



European Digital Reading Lab

Overview

- A non-profit membership organization
- Created in 2015
- Based in Paris, France
- Co-founded by French publishers and Ministry of Culture
- ... but with an international scope, even beyond EU
- 10 employees in 2025

Membership

- **110 members in 36 different countries**
- **Still mostly European** but USA and Canada are respectively our 2nd and 3rd countries (by members)
- Good representation **across the industry**: publishers, distributors, retailers, libraries, other non-profits...
- Four countries in our current board: France, Italy, UK and the Netherlands



Penguin
Random House
Grupo Editorial



Glassboxx®

Gardners



DeMarque



média
PARTICIPATIONS



2017-11-14
4755012



Cercle de la
Librairie



arte



NORD COMPO



PMA



Bookwire



{ BnF KB } national library
of the netherlands

Bookshop.org



RINP



Česká zemědělská
univerzita v Praze



MALUHY&CO



PILEn



eBooks.com



Official organizations

- Ministry of Culture (France)
- Ministry of Education (Brazil)
- Accessibility regulator (Sweden)
- National Libraries (France, Netherlands, Denmark, Finland)
- Publisher associations (Europe, France, Germany)
- Specialized libraries (France, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark)

Digital Publishing Summit 2025

Ticket only



June 16 and 17



The Trinity College
Arts Building,
Dublin, Ireland





A digital reading infrastructure

1. Vendor-neutral reading apps
2. Open-source toolkits
3. Protection
4. Standards
5. Accessibility



Thorium Reader

- **Support for ebooks, audiobooks and comics everywhere**
 - Desktop/Laptop (Windows, macOS & Linux)
 - Web (released in 2025)
 - Mobile (iOS in 2026, Android in 2027)
- Free application on all platforms
- Highly accessible
- Localized in 28 languages

COMPLETELY
FREE

Read, Select, Annotate, Classify

Perfect for heavy readers, library-goers, and students alike!

No ads, or data leaks to worry about



Download links (Thorium 3.1)



Windows

Windows Store 

Direct Install 



Mac

Apple Silicon 

Intel 



Linux

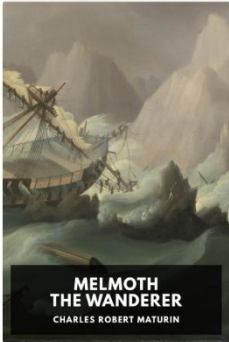
ApplImage 

Debian 



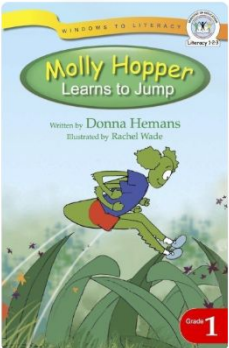
Minimum system requirement: macOS Big Sur and up; Windows 10 and up; Ubuntu 18.04, Fedora 32, Debian 10 and newer.

Resume reading



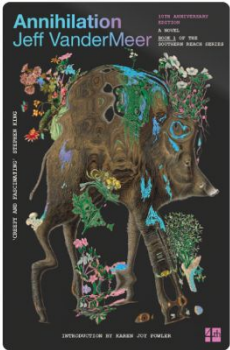
Melmoth the Wanderer
Charles Robert Maturin

EPUB



Molly Hopper Learns to Ju...
Donna Hemans

EPUB



Annihilation
Jeff Vandermeer

Loan expired

EPUB



Pepper and Carrot - A Fre...
David Revoy

Divina



Edit



Home

Bookshelf

Settings

Search

Explore



Currently Reading

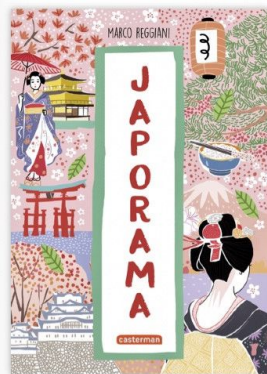
Recently Added

Not Started Yet

Finished

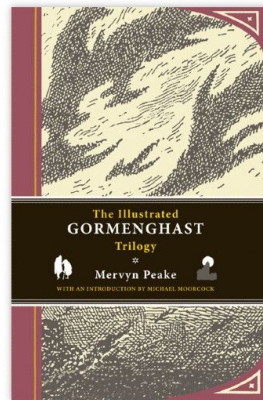
Home

Currently Reading >



Japorama
Marco Reggiani;
Sabrina Ferrero

19 %



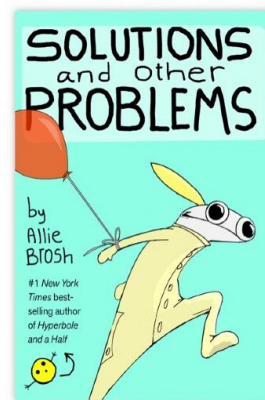
The Illustrated
Gormenghast Trilogy
Mervyn Peake

20 %



Japon 8e édition
Collectif

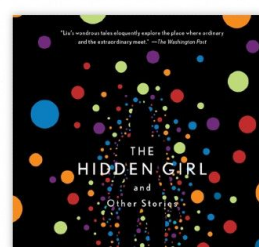
45 %



Solutions and
Other Problems
Allie Brosh

9 %

Not Started Yet >





The Illustrated Gormenghast Trilogy

THE GROTTTO

It happened on the day of Steerpike's second daylight visit to the Library. He was on his return journey and had reached the edge of the pine woods and was awaiting an opportunity to run unobserved across the open ground, when, away to his left, he saw a figure moving in the direction of Gormenghast Mountain.

The invigorating air, coupled with his recognition of the distant figure, prompted him to change his course, and with quick, birdlike steps he moved rapidly along the edge of the wood. In the rough landscape away to his left, the tiny figure in its crimson dress sang out against the sombre background like a ruby on a slate. The midsummer sun, and how much less this autumn light, had no power to mitigate the dreary character of the region that surrounded Gormenghast. It was like a continuation of the castle, rough and shadowy, and though vast and often windswept, oppressive too, with a kind of raw weight.

Ahead lay Gormenghast Mountain in all its permanence, a sinister thing as though drawn out of the earth by sorcery as

a curse on all who
struggle from a l
tle, it was in re
were generally t
on the finest day
was common to
the sheets of d
crown and obs
while, at the sa
landscape all ab
day, however, n
and when Fuchs
after her midda
said: 'Where are

'What clouds
hind her, rockin

'There's near
said Fuchsia.

'Aren't there a

'No,' said Fuc

Fuchsia realiz
but the long cus
to break down. 1.

essarily know any more than children was something

Display Settings

Text



Font Size

110 %



Font Family

Literata >

Themes

Auto

Light

Sepia

Paper

Dark

Contrast 1

Contrast 2

Contrast 3

Spacing



Default



Accessible



Custom





I

THE OLD PYNCHEON FAMILY

Halfway down a by-street of one of our New England towns stands a rusty wooden house, with seven acutely peaked gables, facing towards various points of the compass, and a huge, clustered chimney in the midst. The street is Pyncheon Street; the house is the old Pyncheon House; and an elm-tree, of wide circumference, rooted before the door, is familiar to every town-born child by the title of the Pyncheon Elm. On my occasional visits to the town aforesaid, I seldom failed to turn down Pyncheon Street, for the sake of passing through the shadow of these two antiquities—the great elm-tree and the weather-beaten edifice.

The aspect of the venerable mansion has always affected me like a human countenance, bearing the traces not merely of outward storm and sunshine, but expressive also, of the long lapse of mortal life, and accompanying vicissitudes that have passed within. Were these to be worthily recounted, they would form a narrative of no small interest and instruction, and possessing, moreover, a certain remarkable unity, which might almost seem the result of artistic arrangement. But the story would include a chain of events extending over the better part of two centuries, and, written out with reasonable amplitude, would fill a bigger folio volume, or a longer series of duodecimos, than could prudently be appropriated to the annals of all New England during a similar period. It consequently becomes imperative to make short work with most of the traditionary lore of which the old

Pyncheon House, otherwise known as the Seven Gables, is the theme. With a brief sketch, therefore, of the foundation of the house was laid, and a few lines grew black in the prevalent east wind—perhaps a little more verdant mossiness on its roof and walls, but the action of our tale at an epoch not very remote from the present, be a connection with the long past—a range of ages, and to manners, feelings, and opinions, which may be adequately translated to the reader, would be the material goes to make up the freshest novel. The old Pyncheon House drawn a weighty lesson from the little-recent past, the generation is the germ which may and must bear its fruit in time; that, together with the seed of the future, the old tales term expediency, they inevitably sow the seed of the future which may darkly overshadow their posterity.

The House of the Seven Gables, antiquated and dilapidated, erected by civilized man on precise and accurate foundations, Street formerly bore the humbler appellation of the original occupant of the soil, before the settlement of the natural spring of soft and pleasant water, where the Puritan settlement was made, and the old Pyncheon House build a hut, shaggy with thatch, at this time the centre of the village from what was then the centre of the village. After some thirty or forty years, the site of the old Pyncheon House exceedingly desirable in the eyes of a person who had asserted plausible claims to the proprietorship of the site.

Display settings

Font size

A-110%A+

Text

Old style serif

Themes

Auto

Light

Sepia

Paper

Dark

Contrast 1

Contrast 2

Contrast 3

Spacing

Default

Accessible

Custom

Tight

Balanced

Loose

How can **libraries and retailers** use it?

- Sideloading (files)
 - EPUB
 - PDF
 - Audiobooks
- List of public, academic, school and specialized libraries
- Thorium Profiles for retailers and others



Thorium Profiles

- Designed for retailers
- ... but not limited to them
- Online or at physical locations
- Like Apple/Google Wallet



Thorium Profiles (2)

- After a purchase, you could:
 - scan a QR code
 - receive a text message
 - receive an email
 - click/tap on a button



Thorium Profiles (3)

- The retailer gets added to Thorium
- You can now:
 - download all of your purchases
 - browse a catalog
 - get help (FAQ, email, Web, telephone)



Open-Source toolkits

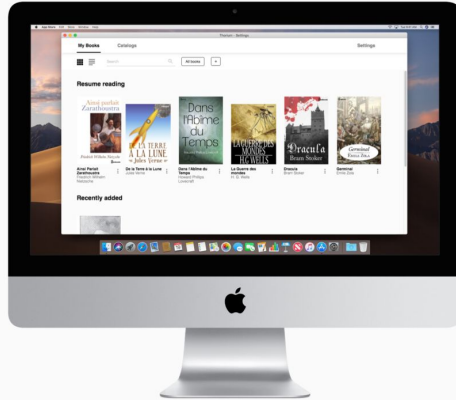
- **Readium Mobile** (Android & iOS)
 - 200+ mobile apps available worldwide
 - Most popular toolkit for building reading apps
- **Readium Web**
- Support for EPUB, PDF, audiobooks and comics
- Built-in support for Readium LCP (protection)

Protection



- ISO standard for protecting EPUB, PDF and audiobooks
- EDRLab is the official host for Radium LCP
- Every implementer gets certified by EDRLab
- Business model
 - Revenue-based (less than 1 million licenses)
 - 0.01€ per license (more than 1 million licenses)

Compatible with LCP



200+ applications overall



**Pocketbook
inkBOOK
Kobo (2026)**



**Braille tablets
BrailleSense,
eMotion etc.**

Standardization

- **W3C**

- EPUB 3.4
- Annotations TF (Laurent Le Meur)
- Digital Comics TF (Hadrien Gardeur)
- Accessibility TF (Gautier Chomel)

- **OPDS**

- Browsing, searching and downloads in a catalog

Accessibility

- Everything at EDRLab is done with accessibility in mind
- Two regulations apply to our members:
 - EAA in Europe
 - ADA Title II requirements in US
- Joint membership with DAISY Consortium
- Qualebook project with French publisher association
- R&D projects dedicated to comics and dyslexia

European Accessibility Act

- Apply to all publications... but with some exemptions:
 - Small publishers (Microentreprises)
 - Too expensive (Disproportionate burden)
 - Fundamental alteration
- Adapted as local law in every EU country
- With a local regulator

Thank you



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