Refining the Question

What is the future of libraries?
“The best way to predict the future is to invent it”
What is the future of libraries?
Refining the Question

What **should be** the future of libraries?
What should be the future of libraries and librarians?
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.”
“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.
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 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
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Attention in Libraries

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

Bibliofundamentalists
## Facilitating Attention

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4,300 Conversation Available, 20 Relevant to Tourism
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Local Questions: Why throw coins? What is the Exchange Rate? Where is the best gelato?

Standing Query: Recommended Restaurant 300m

Oceanus (god of all water)
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- Knowledge and Learning is Within the Member - Not Us, Not Our Artifacts
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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
THE LIBRARIAN TRIUMPHANT
Screencast @ http://www.DavidLankes.org
More Details in the Atlas of New Librarianship in March

THE LIBRARIAN TRIUMPHANT