

Volume 6, Number 6 - 4 June

[Home](#) / [Archives](#) / [2001](#)

/ [Articles](#)

The battle to define the future of the book in the digital world

Clifford Lynch

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5210/fm.v6i6.864>

Abstract

Commercial publishing interests are presenting the future of the book in the digital world through the promotion of e-book reading appliances and software. Implicit in this is a very complex and problematic agenda that re-establishes the book as a digital cultural artifact within a context of intellectual property rights management enforced by hardware and software systems. With the convergence of different types of content into a common digital bit-stream, developments in industries such as music are establishing precedents that may define our view of digital books. At the same time we find scholars exploring the ways in which the digital medium can enhance the traditional communication functions of the printed work, moving far beyond literal translations of the pages of printed books into the digital world. This paper examines competing visions for the future of the book in the digital environment, with particular attention to questions about the social implications of controls over intellectual property, such as continuity of cultural memory.

 [HTML](#)

Published
2001-06-04

How to Cite

Lynch, C. (2001). The battle to define the future of the book in the digital world. *First Monday*, 6(6). <https://doi.org/10.5210/fm.v6i6.864>

[More Citation Formats](#)

Issue

[Volume 6, Number 6 - 4 June 2001](#)

Section

[Articles](#)

Authors retain copyright to their work published in *First Monday*. Please see the footer of each article for details.

Current Issue

ATOM 1.0

RSS 2.0

RSS 1.0

A Great Cities Initiative of the University of Illinois at Chicago [University Library](#).

© *First Monday*, 1995-2020. ISSN 1396-0466.

Platform &
workflow by
OJS / PKP

Books have provenance. Your favorite books define you, and digital versions don't seem to impart connections that are quite as deep. Queenan again: Books as physical objects matter to me, because they evoke the past. This piece of the experience doesn't translate to the electronic format. Someday in the distant future, maybe David Eggers' Kindle will be sold by Bauman Rare Books on Madison Avenue, but it's unlikely that digital books will ever be personal artifacts the way that their physical counterparts can be. "I think print and paper has a lasting value that people appreciate. Pixels are too temporary," said Praveen Madan, an entrepreneur on the Kepler's 2020 team, via email. Theme: In the future, nobody will buy printed newspapers or books because they will be able to read everything they want online without paying. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? UK newspapers (Yandex picture) For several years now, various electronic books and websites presenting articles as well as worldwide news are increasingly predominating in our so-called. Library future depends on technologies. We've collected a couple of great concepts that could be used in the near future. Most of all, the libraries are the entry points to the digital world. They are the way to embrace technology and avoid digital exclusion. Therefore, to improve technological literacy of local communities, libraries should be equipped with relevant technologies. In this articles you won't find examples of how to use Google Hangouts for library meetings, or Pikochart to create library infographics. The device could also keep track of all borrowed books, as well as remind the user of the return dates. Finding a book easily without knowing the Dewey Decimal Classification system? Sounds like a good idea of where the library card could evolve. Twenty years from now, students will no longer use printed books. Use specific reasons and example to support your answer. Some scientists say that people (or specifically students) will not use printed books in the future. I agree with them. In fact, I think twenty years... I am sure that students will not use printed books in the future. The concern about deforestation will compel people to stop making books, and computer technology will encourage them to replace books with laptops. Share this: Twitter.