The Mortal in the Portal

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Professor and Dean’s Scholar for the New Librarianship
Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies

http://www.DavidLankes.org
The Mortal in the Portal

or

Why Almost Everything you Learned in Library School is Wrong

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"Common sense is the collection of prejudices acquired by age eighteen."
Common Sense

• Libraries are Good and Necessary Things

• Libraries Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Information
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For Whom?
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Information

For Whom?   Why?
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Information

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For Whom? Why?
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Information

For Whom? Why?
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Knowledge
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Knowledge
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to **Knowledge**
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to **Knowledge**
Librarians Collect, Organize, and Provide Access to Conversations and Their Relations to Objects and Other Conversations
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Example 1:
The Mortal behind the Portal

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Professional Service
Professional Service

• Service is Important
Professional Service

- Service is Important
- Provider is Essential Part of the Service
Professional Service

• Service is Important
• Provider is Essential Part of the Service
• Increasing Outcome is Knowledge Creation
Professional Service

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Professional Service

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- Provider is Essential Part of the Service
- Increasing Outcome is Knowledge Creation
- Professional Guided by a Mission
The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their Communities
People Not Institutions

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People not Institutions

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Access
Training/Knowledge

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

- People Not Institutions
- Access
- Training/Knowledge
- Environment
- Created by Conversation
The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their Communities
The Mission of Librarians is to Improve Society through Facilitating Knowledge Creation in their Communities created by Conversation.

People Not Institutions Ethical Counter-Balance

Access Knowledge Training/Motivation Environment
Those Who Improve Society...
Those Who Improve Society…

- Are *NOT* Unbiased
Those Who Improve Society…

- Are NOT Unbiased
- Are NOT Neutral
Those Who Improve Society…

- Are *NOT* Unbiased
- Are *NOT* Neutral
- Are *NOT* Invisible
Those Who Improve Society…

- Are *NOT* Unbiased
- Are *NOT* Neutral
- Are *NOT* Invisible
- Are *RADICAL*
Those Who Improve Society…

- Are NOT Unbiased
- Are NOT Neutral
- Are NOT Invisible
- Are RADICAL
Radical Positive Change

Agents

- Value is in Improved Community Not Collection
- Improve the World, Don’t Document It
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Screencast and Slides at:

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