Call for Papers

Before digital technologies enabled social reading opportunities, readers could engage in shared reading experiences by participating in literary activities and events such as reading groups, book clubs, literary festivals, and book talks. Today, these social activities still take place in person, but also in digital or hybrid spaces, and readers consume books in a sociotechnical landscape that includes multiple digital devices and a range of social media platforms.

Whether they prefer reading in print or on digital devices, readers communicate their taste across digital reading communities on social media platforms we are collectively calling the Bookternet (Ferschleiser, 2016), including #Bookstagram, #BookTube, #BookTok and more. These social platforms further change the landscape around books and readers, as information about books and readers' taste is visibly disseminated across social media channels.

The Bookternet has changed the way books are produced, disseminated, and consumed. Yet for readers, these platforms have created new ways to engage around the books they love as they participate in fandom and online reading communities, write peer-to-peer recommendations, or create book art in homage to their favourite titles.

At the conference we welcome presentations from all kinds of researchers and from interdisciplinary fields. We welcome individual papers that explore the changes in the literary landscape, from historical perspectives, to new forms of interactions and relations which are enabled through digital technologies. We invite submissions that address one of the following sub-themes including but not limited to:

- Social reading
- Reading communities
- Reading and affordances
- New book consumption patterns
- New book publishing strategies
- Reading and materiality
- Reader identity and self representation
- DIY Reading culture
- Reading and LGBTQIA+ studies perspective
- Everyday reading practices
- Access (or not) to books in the digital age (issues with divides, bans, etc.)

Format:

Talks and Panels

We invite you to submit your 250-word abstract for a 20-minute talk. If you would like to submit a panel of multiple speakers, it should be for no more than 90-minutes including time for Q&A. Please include a short 100-word biography of speakers.

Posters

Please submit up to a 150-word abstract and a short 100-word biography.

Due Date:

Please submit your abstracts and biographies by January 31, 2024 to bookternet@ku.dk.
Decisions will be made by the organizers by March 15, 2024.