The battle to define the future of the book in the digital world

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Abstract

Commercial publishing interests are presenting the future of the book in the digital world through the promotion of e-book reading appliances and software. Implicit in this is a very complex and problematic agenda that re-establishes the book as a digital cultural artifact within a context of intellectual property rights management enforced by hardware and software systems. With the convergence of different types of content into a common digital bit-stream, developments in industries such as music are establishing precedents that may define our view of digital books. At the same time we find scholars exploring the ways in which the digital medium can enhance the traditional communication functions of the printed work, moving far beyond literal translations of the pages of printed books into the digital world. This paper examines competing visions for the future of the book in the digital environment, with particular attention to questions about the social implications of controls over intellectual property, such as continuity of cultural memory.
scope the future of the book and libraries stemming from the current reading practices. In Portugal. During the research the Portuguese market will be analyzed in detail as well as the practices of digital reading in this country. The intention is that the essential to understand the state of the art of what we defined as being the digital reading’s ecology, a system that combines the role played by industry, technology, legal and juridical questions, and social and consumption standards. Survival in a world where disintermediation can become a widespread practice. Publishers are developing a tense relationship with authors, libraries and bookshop chains that now have all become competitors instead of partners.

3. The Portuguese Digital Reading Landscape. An e-book (for electronic book, ebook, or ecobook) is the digital media equivalent of a conventional printed book. Such documents are usually read on personal computers or on hardware devices known as e-book readers or e-book devices. During the late 1990s, developments in information technology and information science, the availability of low cost quality computers, electronic reading devices, and subscription to communication networks contributed to the rise in popularity of the e-book. Dewey decimals to digital books, libraries in the internet age are evolving to meet patrons’ needs, while also helping to overcome connectivity challenges. — I started to worry about the future of libraries, like the one where I spent so much of my childhood. So, I decided to see what I could find out about the role of libraries in our hyper-connected world. What I discovered is that today, libraries remain firmly at the heart of communities around the globe. What’s more, getting online is only half the battle. You know this if you’ve ever gotten spam email, forgotten a password, or wondered if a story you saw on Facebook is true. It takes a lot more than just a connection to be able to use the internet effectively and safely. The resulting Books on the Fly campaign, which kicked off initially at Manhattan Regional Airport, involves the public scanning a QR code which are placed on cards sporadically throughout the airport. This then sends the user to the Kansas State Library’s eLending service. Non-members are redirected to Project Gutenberg’s mobile-optimized site, where they are invited to download books that have passed into the public domain. These are just some of the initiatives currently underway that involve libraries around the world. We’re very much in a transition period – it’s clear the desire to preser