The Library as Conversation

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The Problem with "Prophets"

- Visionary without Reality
- Bibliofundamentalist
- Motto's Over Intellectual Signatures
- The French Revolutionary
    - "There go my people. I must find out where they are going so that I may lead them." - Alexandre Ledru-Rollin

The Obligation of Innovation

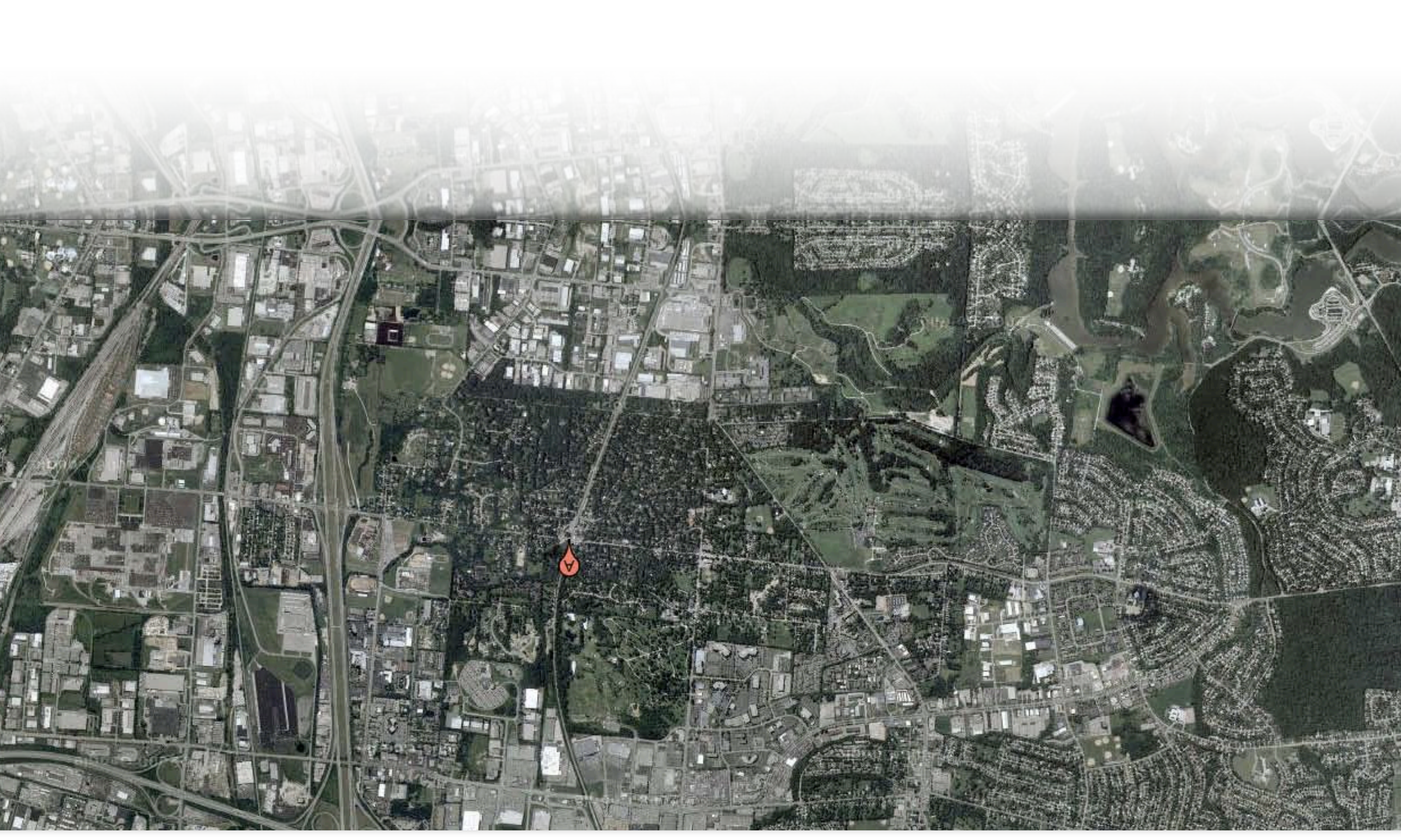
- Innovation is Everyone's Job
- You will Determine What the Future of the Library Should Be

Participatory Librarianship

- Knowledge is Created through Conversation

- Libraries are in the Knowledge Business

- Therefore, Libraries are in the Conversation Business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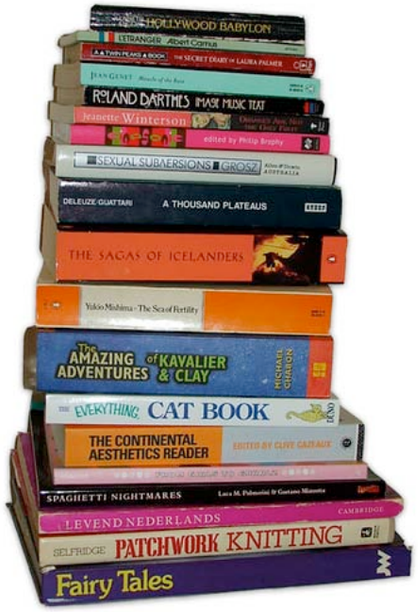
Free Library

Free Library

Free Library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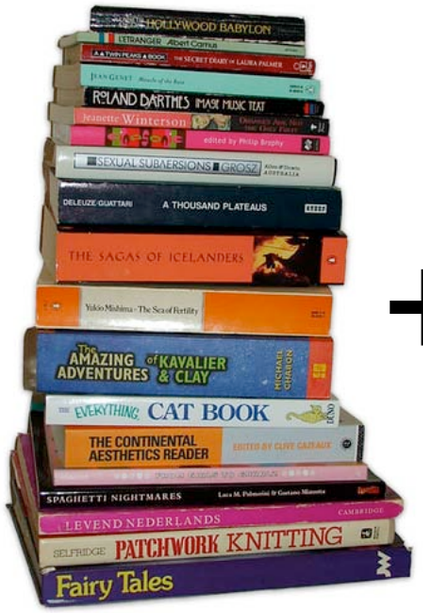
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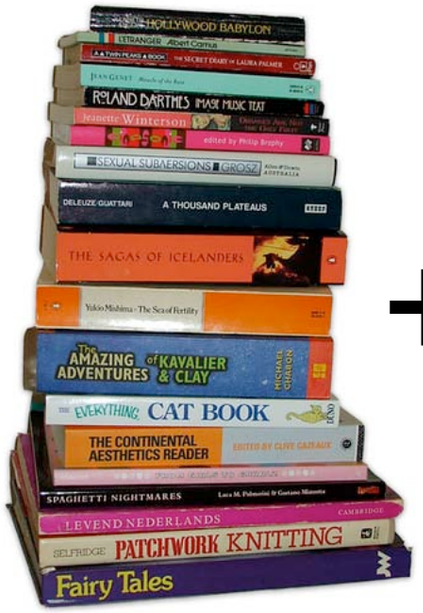
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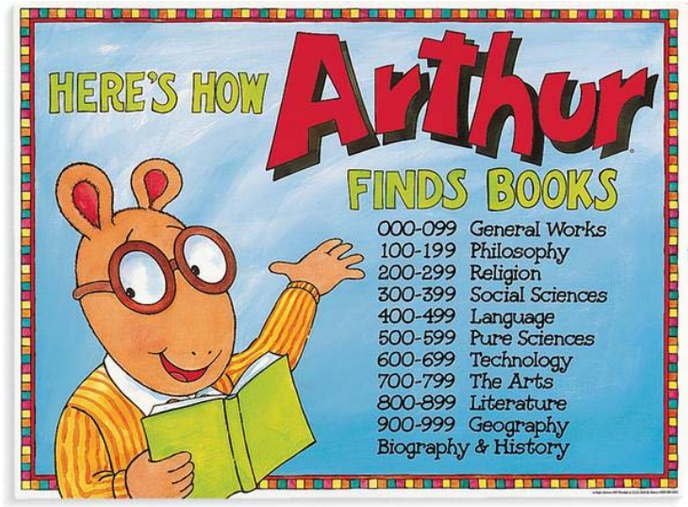
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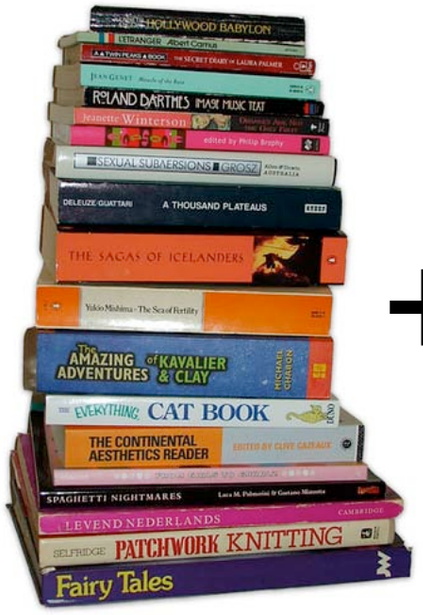
300-399 Social Sciences
400-499 Language
500-599 Pure Sciences
600-699 Technology
700-799 The Arts
800-899 Literature
900-999 Geography
Biography & History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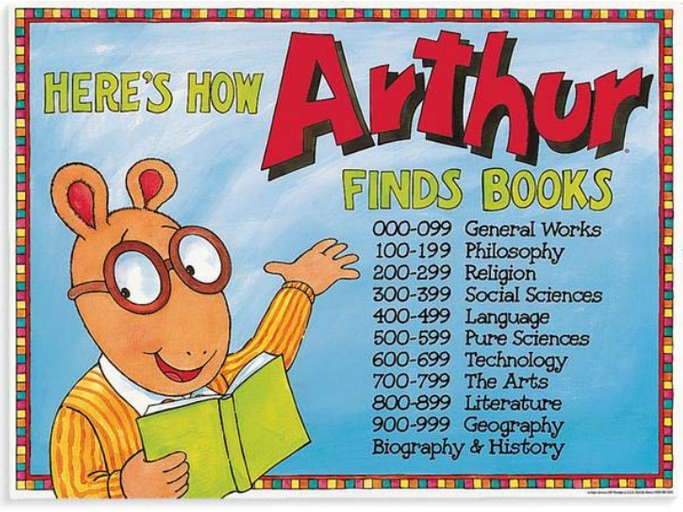
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= Library

Functional Logic of Librarianship

- More Books Requires Inventory
- Large Inventory Requires Classification
- Classification Requires Professional
- Large Classified Inventory Requires Automation
- Automation Leads to Networks
- Networks Require Standards

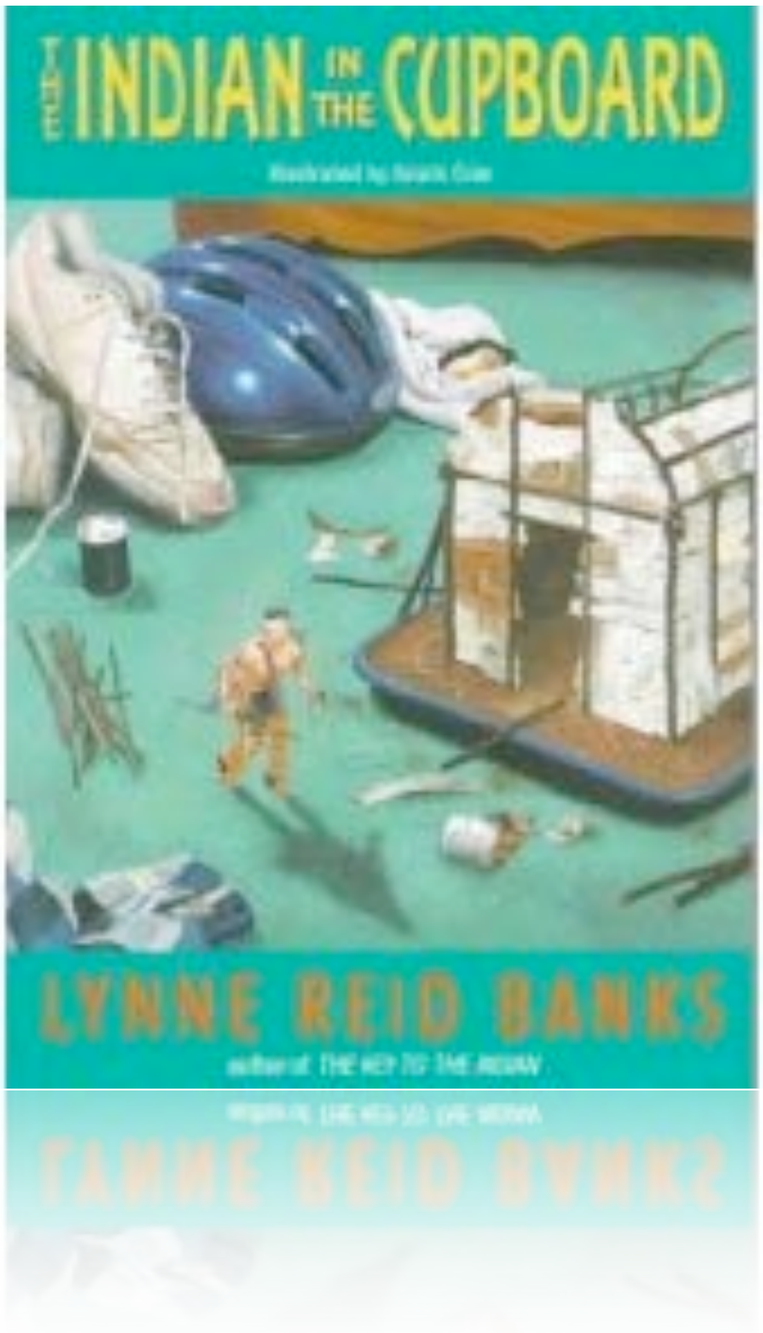
Daedalus' Maze

- Libraries have become trapped in their own labyrinth of tools and organizations

- MARC, AACR2, DDC, LCSH, Z39.50, NISO, OPAC, DCMI, LibQual, ILL, AAT, GAC, ILS, LSTA, OCLC

The Story

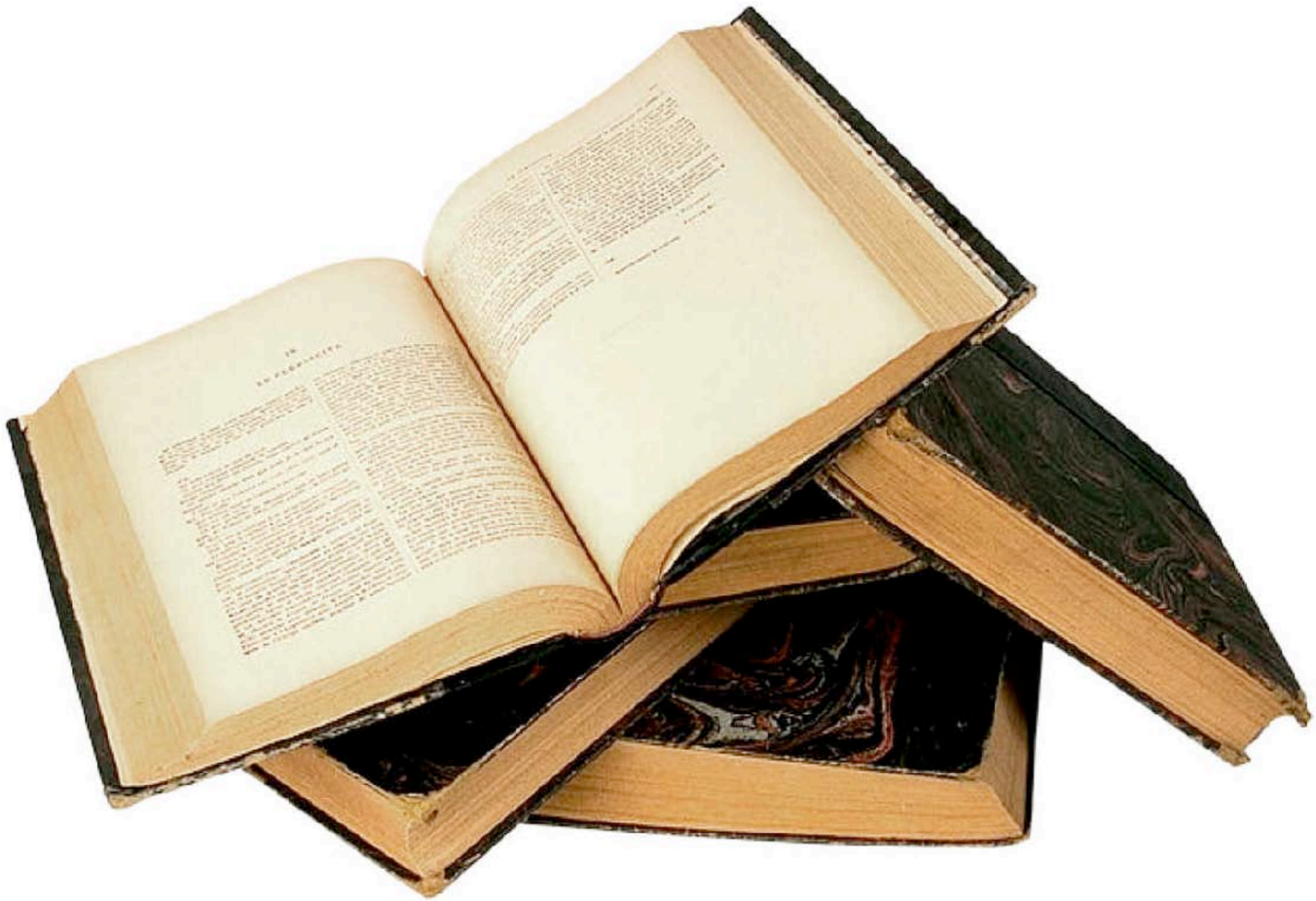
The Story



The Story

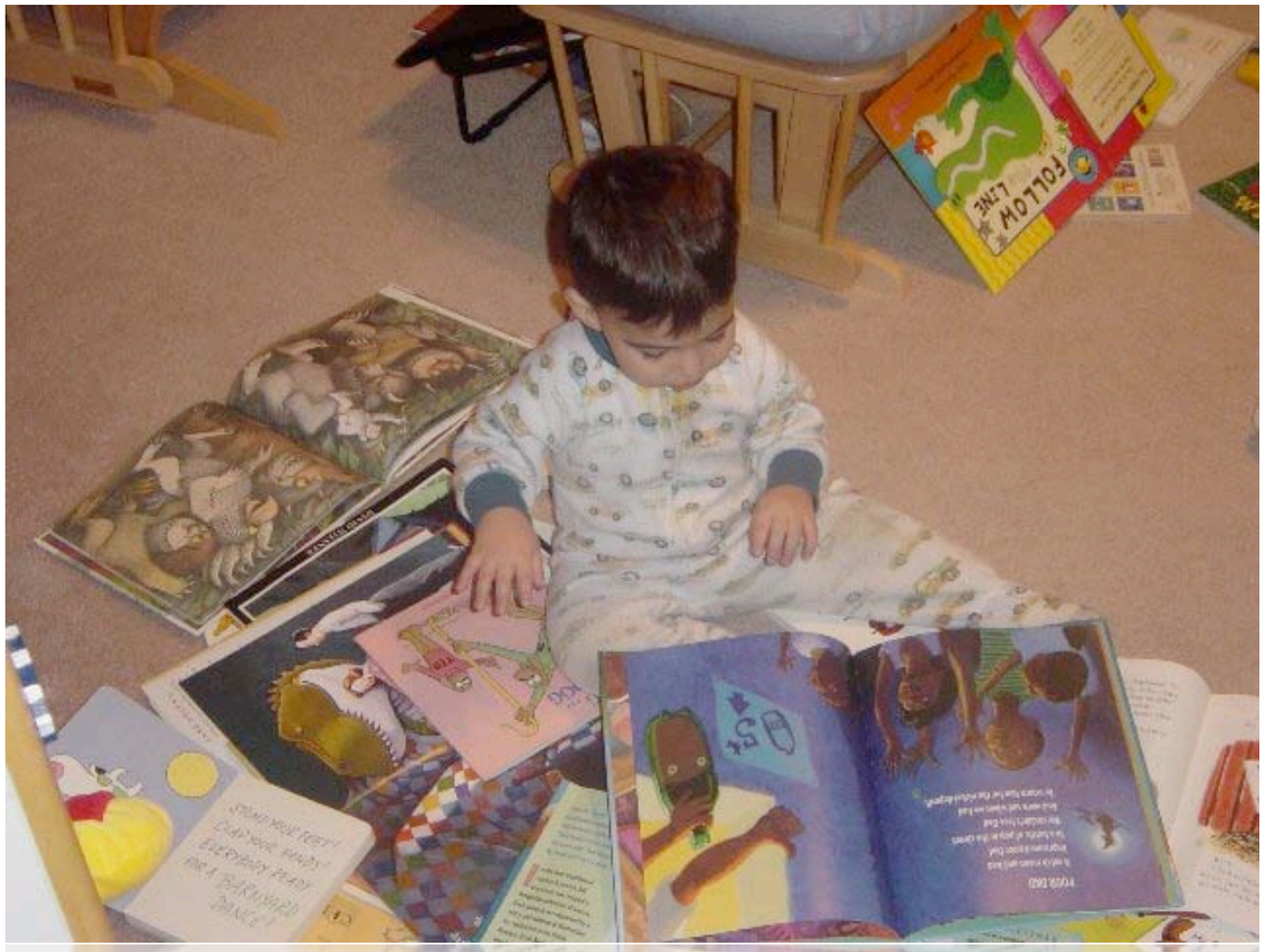
Marvin Redpost
Henry and Mudge
One Day in the...
Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Are We in the Document Business?



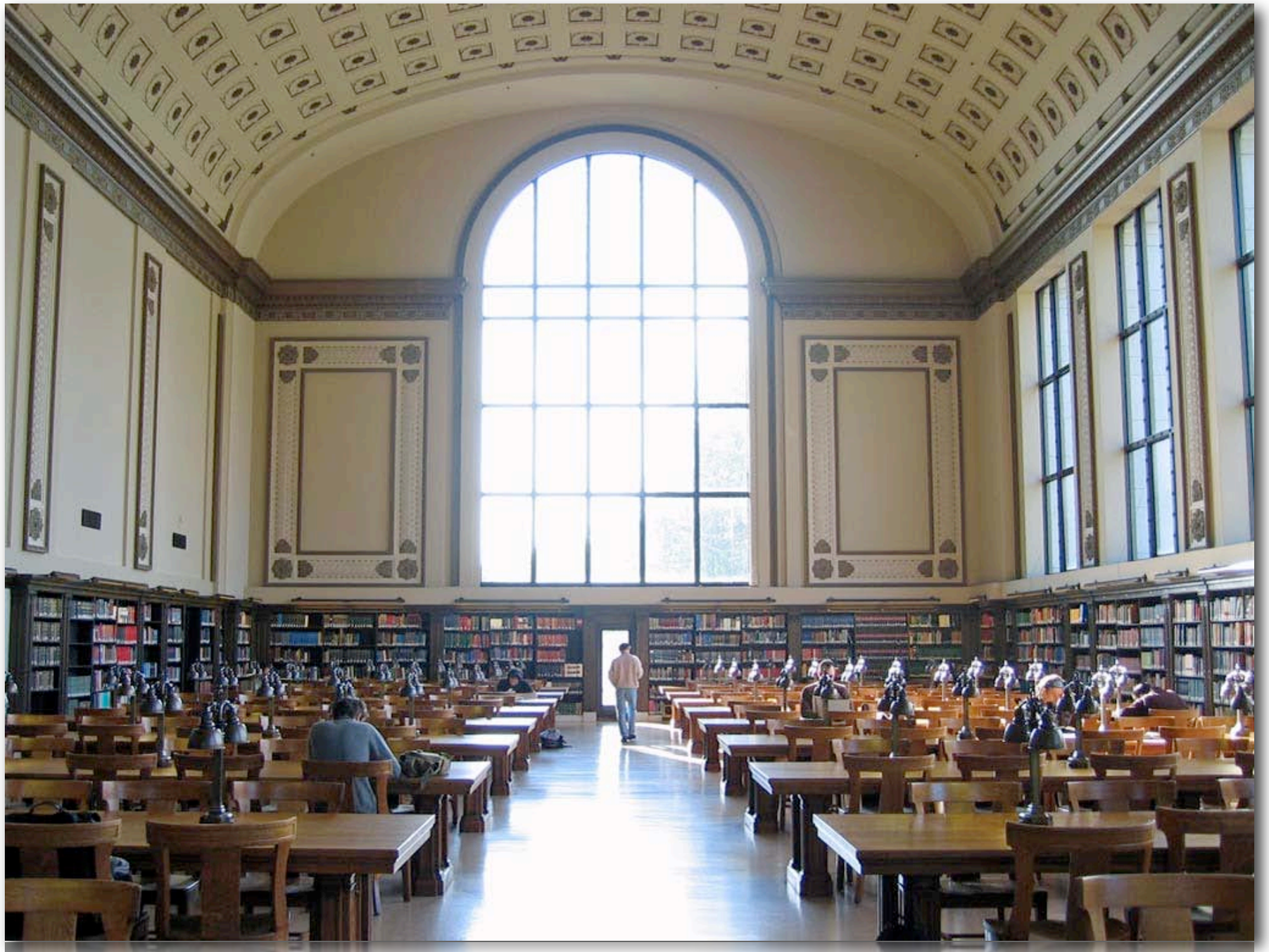
Facilitation Not Access

- Access
- Knowledge
- Environment
- Motivation



Free Library of Philadelphia

- Book Fair
- Speakers Series
- Entrepreneurium



FedEx Kinko's
FedEx
Express
Send us packing
15 MINUTE PARKING ONLY
RETAIL PARKING
RETAIL PARKING

Too Many Books

- The Scars of San Francisco
- Off Sight Storage
- Sapho's Sphere

Knowing

Knowing

Writing

= Knowing

Knowing

Writing

= Knowing

Reading

= Knowing

Knowing

Writing

= Knowing

Reading

= Knowing

≠ Knowing

Knowing

Writing

= Knowing

Reading

= Knowing

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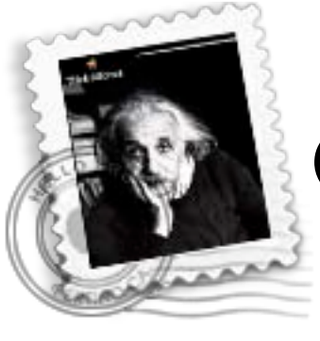

Conversing With

= Knowing

Conversation is not a Metaphor

- Conversants
- Language
- Agreements
- Memory

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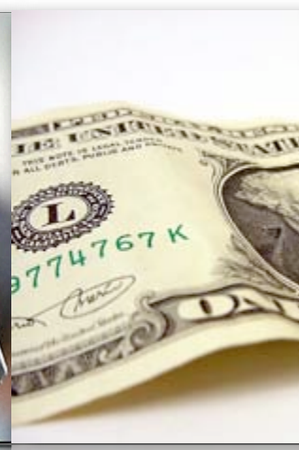

Music
CDs

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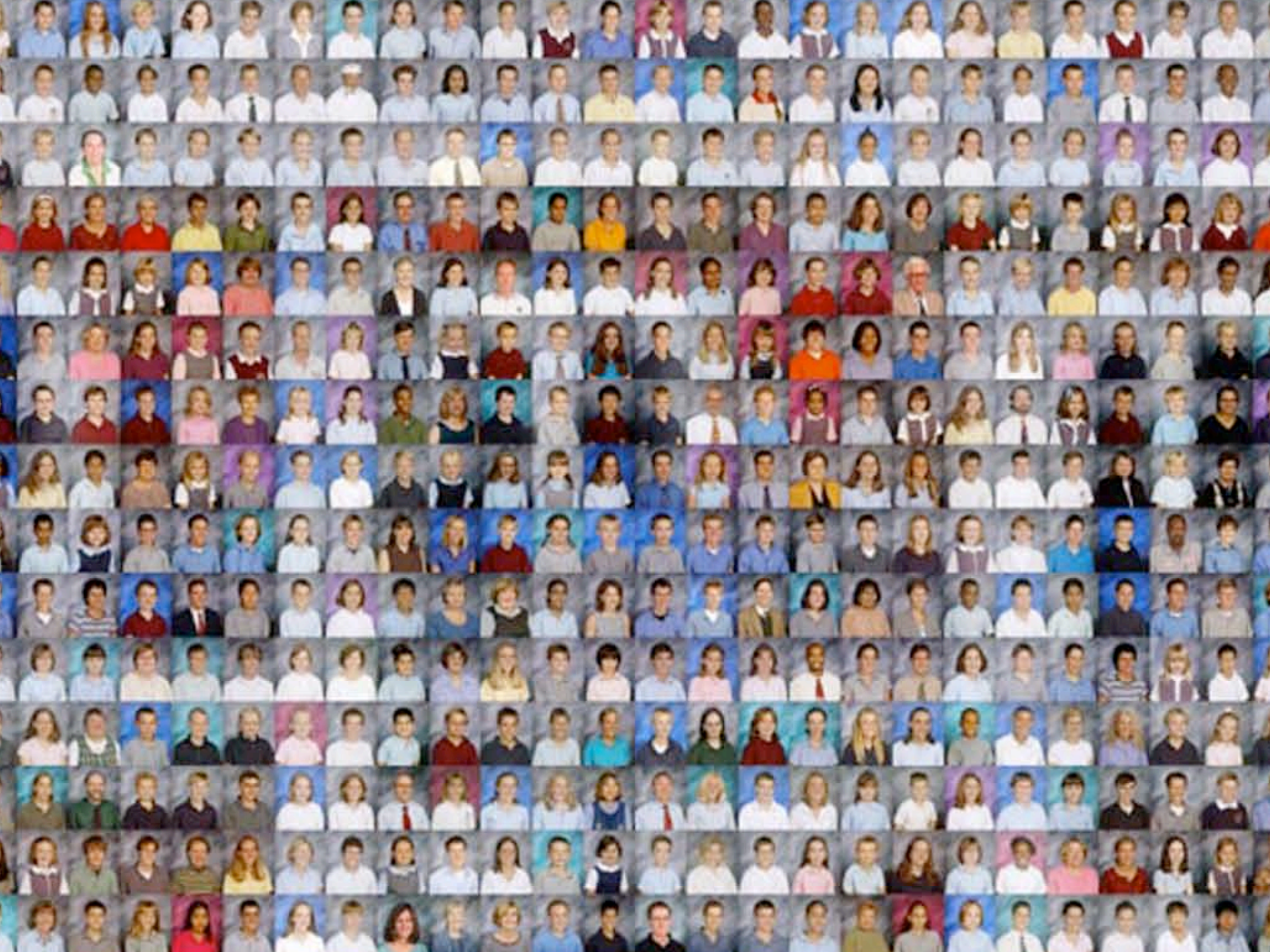
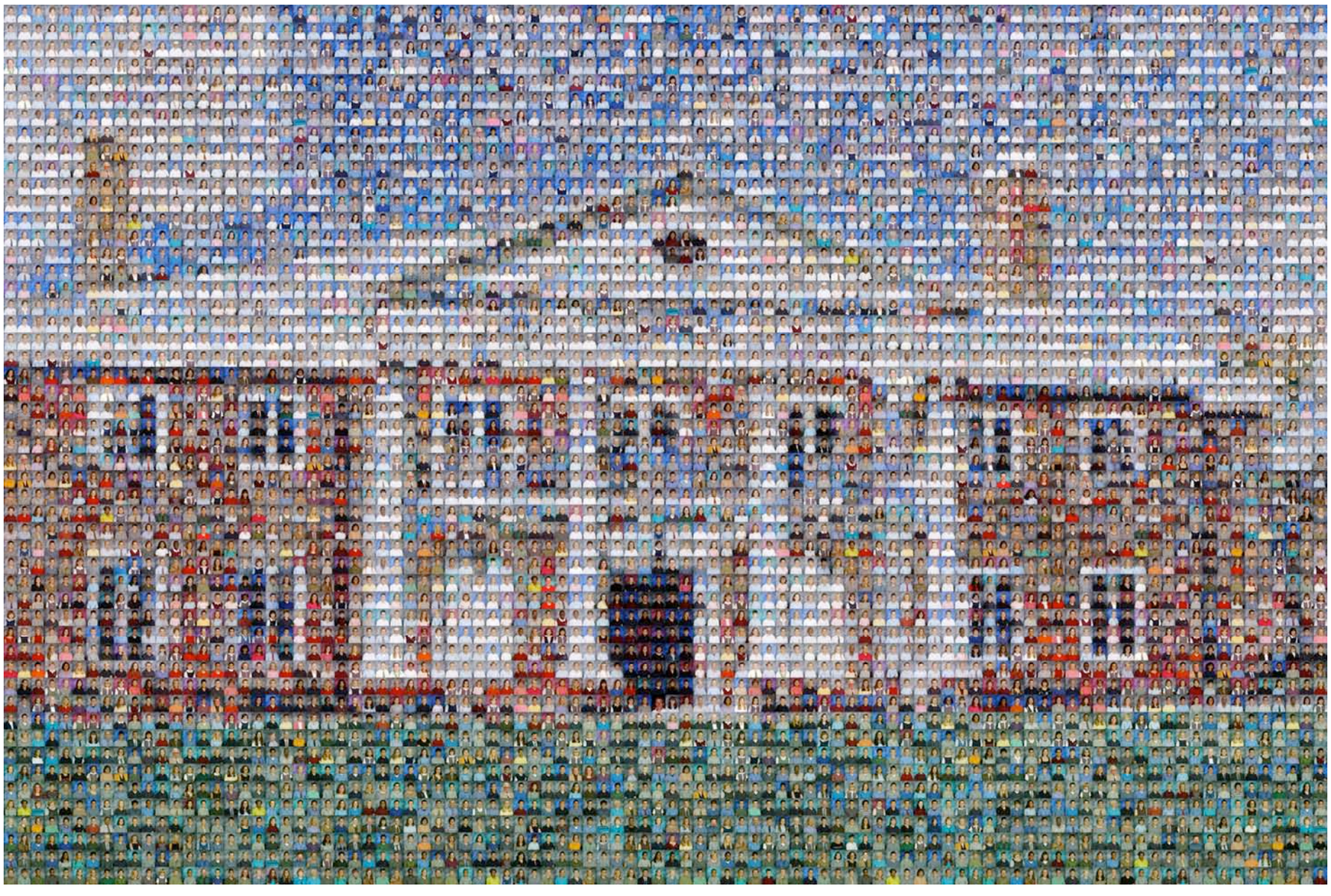
Participatory Logic of Librarianship

- The User is in Control
- It is ALL About Learning
- Learning is a Collaborative Conversation
- The Library (Librarians) Serves as Facilitators of Conversation
- True Facilitation with the Community Means Shared Ownership
- Invest in Tools for Creation Over the Collection of Artifacts





Slides, Projects, and Opportunities

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