

The Librarian Militant, The Librarian Triumphant

R. David Lankes

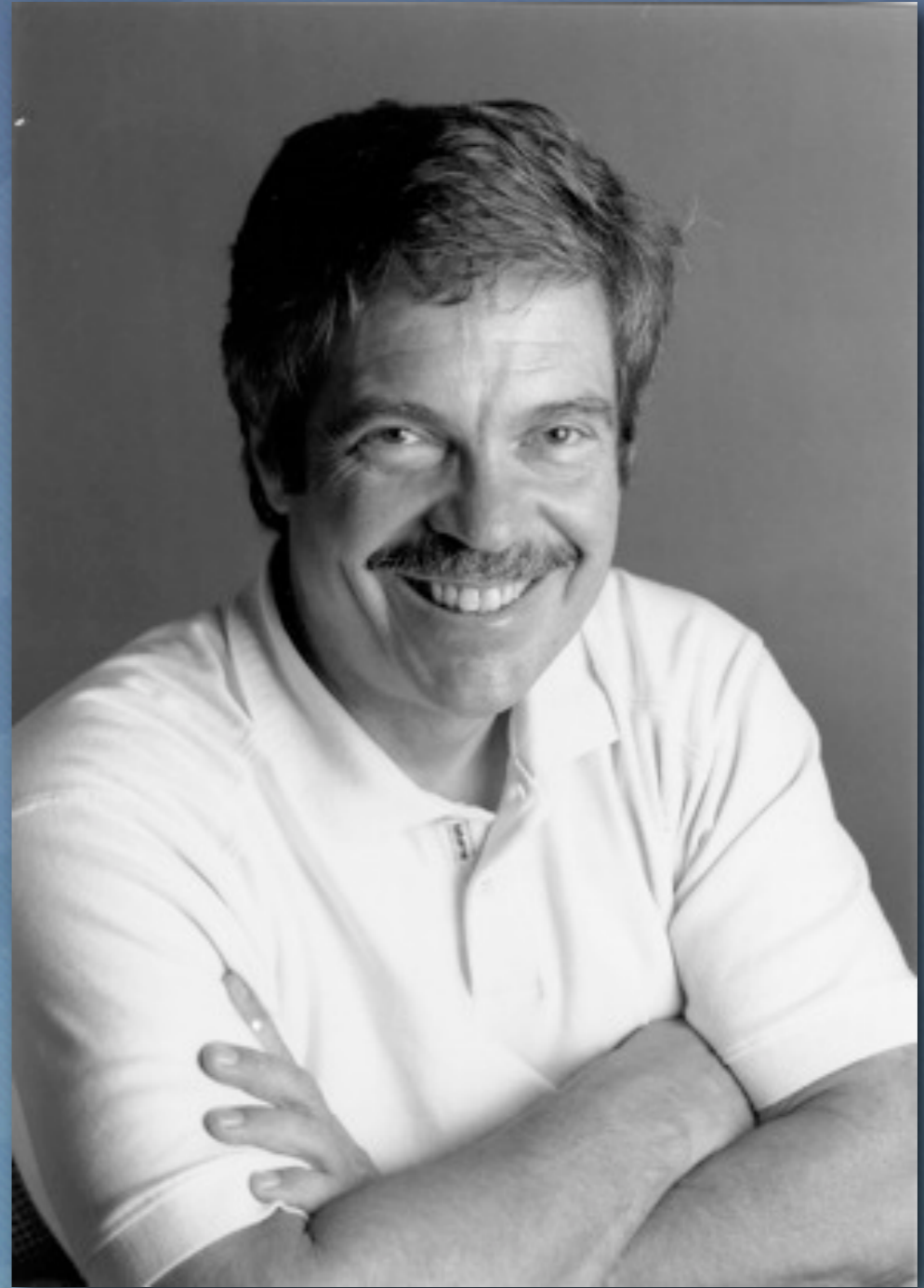
Screencast and Slides:
<http://www.DavidLankes.org>

Refining the Question

What is the future of libraries?



“THE BEST WAY TO
PREDICT THE FUTURE IS
TO INVENT IT”



Refining the Question

What is the future of libraries?

Refining the Question

What **should be** the future of libraries?

Refining the Question

What **should be** the future of libraries **and librarians?**

Refining the Question

What **should be** the future of libraries **and** librarians in a democracy?

“THE LIBRARIAN MUST BE
THE LIBRARIAN MILITANT
BEFORE HE CAN BE THE
LIBRARIAN TRIUMPHANT.”



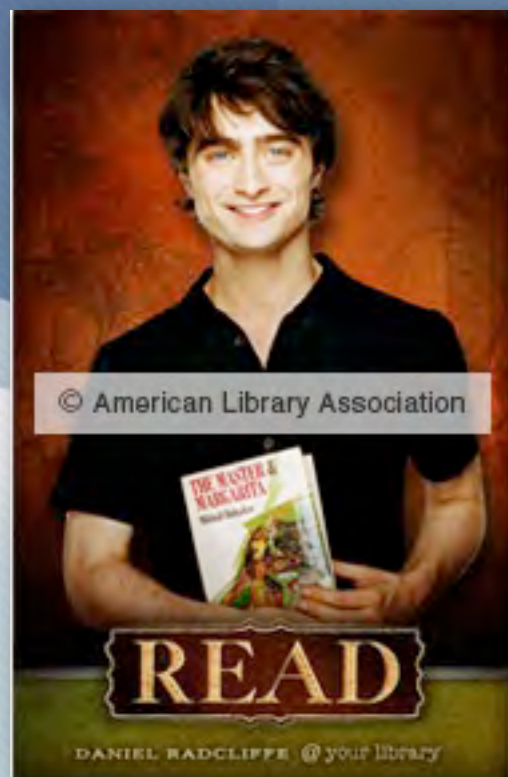
FIGURE 1. *Melvil Dewey, 1851–1931.*

FIGURE 1. MELVIL DEWEY, 1851–1931



“WHY NOT USE OTHER WORDS – WORDS THAT MEAN THE SAME BUT ARE PEACEFUL, AND DO NOT RESULT IN SUCH NEGATIVE EMOTIONAL REACTIONS?...AS WE USE PURIFYING SYNONYMS, WE DISSOLVE THE BITTERNESS, THE ANGUISH, THE HATE AND LOVE, THE AGONY AND THE TRIUMPH ATTACHED TO THESE WORDS, LEAVING AN ASEPTIC IMITATION OF LIFE”

Is Literacy a Core Skill?



Literacy

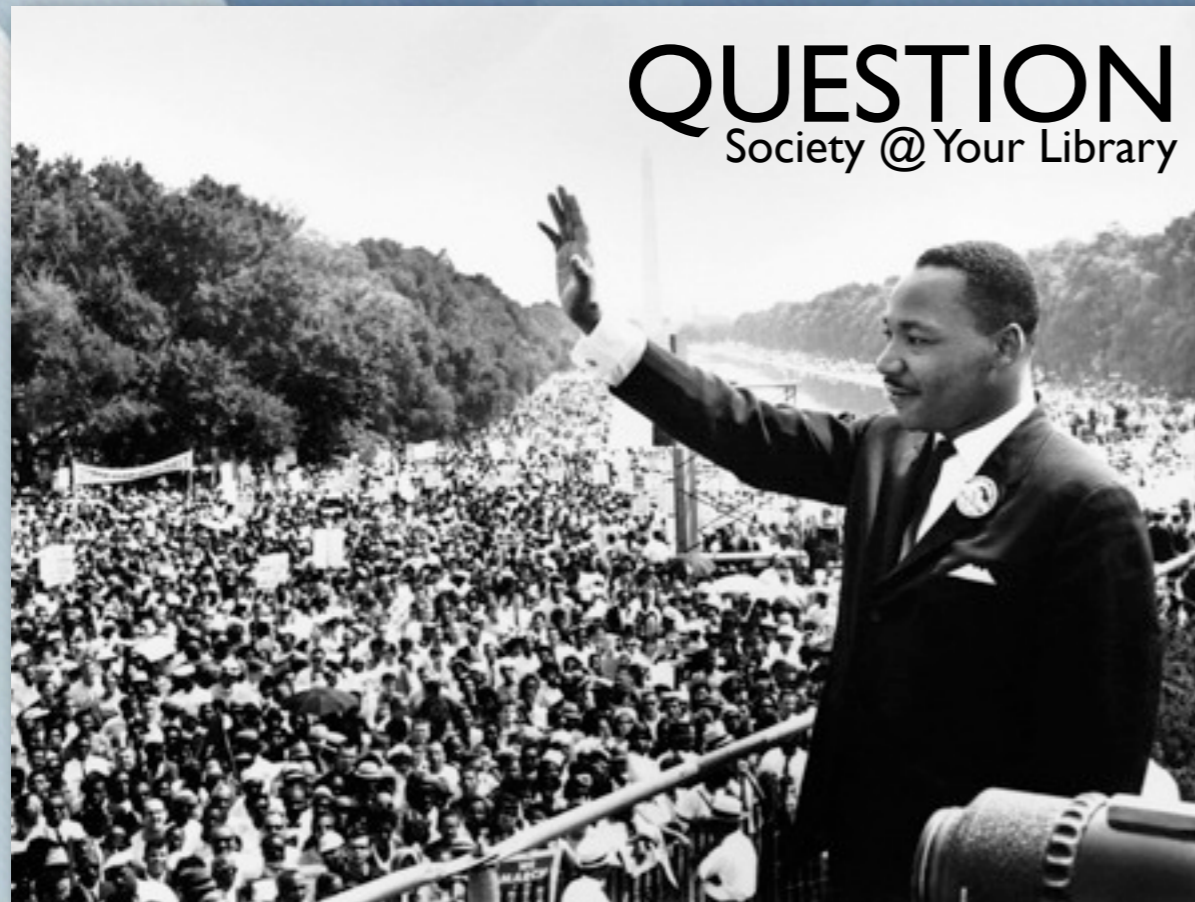


The ability to not only translate messages in a given medium, but also a sense of mastery in identifying and utilizing the patterns in the messages and media

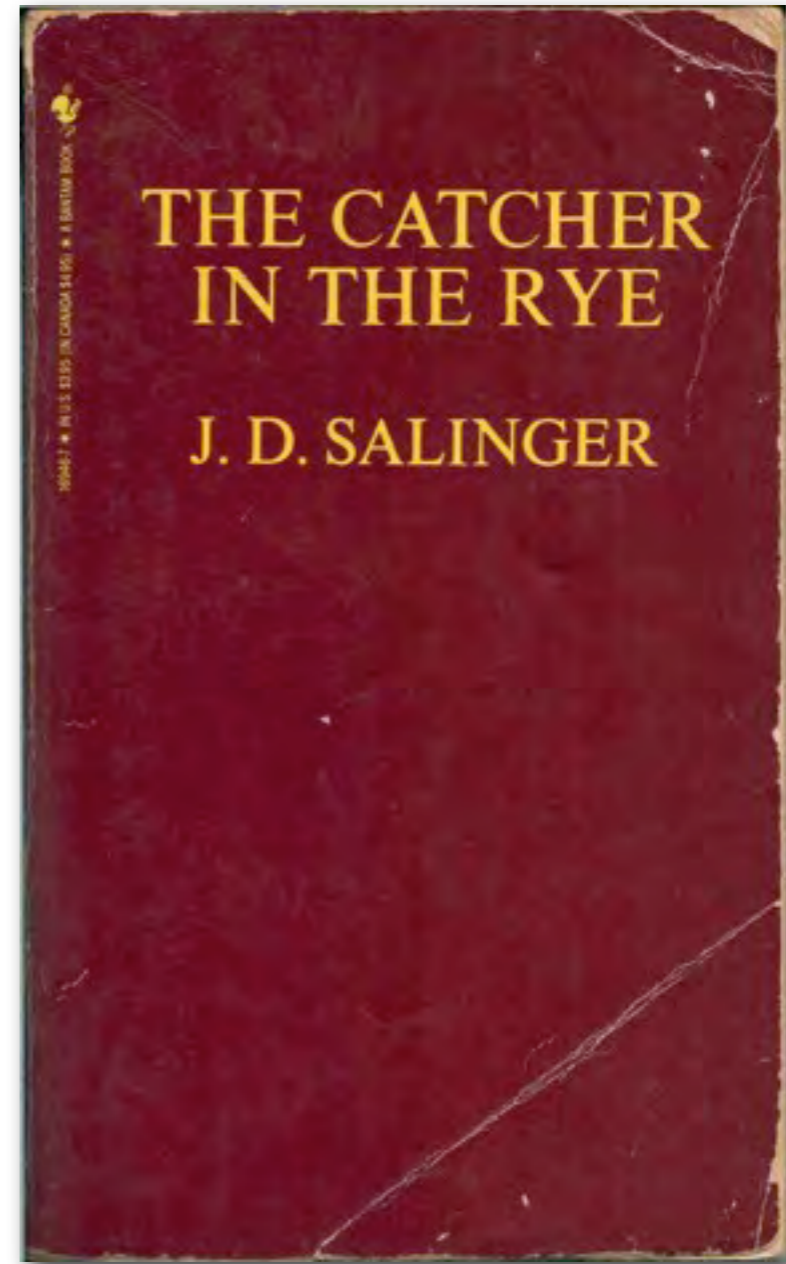
QUESTION
Power @ Your Library



QUESTION
Society @ Your Library



QUESTION
Authority @ Your Library



Service ≠ Invisibility



- Librarians in Knowledge Business
- Knowledge is Change
 - Change is at the Core of Librarianship
- “The Story”





THE LIBRARIAN TRIUMPHANT



What should be the future of libraries and librarians in a democracy?

THE LIBRARIAN TRIUMPHANT

The background features a blue gradient with white rays emanating from the top left. A large, stylized white cloud is positioned in the bottom left corner.

The Mission of Librarians is to
Improve Society through
Facilitating Knowledge Creation in
their Communities

Scarcity

- Scarcity of External Information to Internal Attention
- We Learn Through Conversation
- Conversation Requires Attention

Scarcity



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Attention in Libraries

- Architecture
- Exhibits
- Pathfinders/Webguides
- Reference Interview
- Collections
- Cataloging

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Facilitating Attention

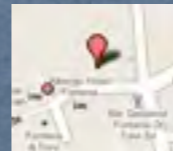
Access	Bark-Codes, Gardens, Hiking Trails
Knowledge	Augmented Reality
Environment	Entrepreneurium Field Trips
Motivation	Mandatory Tenure Review, In Game Discussion





Trevi Fountain

4,300 Conversation Available, 20 Relevant to Tourism



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Available Experts:
Paolo Genovese
Dante Demasi
Giuseppe Verdi
Cynthia Patt



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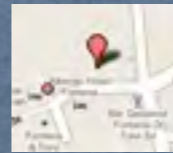


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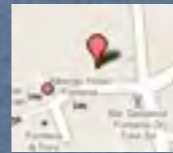
Oceanus (god of all water)
See Related Items and Questions

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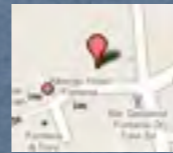
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Local Questions: Why throw coins? What is the Exchange Rate? Where is the best gelato?

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Standing Query:
Recommended Restaurant 300m



Local Questions: Why throw coins? What is the Exchange Rate? Where is the best gelato?

Facilitating Attention

Access	Bark-Codes, Gardens, Hiking Trails
Knowledge	Augmented Reality
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Attention in the Future?

- Participatory
 - Knowledge and Learning is Within the Member - Not Us, Not Our Artifacts
- Distributed
 - Library, Classroom, Facebook, WoW...
 - Go to the Conversation
- It is Complex and Messy and Human

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Tips for Strategic Plan



- Members Not Patrons, Customers, or Users
- Please frame it as “The Librarians of Alberta Shall...”
- State Worldview
- Make It About Conversation & Knowledge



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Screencast @ <http://www.DavidLankes.org>
More Details in the Atlas of New Librarianship in March

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