Va 402-Final Project Merve Sert

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Project definition:

Story worm is a social web2.0 project, where you can login and start to write collaborative stories with other people.

It is working interactively and connecting people with each other through their stories.

Conceptual description:

My first aim is to design and operate a website, which I want to improve and effectuate after I graduated my school, because of that I decided to deal with social web2, that is very preferential at the present day.

My website, "Storyworm" will be a project, which you can read and write stories collaboratively, that gets across between the people and connect them with each other. It helps people to reveal their creativity. Everyone has their own dreams and stories, by that website they can achieve and feel them as a real author.

Then I mentioned how can reading and writing be attractive even the people who are not interested in it. It should have something to attract the user.

After that I came out with the idea of writing collaboratively. The advantage of this property is that creates a network through the writers and tend to meet with the new people around the word, because the website is a global site and it is in English.

The outcome of the project is, with a contribution of the different people consequently different ideas, so different stories can be formed.

Objectives & Goals:

* To create a social network site, which connects people through their own stories.

Therefore attach the advanced and the beginner writer in one story and through that to help the beginner writers to improve them self. Although with the profile pages to provide writers to fallow each other and to recognize their activity in the website.

* To involve users by writing their own stories in to the website and reach a mass of user list.

At the present day reading and writing are disappearing. Computer and Television supersede books and magazine. People prefer reading e-books and e-newspaper because most of them spending their time on the computers. For this reason I combine my project on a website base program and as a result to encourage people to write their own stories.

* To create a library from unknown people who have different social and demographic background and thereby to connect them with each other.

Social Network sites have a lot of advantages. You can contact with new people and improve yourself with their help. You can also have a pleasure with working different people on the same story.

* To provide a continuity between the stories.

There is a word limitation in the stories, to continue your story, you should invite someone and let him to write. The difficult point for the admin, is keeping a stable content.



* To make the website attractive and give the user pleasure.

Most of the story telling websites has a bad design and "Storyworm" will usher for all these kind of websites and provide to be a preferential website with giving the user-pleasure.

Target-Audience-User:

Actually it is a website to read and write, because of that the target should merge in an intellectual level. Whit this level I mean, the users should be at least college graduates and high-cultivated people.

As my opinion the age is between 18-55. The varieties of the user age determine the variety of the stories, because every age range has different dreams and stories.

The result of connecting different stories can build a common good story.

The users can join from different countries. However the website is English and because of that only English speaking people can join and according to that in my estimation most users will be from EU countries and USA.

Furthermore users should be receptive to the social network sites. I mean they should be open to new friends, comments, messages and collaboratively works.

Background information:

With the technological improvement, people spending most of their time on computer. They read magazines and newspaper from the internet. Because it is easier and free for charge.

For that reason I choose a web base application as a medium. While thinking about my project I want stick to print design like books.

Furthermore I thought it would be attractive when lots of people write together different kind of stories collaboratively and therefore connect together in a social website.

The website's name will be "Storyworm", because I want to be intimate and amusing.

While making research about storytelling websites, I realized that they are too crowded and lack of design.

Because of that they do not attract the user. I want to deal with this problem and as far as I can do, make my website attractive and interesting to the different kinds of user.



Detailed project description:

The website has 4 sub-headings. First one is the "Reading" part. Users should not be a member of the website to read the stories. Reading part is open to every one, but if you want to make a comment on the stories you should be sign-in. In the reading part, you can also see the collaborators of the story. On the right side of the story there will be brief information, which includes the summary-collaborators-tags and comments.

Second sub-heading is the "Writing" part. Contrarily to reading part, user should be a member of the website to write stories. In addition to that there is a word count limitation. In every login you have 150 words limit. The reason of that limitation is, to involve more people in one story. If you want write more, you have to invite somebody in to your story. There is not a limitation of invitation. The invitation will be send through the email.

In relation with that there is an invite collaborators option, which you can see all the members of the website and click the button to send an invitatition to them. By that way writers can work collaboratively for one story and know each other.

Apart from that like reading part, on the right side of the story there is some information related with the story. These are tags-title and summary. Furthermore, every story has an owner, who is started the story is to be authorized with the publish button to finish it.

Furthermore, there will be an option to like. You can rate the stories and see the top rated stories in home page and also the stories can be shared in social network websites like Facebook and Tweeter.

Third sub-heading is "Authors" part. This is the profile page of the writers. You can see brief information under the about and my interest option you can contact with the writer and also become a fan of him and fallow him.

Besides the writer's personal information, there will be also seen under my comments option, his stories comments, which he is the owner. And under my activities part, there will be seen his comments, his collaborated stories, his published stories and his new friendships.

The last sub-heading is the "About" part. This is brief information about Story worm, like the features and outcomes of the site.

Similar websites:

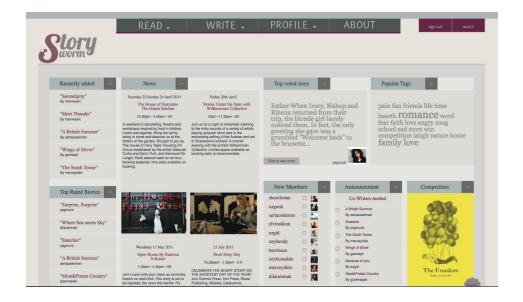
- 1) "Protagonize" http://www.protagonize.com
- 2) "Writing" http://www.writing.com
- 3) "Storybird" http://storybird.com
- 4) "Bibliofaction" http://www.bibliofaction.com
- 5) "Relay Writing" http://www.relaywriting.net
- 6) "Story Time" http://www.storytimed.com

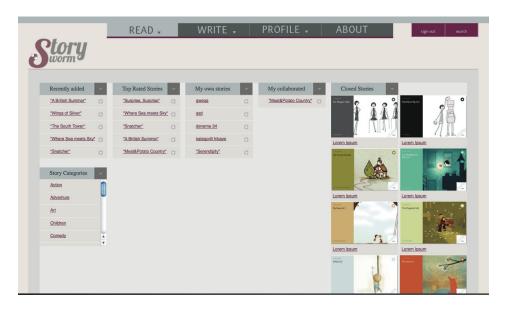


In the homepage we see the "Top rated" and "Recently added" stories. Top rated stories are came out according to like button.

On the right side there is "News", which will be like the events about story reading and storytelling. Than we see new members with their username and user picture. On the right side there is "Announcement", which is the demanding of co-writers in to the stories.

There is also a competition part. Every user can attend the story writing competitions.



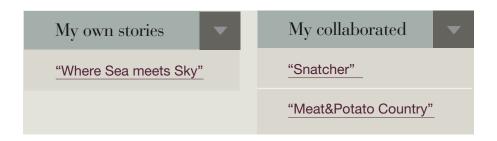


In the reading page, you can choose stories from the recently added and top rated or story categories like in the homepage.

In addition to that you can also read the closed stories with choosing from their book cover.



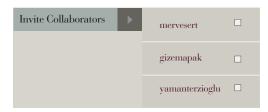
Reading Page



In the reading page you can also see your own stories, like which you are started and also your collaborated stories, which you are invited. But you should be a member of Storyworm

If you are a new member, these categories will be empty.





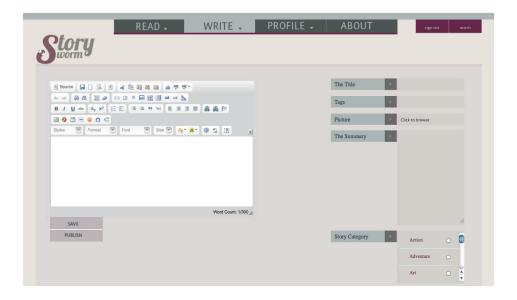
If you are a member of Storyworm you can start your own stories and invite collaborators or you can join a story, which you are invited.

There is a word count limitation. After your limit finish you should invite a collaborator in to your story.

Every story should merge in to a story category. The owner of the story should write the title, summary, tags and browse a picture if the story is finished.



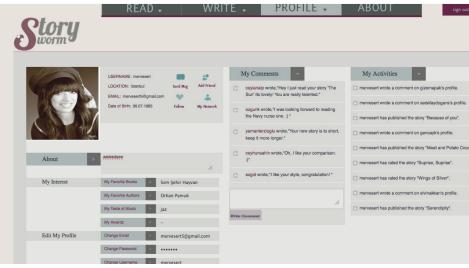
Word count countdown is working while the writer is writing. If you over the limit, the check editor do not allow you to continue.



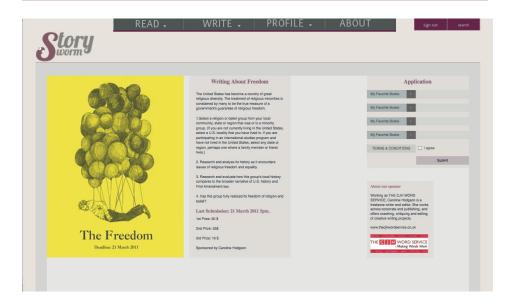
Every user has a profile page. He/she can edit the interest and the about part.

Visitors can see the comments and also write a new comment to him.

Furthermore there is also activities part, like his attending stories or his own stories.







Every month there will be organized a story competition, which is supported with the sponsorship. All the users can attend these competitions with filling the application form.

References:

- 1) "Protagonize" http://www.protagonize.com
- 2) "Writing" http://www.writing.com
- 3) "Storybird" http://storybird.com
- 4) "Bibliofaction" http://www.bibliofaction.com
- 5) "Relay Writing" http://www.relaywriting.net
- 6) "Story Time" http://www.storytimed.com

Useful Articles:

- 1) Reid Swanson and Andrew S. Gordon, "Say Anything: A Massively Collaborative Open Domain Story Writing Companion", Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 2008.
- 2) Ulrike Spierling and Nicolas Szilas, "Interactive Storytelling", First Joint International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling, ICIDS 2008 Erfurt, Germany.
- 3) Ruth Aylett, Mei Yii Lim, Sandy Louchart, Paolo Petta and Mark Riedl, "Interactive Storytelling", Third Joint Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling, ICIDS 2010, Edinburgh, UK.



Credits

Code writing: Uraz Özdoğan- a friend of me

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