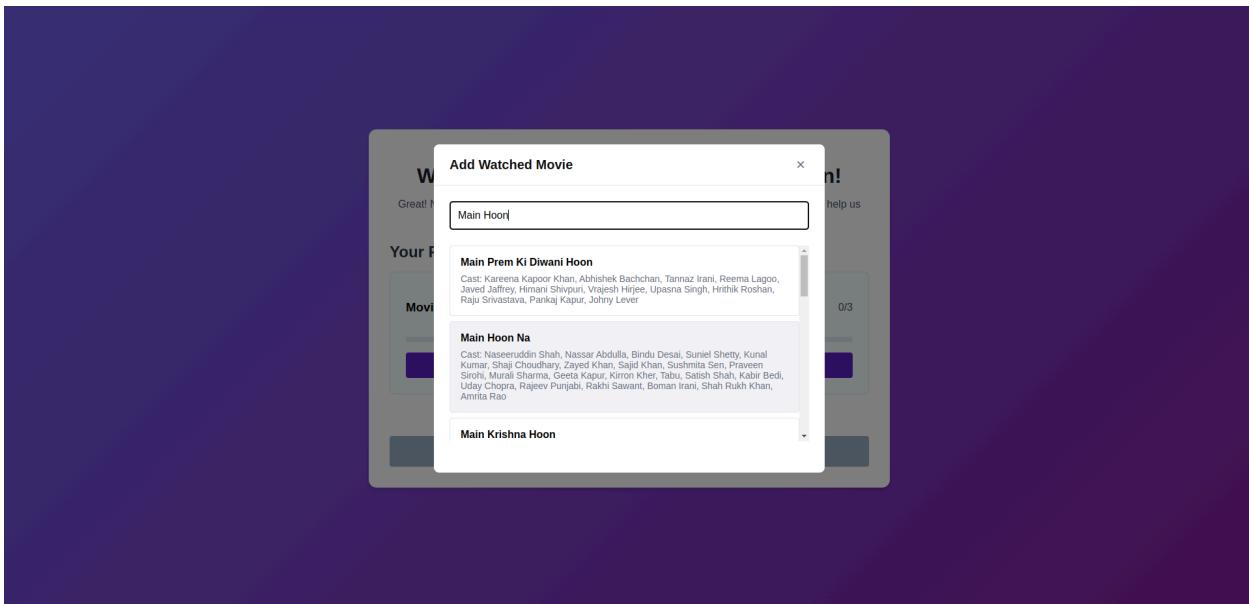


Next, you will be taken to the page as seen below to enter your initial history. You will be required to enter 3 books and 3 movies that you have previously read or watched, so that they can be used to generate your initial set of recommendations when needed.

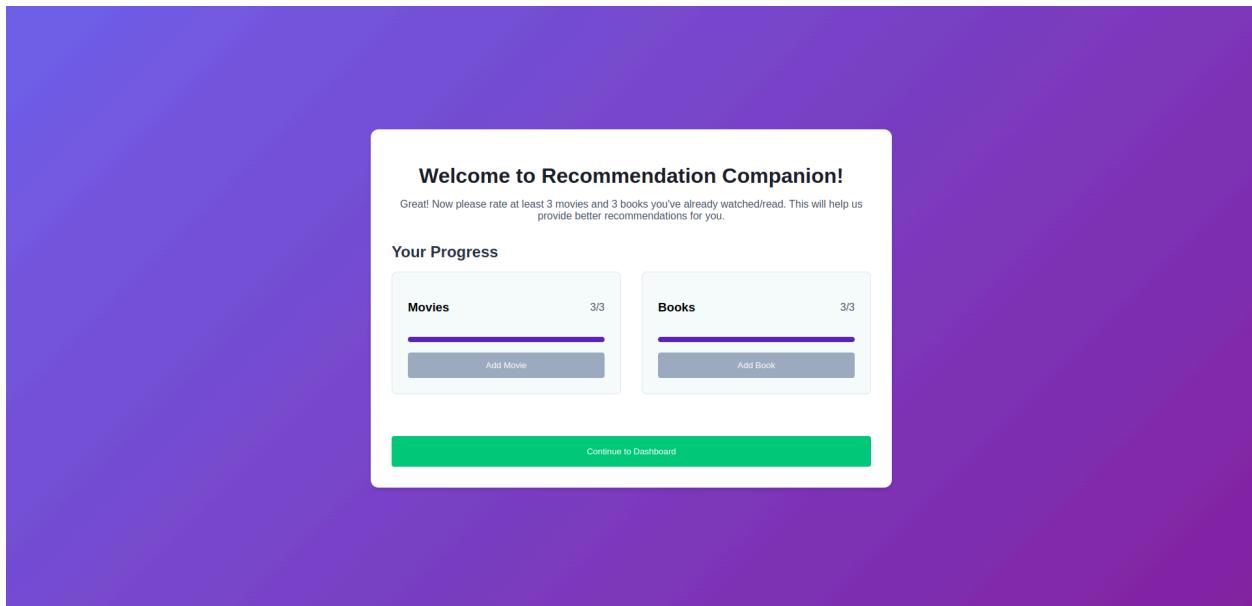
Click on the “Add Movies” or “Add Books” button to add one movie/book at a time.



Let's say if you click on the “Add Movies” button, you will see a popup window as shown below. Search for your intended movie, add your rating for the same (**if you need more instructions on how to do this, please scroll down to the Home Page “Add Movie” section**), and click on “Add Movie to Watchlist”. Do the same for books.



Once you are done adding three entries for both books and movies, your screen should look something like this:



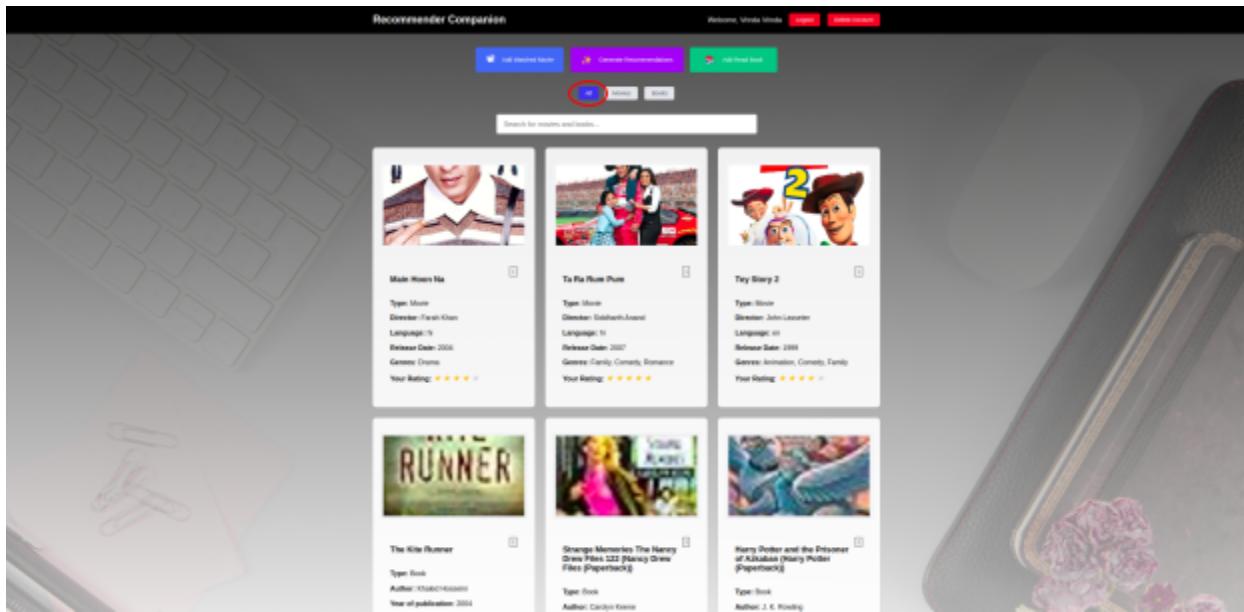
Click on “Continue to Dashboard” to be redirected to your homepage.

## **Home Page:**

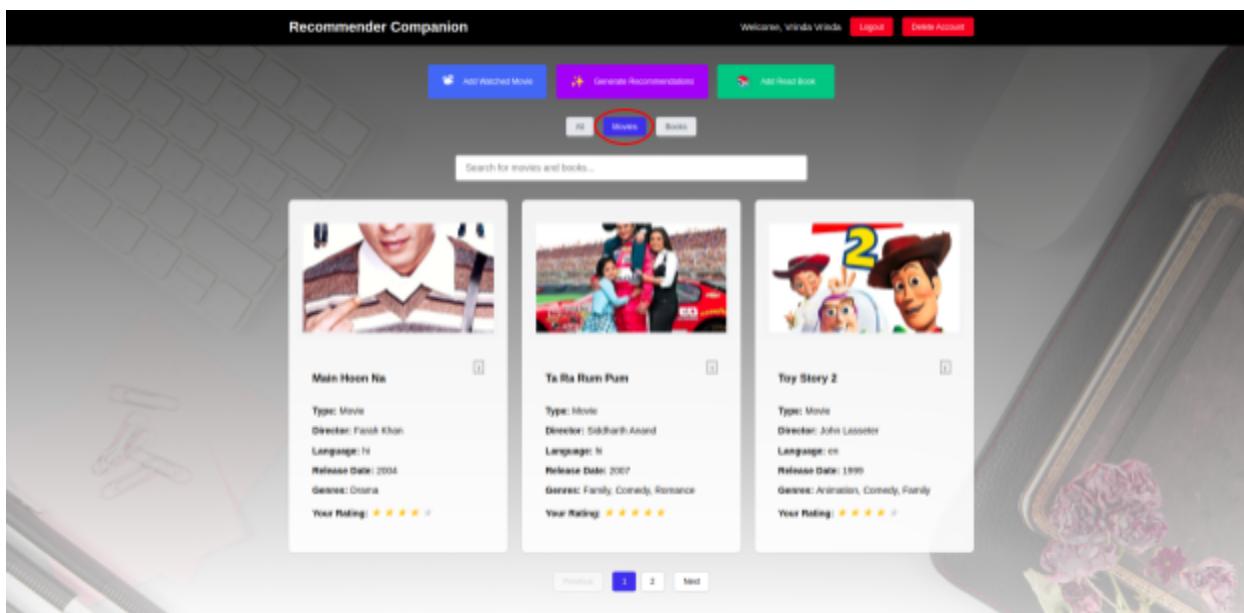
When you successfully sign-up or log back in, you are greeted with a homepage that looks like this. As visible, all movies and books you had added while signing up or during your previous sessions are visible here. You also see tabs named “All”, “Movies” and “Books” which can be used to filter out your watch/read history.

This is pretty intuitive, where the tab “All” lists both books and movies watched/read added by you. The tab “Books” lists only your read history and the tab “Movies” only lists your watch history.

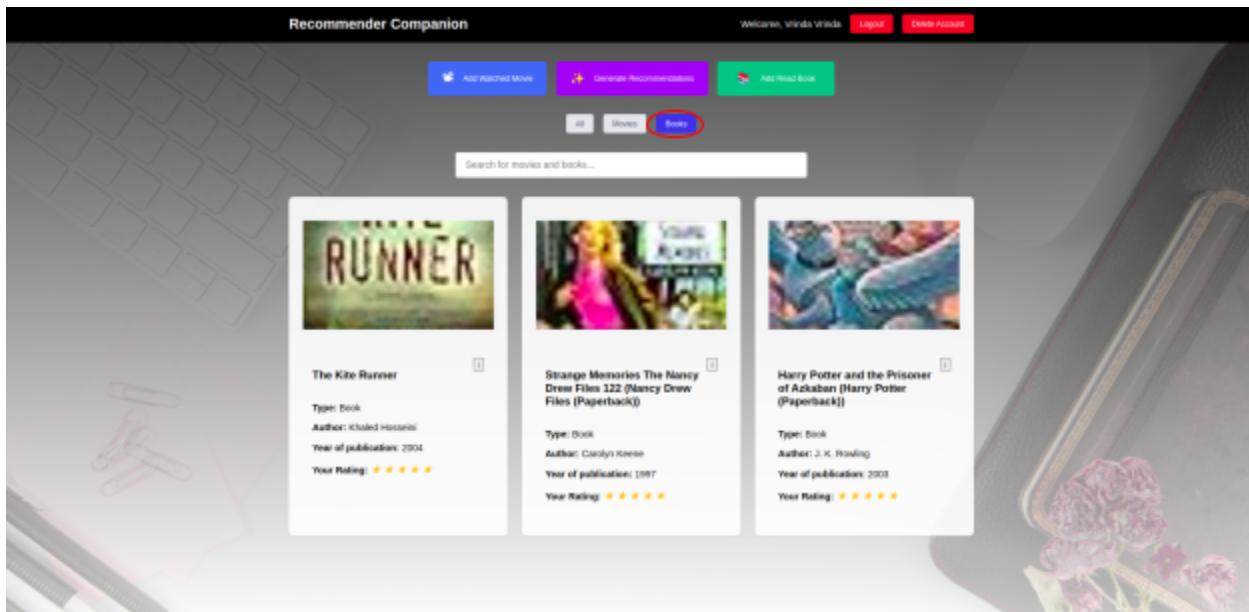
### Tabbing : All:



### Tabbing : Movies Only:

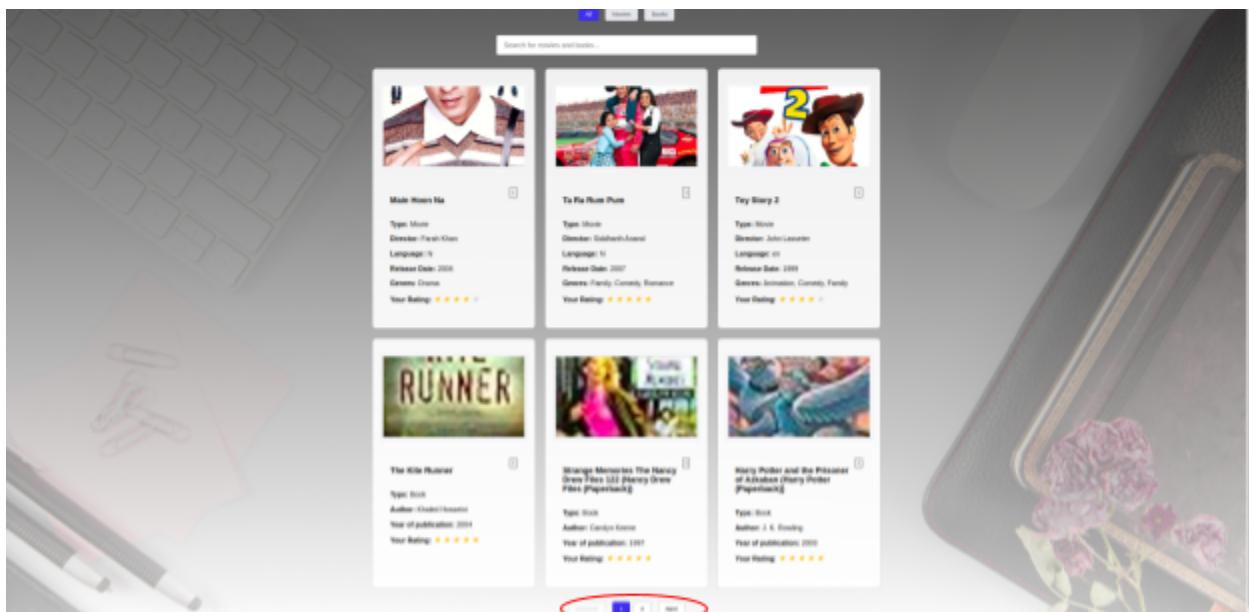


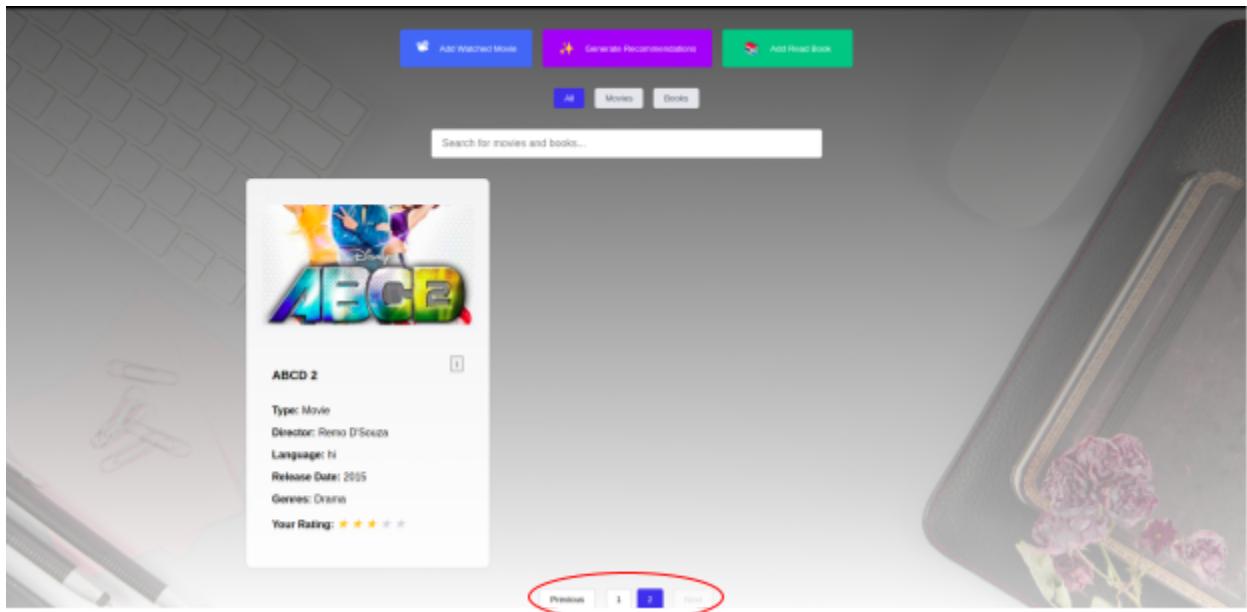
## Tabbing : Books Only:



## Tabbing : Pagination:

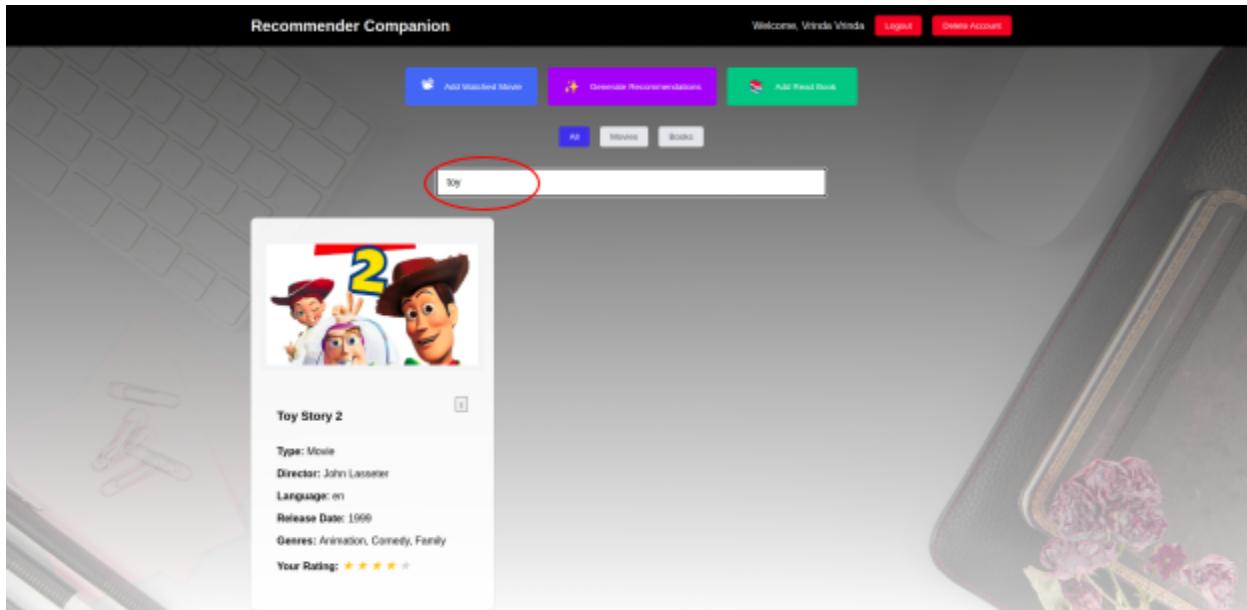
Another thing you might have noticed, is that the data you are seeing on the home page is paginated, and you can see at most 6 results at a time on the screen. You can move on to the other pages to see your remaining results.





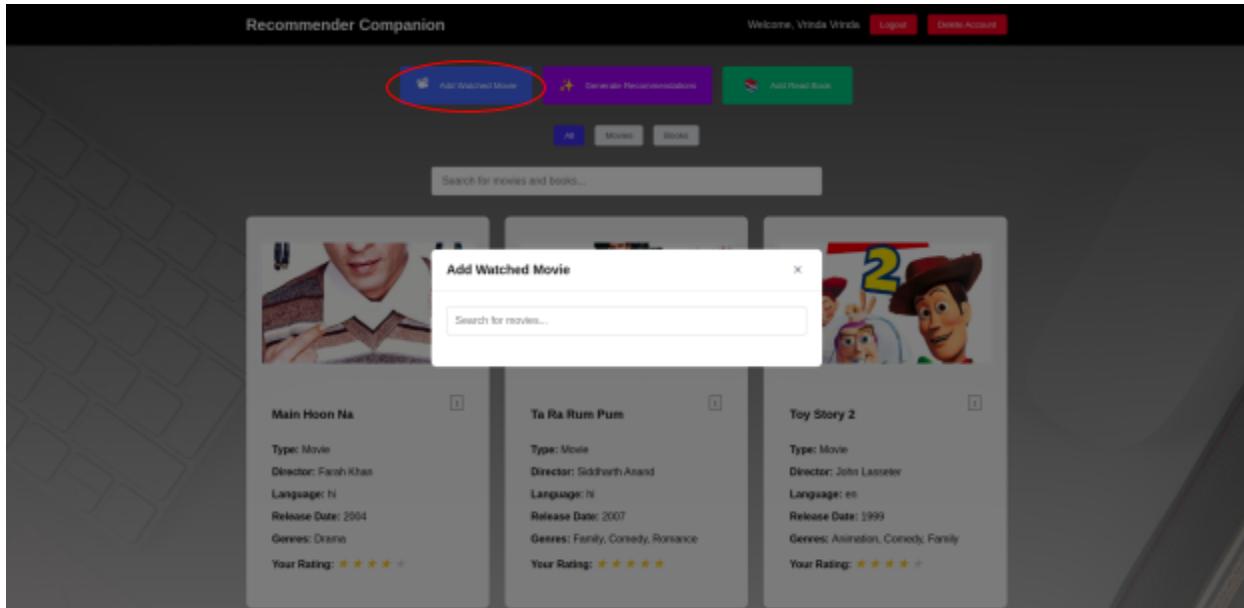
### Tabbing : Search:

If you want to search amongst your added history, you can use the search bar provided to enter your search query, and the entries with the highest matching will be displayed (if any).

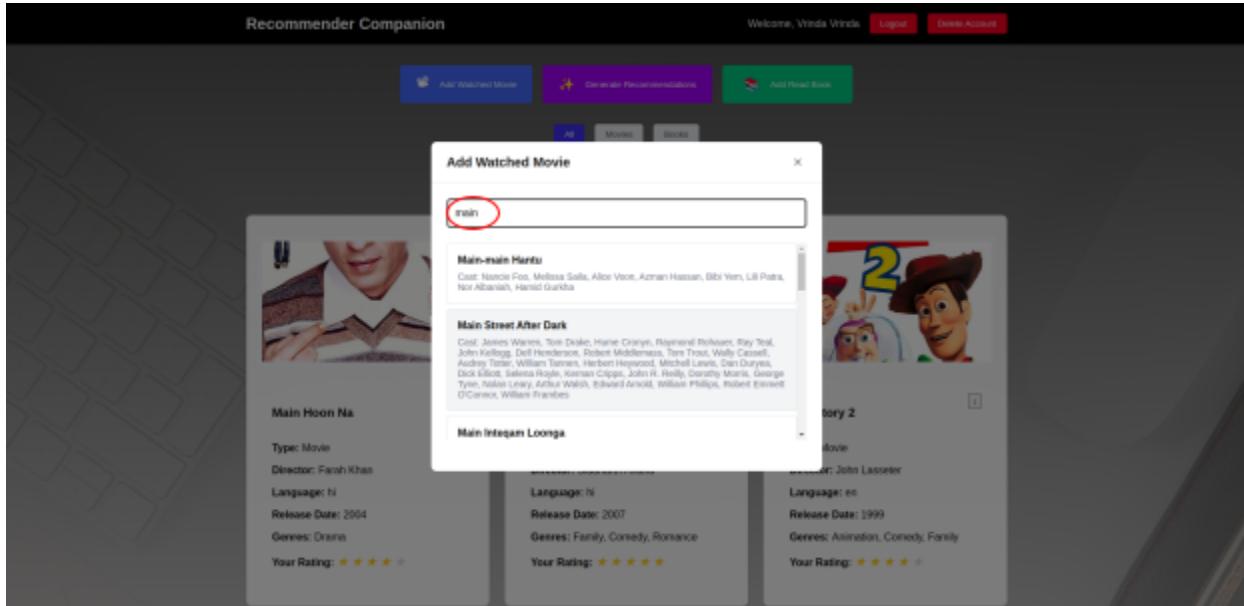


### **Add Movie:**

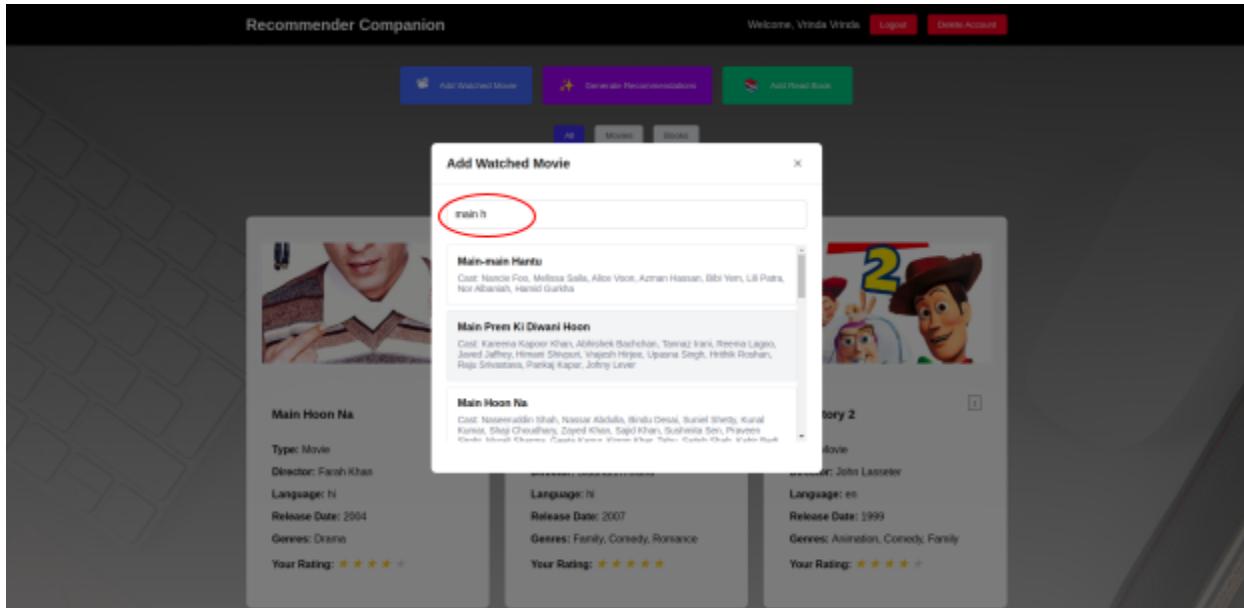
Now, if you have watched a new movie, or remember an old one and want to add another entry to your watch history, click on the “Add Watched Movie” button on your home page, which will open up a pop-up as seen below.



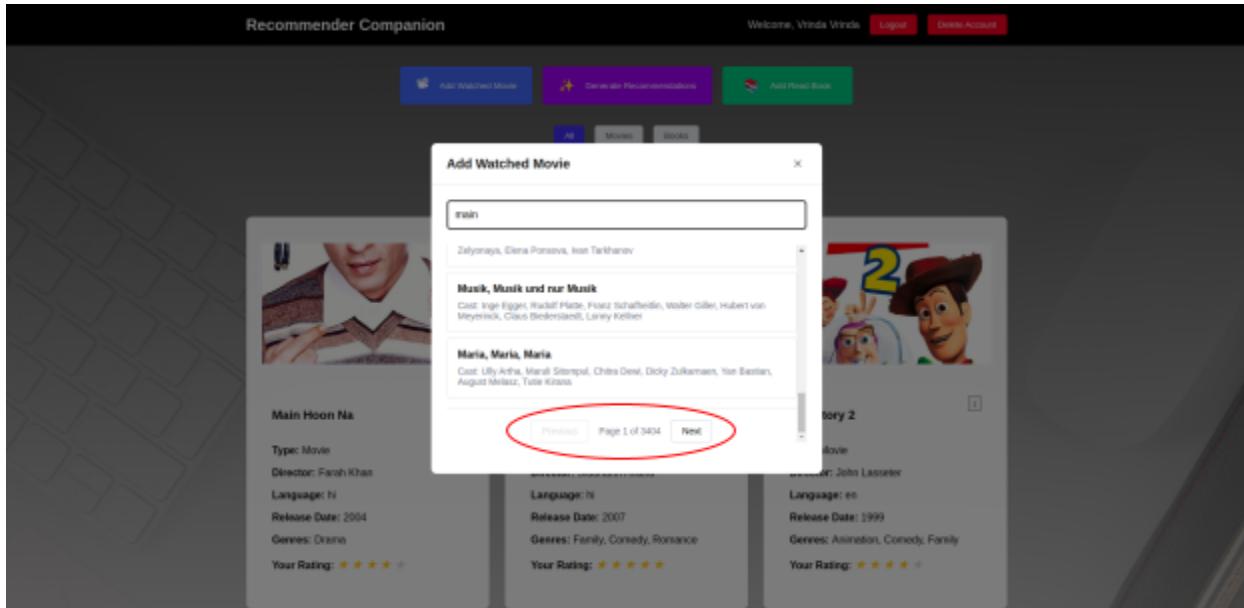
To add movies, simply type the name of your movie into the search box, and you will see all autocomplete suggestions based on matching results available in our Movie repository as shown below:



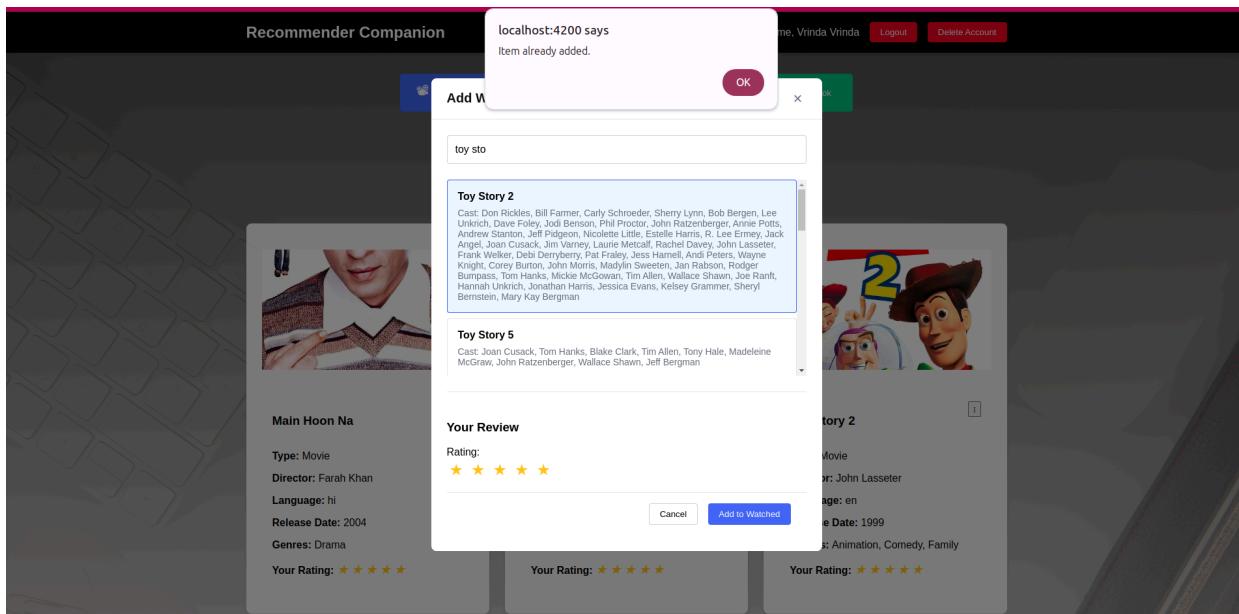
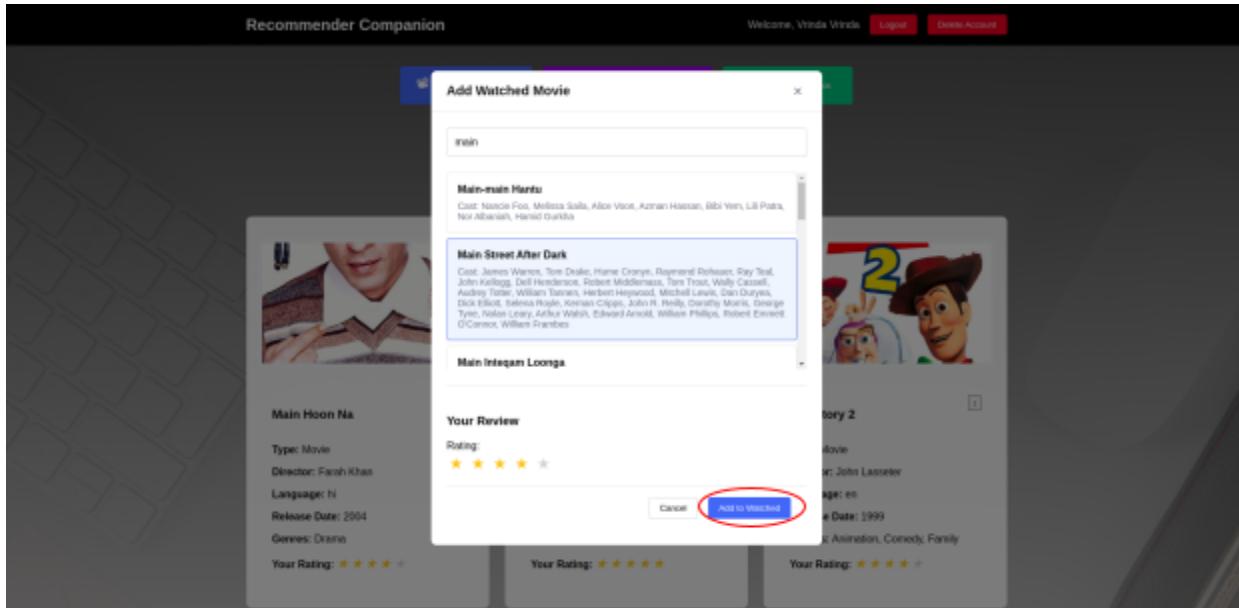
You can see that as you type more and more characters into your search box, the search results also become more concentrated and limited to your search query.



If you scroll down to the lower half of the popup window, you will see that the search results here too are paginated and will allow you to scroll through all the relevant and matching search results.

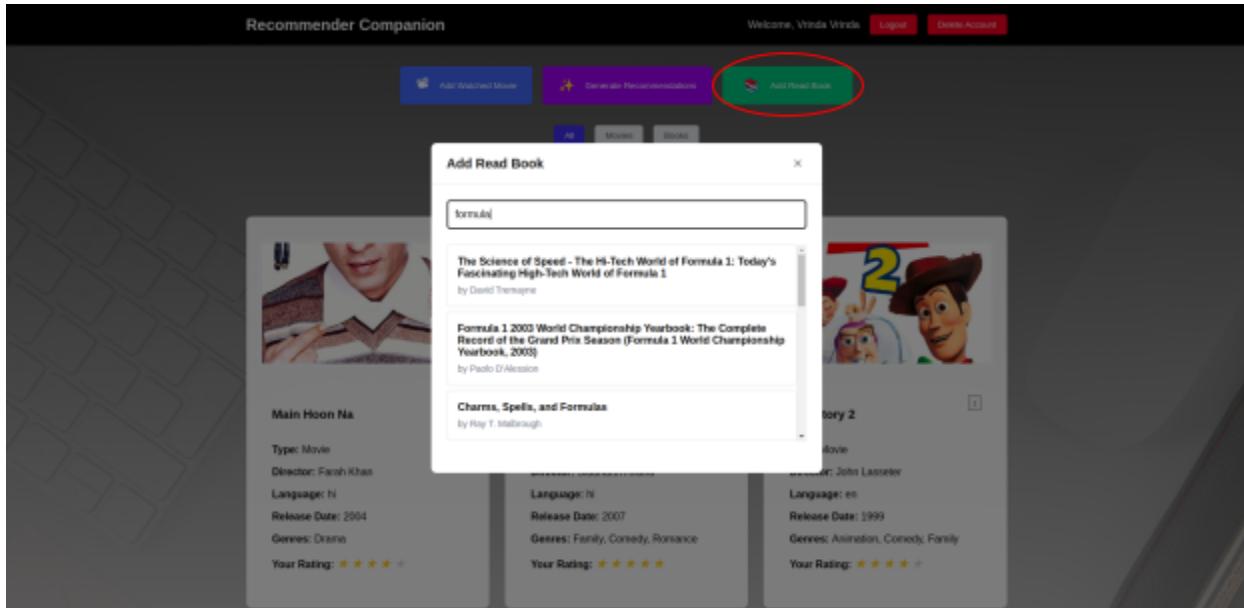


Once you have found the movie you want to add, click on the movie listed, and you will see the window below. Add your rating for the movie from 1 to 5, 1 being the lowest and a movie you do not want to watch again, and 5 being the highest and a movie you would love to watch on repeat! Click on Add to Watchlist once you're done, and voila! This movie will now appear on your home screen under your watched movies. If your added movie already exists in your watch list, you will see a disclaimer window stating that the movie already exists in your history.



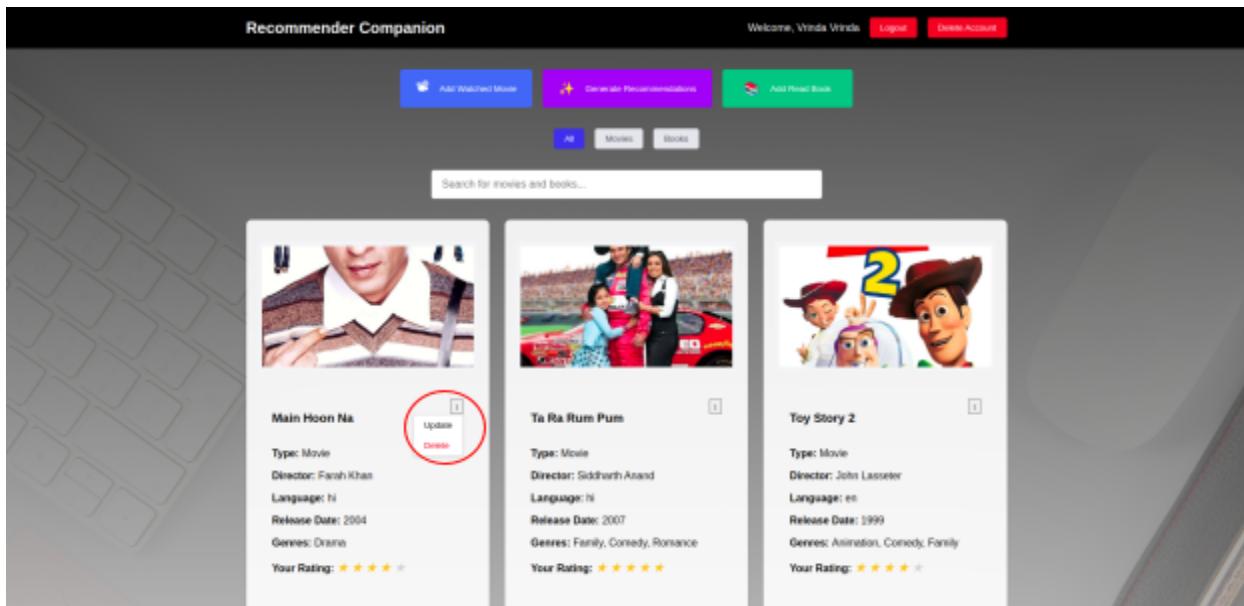
## Add Book:

The Add Book functionality works very similar to the Add Movie button described above, and you can click on the “Add Read Book” button on the home screen to open a similar pop up as shown above, and search/add a book in the same way.

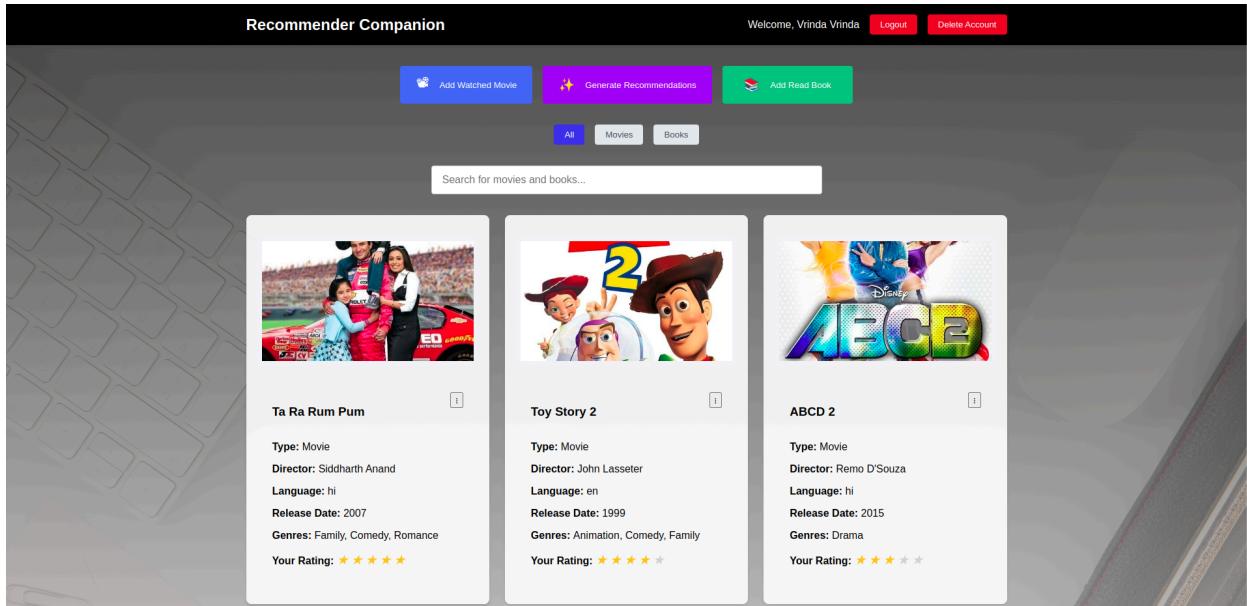


## Delete Movie / Book:

If for any reason you want to delete the entry of a book or a movie from your history, navigate/find the movie/book in your watch/read history on the home page and click on the 3 dots on the right side of the book/movie card. You will see a drop down menu with the option to update or delete the movie. Click on the “Delete button” to delete that entry.

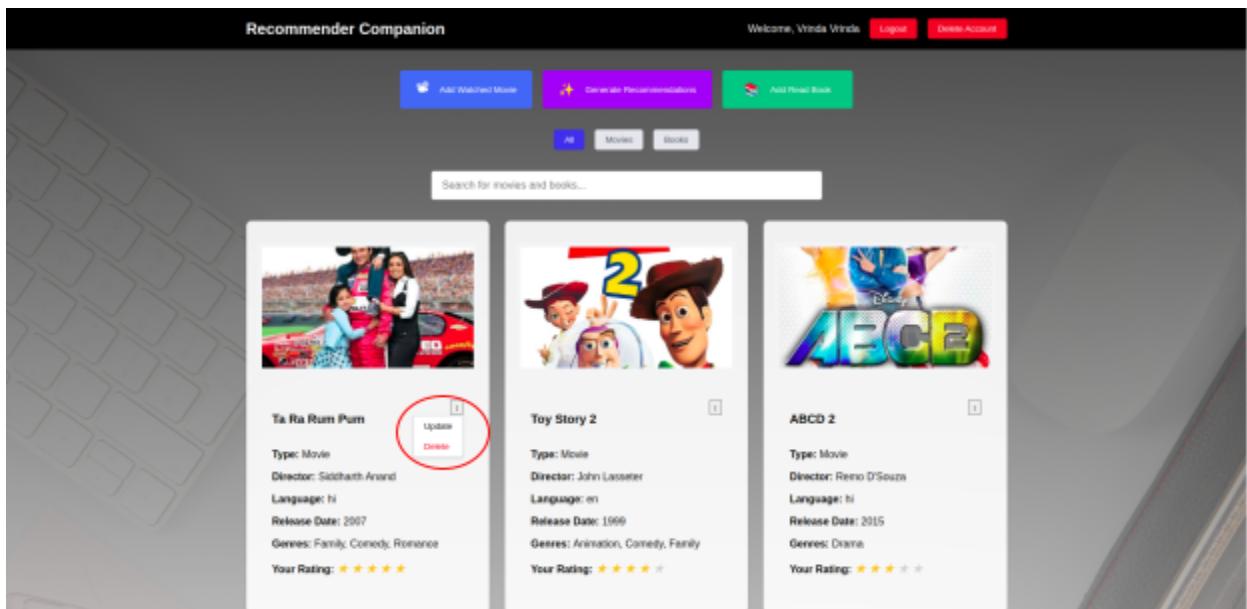


As you can see that movie is now no longer visible in your watch history:

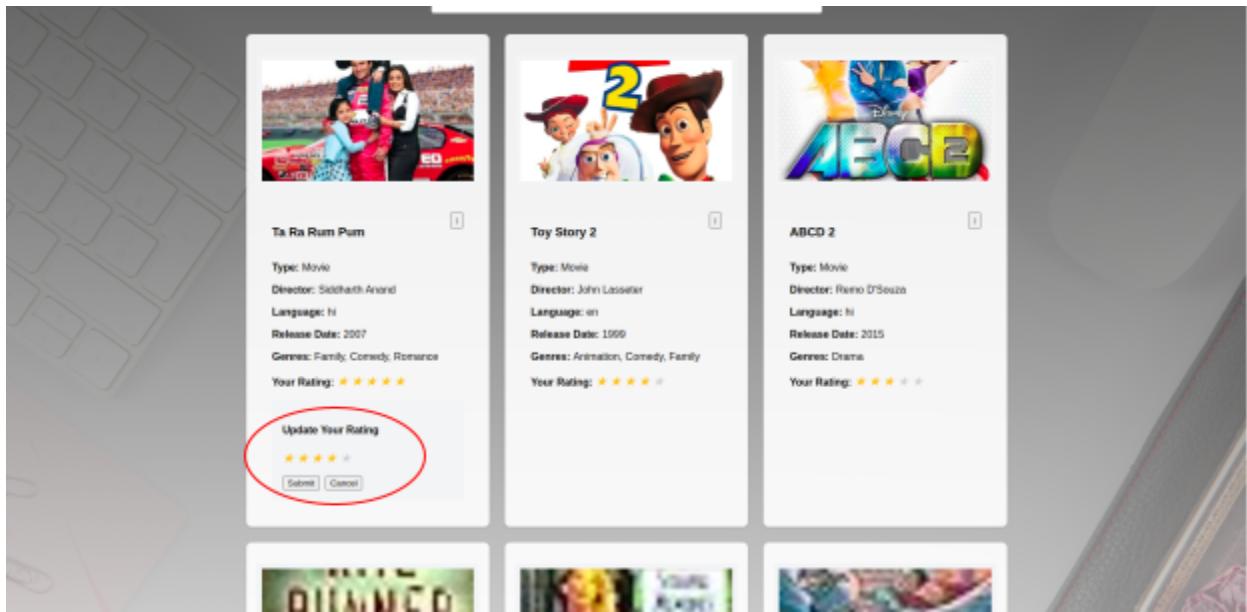


## Update Rating:

If you feel like you want to update the ratings you had given to one of your previous entries, you can do that too! Just navigate/find the movie/book in your watch/read history on the home page and click on the 3 dots on the right side of the book/movie card. You will see a drop down menu with the option to update or delete the movie.



When you click on the “Update” option, you will see the card expand to look like the image below. Select your new rating in stars and click on “Submit”.

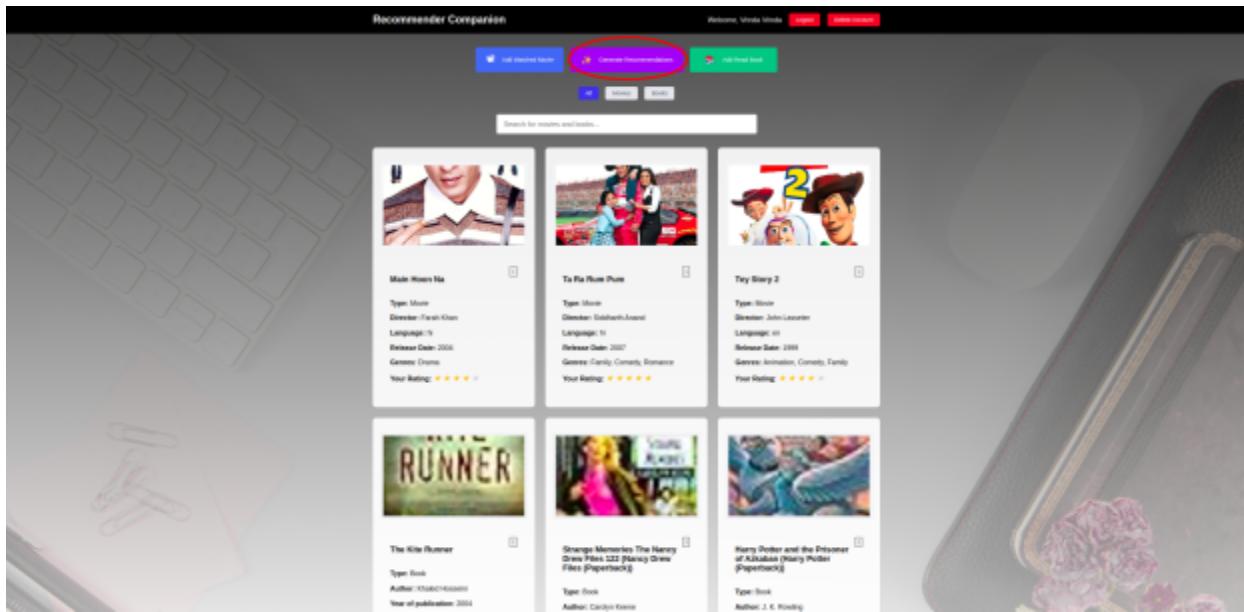


There you go! As you can see below, the rating has been updated for your entry and the updated rating is visible on your home screen.

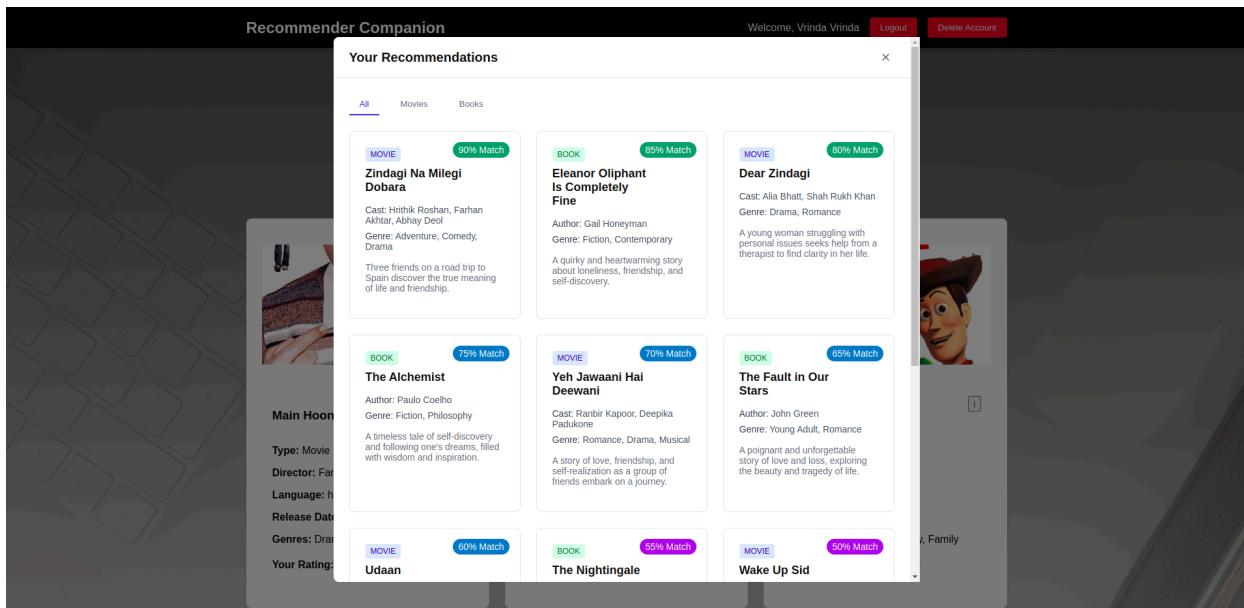
A screenshot of the 'Recommender Companion' home page. It shows the same three movies: 'Ta Ra Rum Pum', 'Toy Story 2', and 'ABCD 2'. The 'Ta Ra Rum Pum' card now displays a 5-star rating. The top navigation bar includes 'Welcome, Vrinda Vrinda', 'Logout', and 'Delete Account'. A search bar at the top says 'Search for movies and books...'. Below the search bar are buttons for 'Add Watched Movie', 'Generate Recommendations', and 'Add Read Book'. A filter bar below the search bar shows 'All', 'Movies' (which is selected), and 'Books'.

## Generate Recommendations:

Now, on to the main functionality! If you want to use your watch/read history to generate recommendations on what to watch or read next, just click on the Generate Recommendations button on the top of your home page!



**This will open a new popup window, which will generate ten (only ten due to resource constraints) recommendations customized to your age, likes and dislikes! There is also a matching percentage based on your ratings, to indicate how likely you are to like that movie or book.**



But what if you only want to use your movie history to generate new movie recommendations? Or use your book history to generate new book recommendations? Don't worry! We have you covered!

Just click on the “Movies” or “Books” tab (similar to how you could on the home page) to generate recommendations specific to your movie history or your book history.

**Your Recommendations**

**Movies** Books

- Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara** 80% Match
 

Cast: Hrithik Roshan, Farhan Akhtar, Abhay Deol  
Genre: Drama, Romance, Comedy

Three friends on a bachelor road trip in Spain, exploring life and relationships.
- Queen** 80% Match
 

Cast: Kangana Ranaut  
Genre: Drama, Comedy

A woman goes on a solo honeymoon trip to Europe after her marriage falls apart.
- Wake Up Sid** 80% Match
 

Cast: Ranbir Kapoor, Konkona Sen Sharma  
Genre: Drama, Romance

A young man's journey of self-discovery and finding his passion in life.
- Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani** 70% Match
 

Cast: Irrfan Khan, Deepika Padukone  
Genre: Romance, Drama

A story of love, friendship, and self-realization set against the backdrop of travel and adventure.
- Dear Zindagi** 70% Match
 

Cast: Alia Bhatt, Shah-Rukh Khan  
Genre: Drama

A young woman's journey of self-discovery and healing with the help of a therapist.
- 3 Idiots** 60% Match
 

Cast: Aamir Khan, Kareena Kapoor, R. Madhavan  
Genre: Comedy, Drama

A comedy-drama about the adventures of three engineering students and their pursuit of...
- Main Hoon**

Type: Movie  
Director: Farhan Akhtar  
Language: Hindi  
Release Date: 2004  
Genres: Drama, Romance  
Your Rating: 4.5
- Barfi!** 60% Match
 

Cast: Ranbir Kapoor, Priyanka Chopra, Alia Bhatt  
Genre: Drama, Romance, Comedy

A young man's journey of self-discovery and finding his passion in life.
- Dil Dhadakne Do** 60% Match
 

Cast: Ranveer Singh, Anushka Sharma, Priyanka Chopra  
Genre: Drama, Comedy

A young man's journey of self-discovery and finding his passion in life.
- Tamasha** 60% Match
 

Cast: Ranbir Kapoor, Deepika Padukone  
Genre: Drama, Romance

A young man's journey of self-discovery and finding his passion in life.

**Your Recommendations**

**Movies** Books

- The Great Gatsby** 80% Match
 

Author: F. Scott Fitzgerald  
Genre: Fiction

A classic novel depicting the decadence and excess of the Jazz Age.
- To Kill a Mockingbird** 80% Match
 

Author: Harper Lee  
Genre: Fiction

A powerful story addressing racial injustice and moral growth in the American South.
- The Catcher in the Rye** 80% Match
 

Author: J.D. Salinger  
Genre: Fiction

A coming-of-age novel exploring themes of alienation and teenage angst.
- 1984** 70% Match
 

Author: George Orwell  
Genre: Fiction

A dystopian novel depicting a totalitarian society and the struggle for individual freedom.
- Pride and Prejudice** 70% Match
 

Author: Jane Austen  
Genre: Fiction

A classic romance novel exploring societal norms and relationships in 19th-century England.
- The Bell Jar** 60% Match
 

Author: Sylvia Plath  
Genre: Fiction

A semi-autobiographical novel detailing a young woman's descent into mental illness.
- The Alchemist** 60% Match
 

Author: Paulo Coelho  
Genre: Fiction

A philosophical novel following a young Andalusian shepherd on a journey to fulfill his destiny.
- Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine** 60% Match
 

Author: Gail Honeyman  
Genre: Fiction

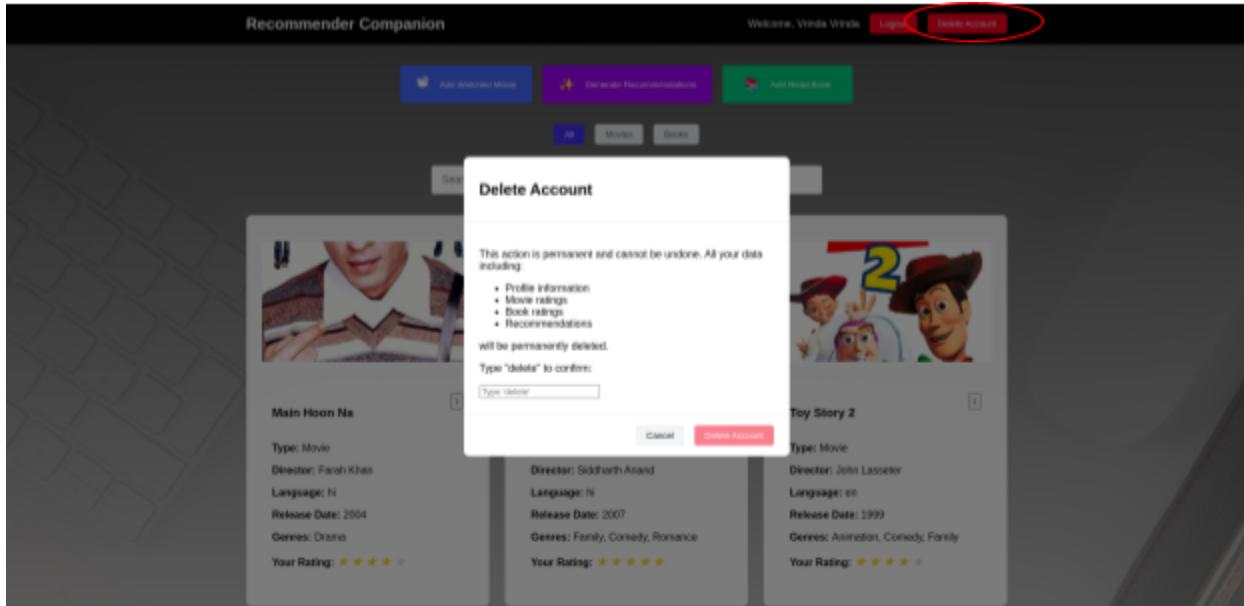
A novel about loneliness, biodiversity, and the powers of...
- The Nightingale** 60% Match
 

Author: Kristin Hannah  
Genre: Historical Fiction

A historical fiction novel set in Nazi-occupied France during World War II, highlighting the...

## Delete Account:

If you decide that you no longer want to use our application, and want to delete all the data we have stored on your profile, click on the delete account button on the top right corner of the home page. You will see a pop up as visible below. Follow the instructions, and click on the “Delete Account” button, and you will be taken back to the login page, and all your associated data will be deleted from our databases!



## Bonus (Admin Panel)

This is only relevant if you are the administrator. Login with your admin credentials in the same way as described above, and the application will automatically redirect you to the Admin Interface of the application.

**Admin Dashboard**

Welcome, Vrinda Vrinda [Home](#) [Logout](#)

Movies	Books
TMDB ID <input type="text"/> Title <input type="text"/> Director <input type="text"/> Cast (comma separated) <input type="text"/> Release Date <input type="text"/> mm / dd / yyyy Original Language (2-letter code) <input type="text"/> Genres (comma separated) <input type="text"/> Poster Path (optional) <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add Movie"/>	

As an admin, you can add Movies or Books to the global book or movie repository to keep it updated. Fill out the form with details as expected (we are following [TMDB](#) for the structure of details and mapping). A sample filled out form is shown below:

Admin Dashboard

Welcome, Vrinda Vrinda [Home](#) [Logout](#)

Movies Books

TMDB ID  
127428

Title  
Bla Bla Bla

Director  
Jane Doe

Cast (comma separated)  
Robert Downy Junior

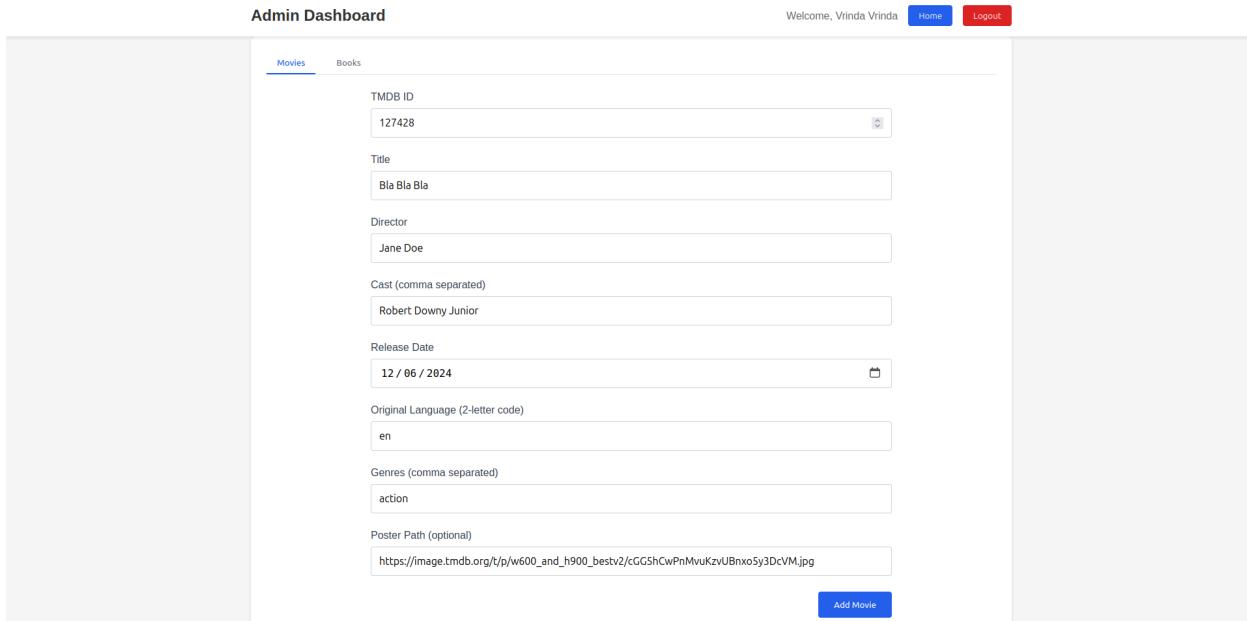
Release Date  
12 / 06 / 2024

Original Language (2-letter code)  
en

Genres (comma separated)  
action

Poster Path (optional)  
[https://image.tmdb.org/t/p/w600\\_and\\_h900\\_bestv2/cGG5hCwPnMvuKzvUBnxo5y3DcVM.jpg](https://image.tmdb.org/t/p/w600_and_h900_bestv2/cGG5hCwPnMvuKzvUBnxo5y3DcVM.jpg)

[Add Movie](#)



If you try to add a movie with a TMBD ID that already exists in the database, there will be a disclaimer indicating that you are trying to add a duplicate entry.

You can add books in the same way, by clicking on the Books tab. Fill out all the necessary details as needed and click on “Add Book”. Here too, if you try to add a book with a ISBN that already exists in the database, there will be a disclaimer indicating that you are trying to add a duplicate entry.

Admin Dashboard

Welcome, Vrinda Vrinda [Home](#) [Logout](#)

Movies Books

ISBN

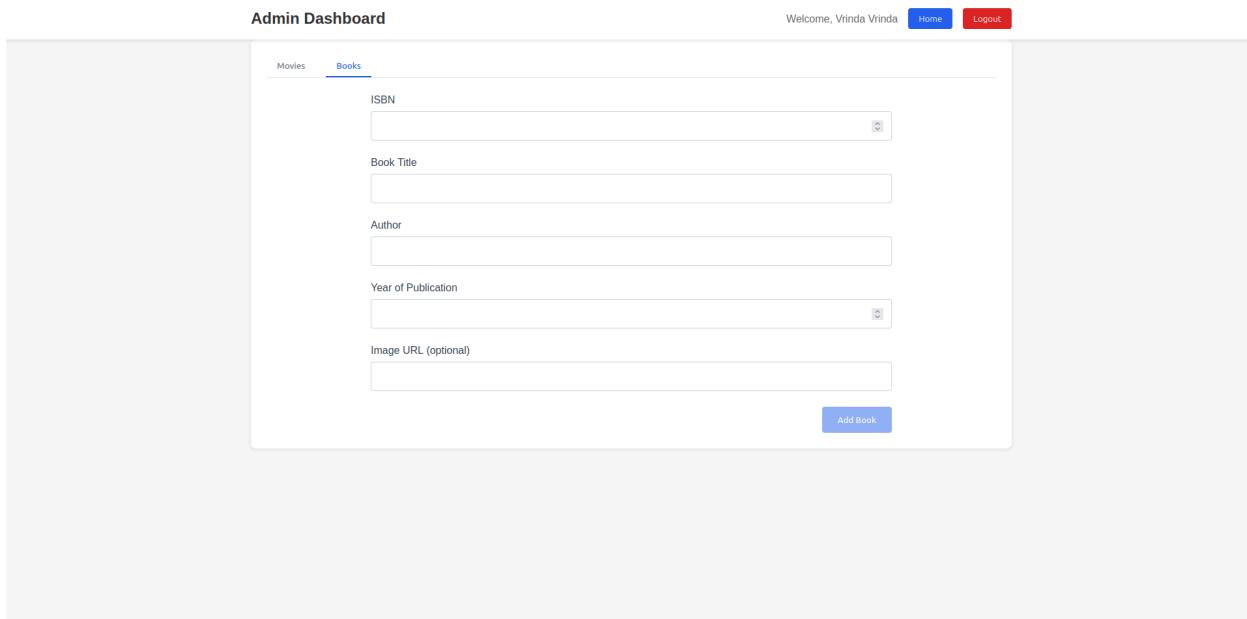
Book Title

Author

Year of Publication

Image URL (optional)

[Add Book](#)



## **Developers:**

Ashi Sinha  
Chiranjeewee Koirala  
Vrinda  
Yukti Sharma