

A Vision of Literacy in the Future

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My View of Literacy

- Broader Than Reading and Writing
 - Pattern Recognition
 - From Identification to Manipulation
- Participatory
- About Building Knowledge

Changing Literacy Changes Literacy Organizations

Changing Literacy Changes Literacy Organizations



L I B R A R I E S

Why Libraries?

- Collective Buying Agent
- Economic Stimulus
- Safety Net
- Steward of Cultural Heritage
- Cradle of Democracy
- Symbol of Community Aspirations
- Center of Learning

Cradle of Democracy

“The people are the only censors of their governors; and even their errors will tend to keep these to the true principles of their institution....The way to prevent these [errors] is to give them full information of their affairs through the channel of the public papers, and to contrive that those papers should penetrate the whole mass of the people. The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers, and be capable of reading them.” – *Thomas Jefferson*

“There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration.” – *Andrew Carnegie*

“A popular government without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own Governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.” – *James Madison*

Cradle of Democracy

Transparency

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— Titles Published

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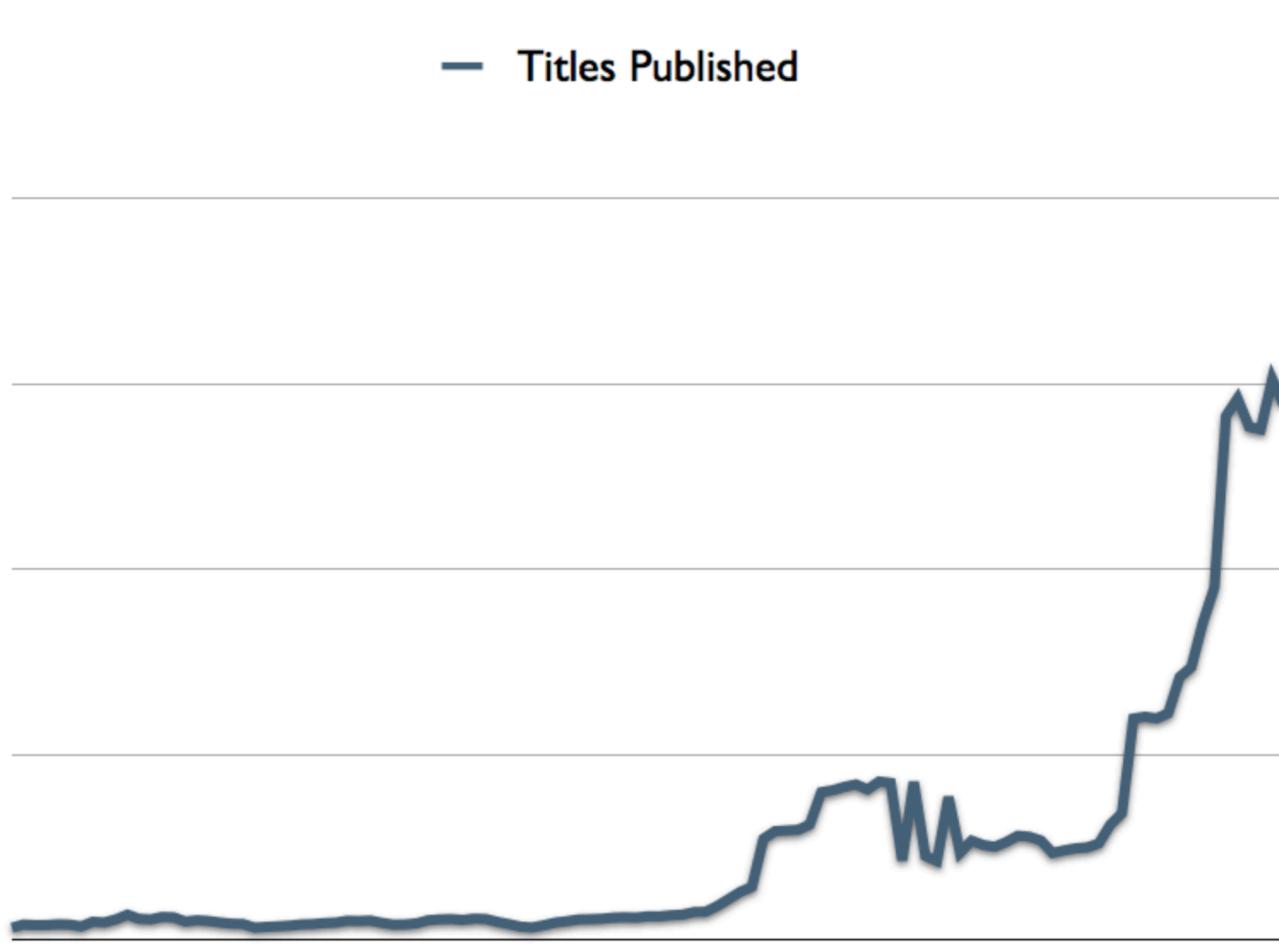
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**The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society
through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their
Communities**

People Not Institutions

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Created Through
Conversation

People Not Institutions

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

Access
Training/Knowledge
Environment
Motivation

Created Through
Conversation

Collection-Centric Worldview

- Library=Collection
 - Collection=Owned and Leased Resources
- Value is Connecting Community to Ideas
 - Primarily External Ideas
- Mission=Provide Access to Information

Community-Centric Worldview

- Library=Librarians + Community
 - Collection=Tools, like Space, Computers, etc...
 - Library is a Community Platform
- Value is Connecting Community to Ideas
 - Focus on Community Ideas
- Mission=Facilitating Knowledge Creation

Library as Platform

- NOPL Garden
- Eureka Lunch
- FFL FabLab



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People Not Institutions

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People Not Institutions

Ethical Counter-Balance

The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society
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Through Empowerment
Ethical Counter-Balance

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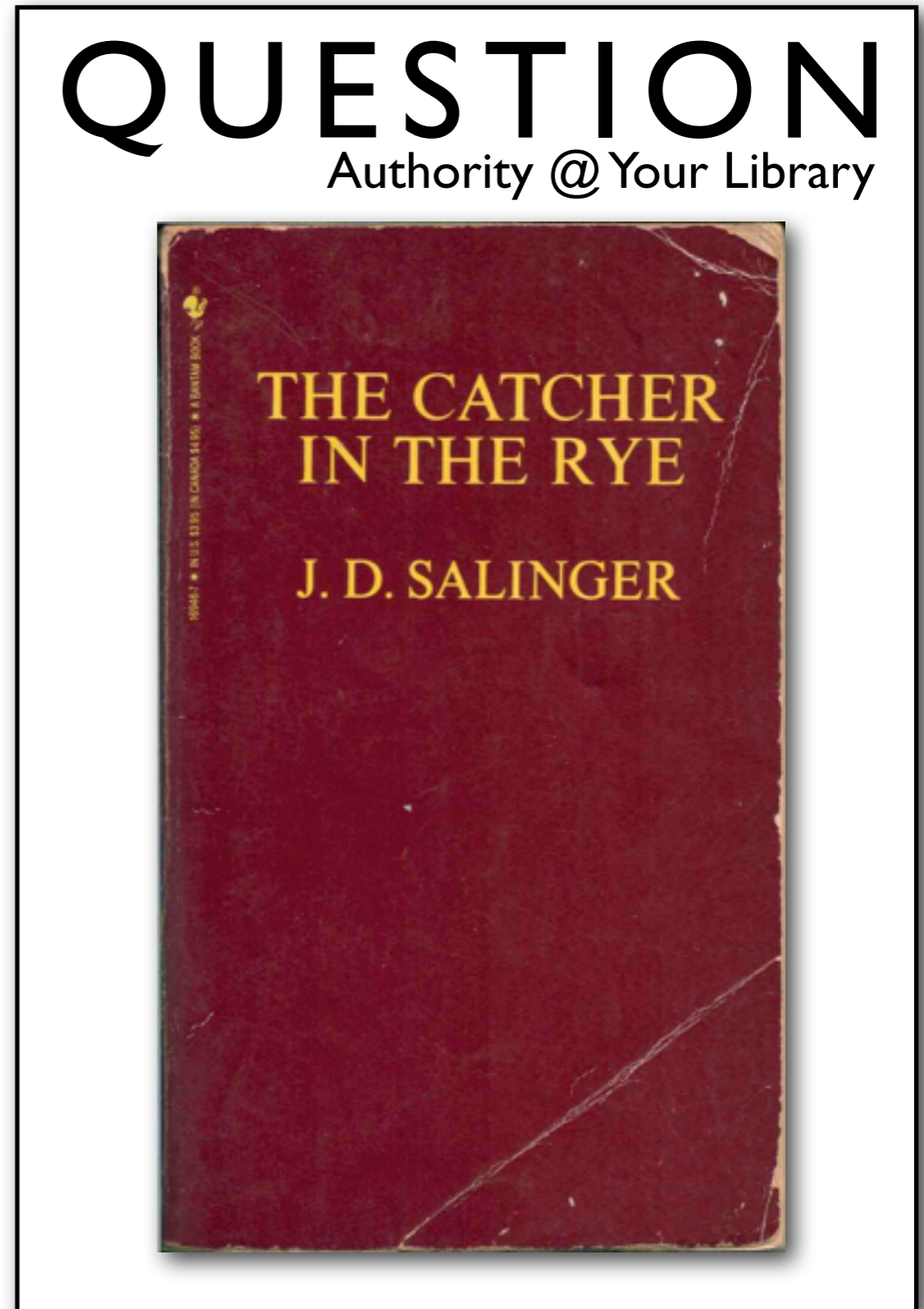
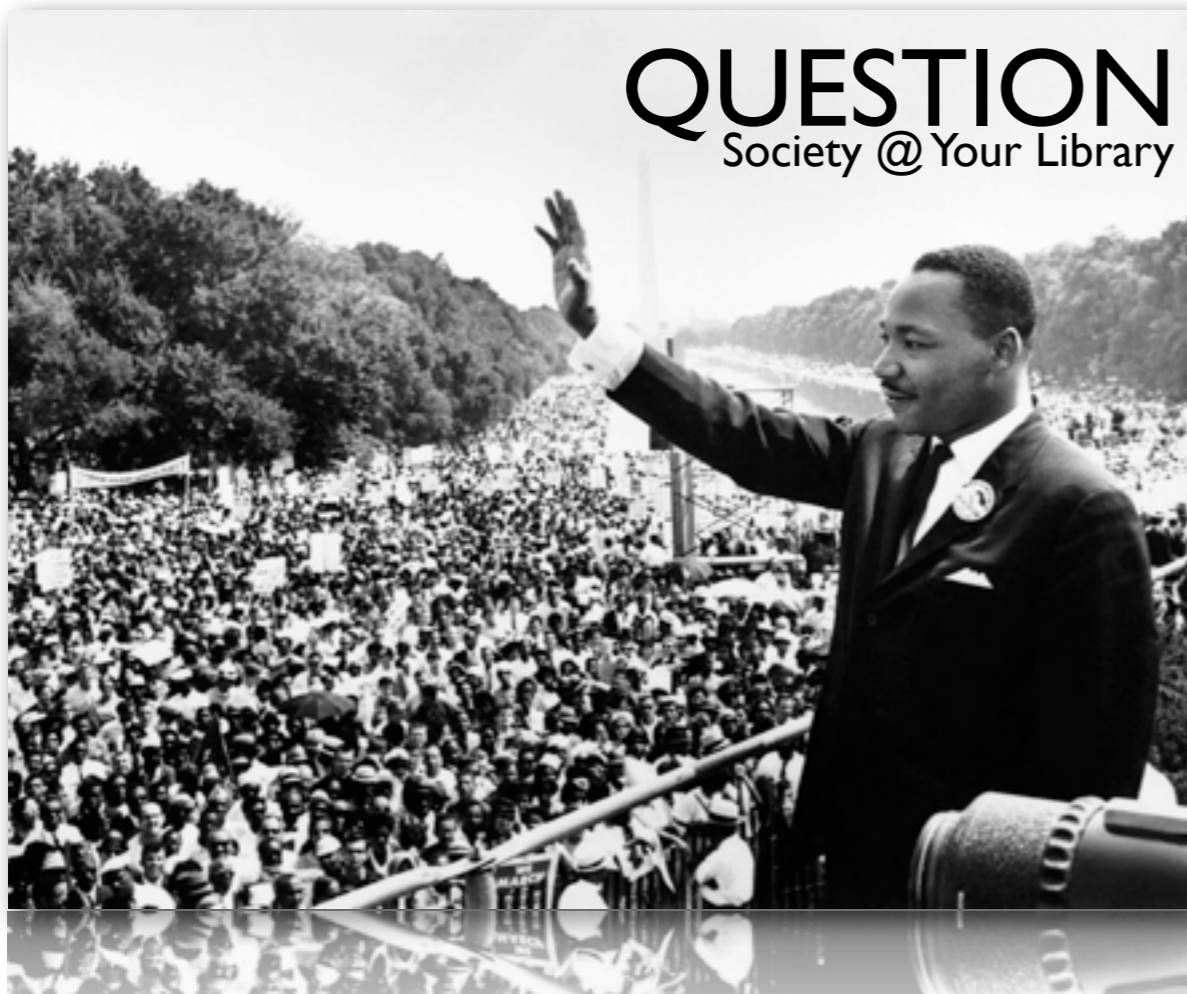
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Literacy=Power

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To Give Power You Must First Accumulate It



Literacy=Power

To Give Power You Must First Accumulate It

I ask again...if libraries seek to empower, how can they do so if they have no power to share?

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Steve Matthews July 18, 2013 at 10:15 AM

You obviously confuse empowerment with power. As I stated in our exchange two years ago on this same topic, citizens acquire their own power through acquiring literacy and information, which libraries offer free of charge, and it is their's to use or not, and even acquire or not. That is not a library's or librarian's to share. People acquire their own power through empowering themselves.

[Reply](#)



R. David Lankes July 18, 2013 at 1:31 PM

I assume that also means if they do not gain any power it is their fault as well?

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Steve Matthews July 18, 2013 at 3:13 PM

That's the way the world works.

[Reply](#)

To

It





K.N.L.S



MOBILE CAMEL LIBRARY

K.N.L.S

LIBRARY



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www.DavidLankes.org