



1

"The future is an unknown, but a somewhat predictable unknown. To look to the future we must first look back upon the past. That is where the seeds of the future were planted. I never think of the future. It comes soon enough."

-Albert Einstein

2



3

1994: Life Comes At You Fast!



4

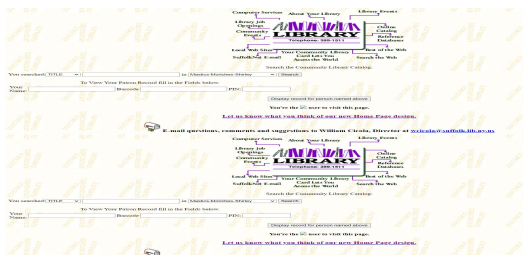
The Age of AI Feels Like the 90s!

- Highly impactful technology has emerged.
- Questioning of our relevance.
- Reshaping of the information landscape.
- Lots of intellectual property concerns!
- The new Dot Com Bubble?
- Movement towards adoption, ease-of-use.



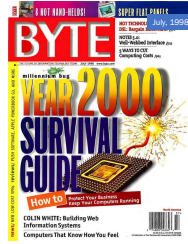
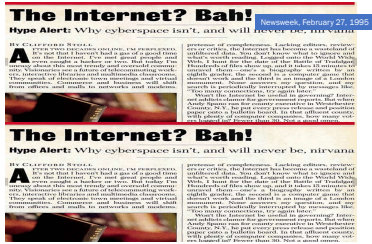
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1998: Communitylibrary.org



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Bad Tech Takes are Not New...



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...But They Do Remain in Fashion



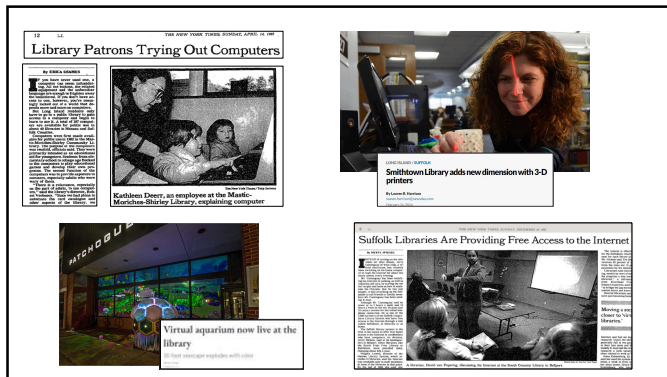
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We Have a History of Adopting and Adapting to Technological Change

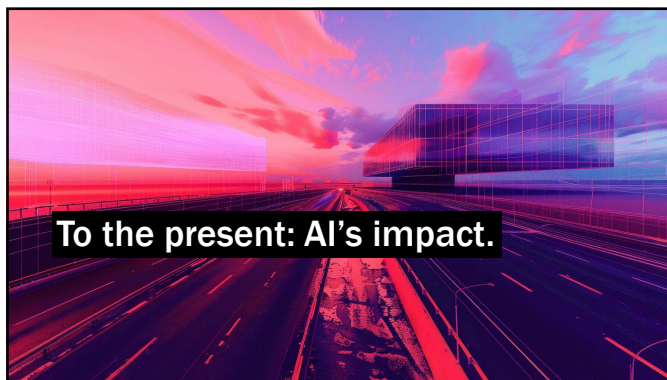
- Computers.
- Internet.
- Mobile.
- Cloud.
- Metaverse.
- AI.



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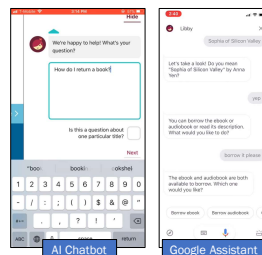
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AI is Interacting with Us!

- Library digital branches are an amalgam of third-party services.
- Customer support chatbots are part of the library experience.
- Rise of smart speakers, voice assistants.



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Our Collections are Impacted by AI

- AI-authored books.
- AI-narrated audiobooks.
- AI collection development platforms.
 - Capable of diversity audits.
 - Tools of censorship.



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It's Not Speculation!

An Iowa school district is using ChatGPT to decide which books to ban

Mason City Community School District used generative AI tools to screen books for a "description or depiction of a sex act" in order to comply with state law.

By Mia Sato, author and journalist, reporting on the impact of generative AI on the workplace and the future of work. Aug 20, 2023, and updated.

Credit: The Verge/Mia Sato

Mushroom pickers urged to avoid foraging books on Amazon that appear to be written by AI

Example of books on Amazon that appear to be written by AI. These books have been reported to contain dangerous advice.

Credit: The Guardian/Dan Milmo

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New Tools of the Trade?

- Conversational search.
- AI-powered collaborative work environments.
- Generative AI and common software applications.
- Vendor solutions are coming!



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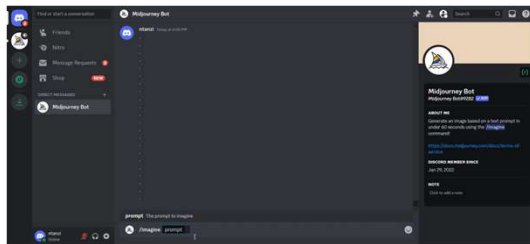
ChatGPT Brainstorming Session

- 1.Context.
- 2.Task.
- 3.Instruction.
- 4.Clarify.
- 5.Refine.



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Midjourney: A Text-to-Image Generator



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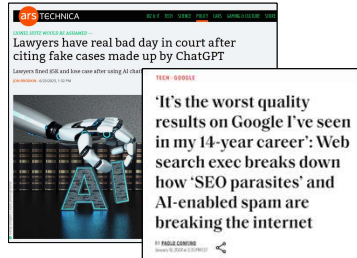
The Era of “Code Your Own Reality”



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Libraries Will Need to Navigate a More Complex Information Environment

- Fake images.
- Hallucinatory AI.
- AI generated content.
- Info literacy challenge.



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“When you invent the ship, you invent the shipwreck.”

-Paul Virilio

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How Fast Are Things Moving?



22

Answer: Very Fast!



Prompt: A litter of golden retriever **puppies** playing in the snow. Their heads pop out of the snow, covered in.

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Ensure Your Organization is AI-Ready

- Do you have effective policy?
 - What does existing policy say?
 - Policy reviews?
- Investing in staff development.
 - Fear of the unknown.
- Cybersecurity.
 - Evolving aspect of fiduciary duty.
 - AI arms race.



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A Communication Challenge!

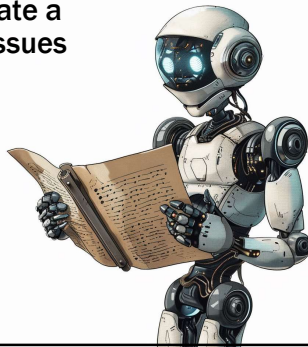
- Communicating with patrons.
 - Why is the library important/relevant?
 - Is the library using AI? How?
 - Where does the library stand on AI?
- Communicating with staff.
 - Is their job in danger?
 - Will they have the support they need?
 - Training.
 - Policy.



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We'll Need to Navigate a Number of Ethical Issues

- Intellectual property.
- Algorithmic bias.
- Privacy & consent.
- Environmental impact.
- Intellectual freedom.



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Recommit to Re-Skilling

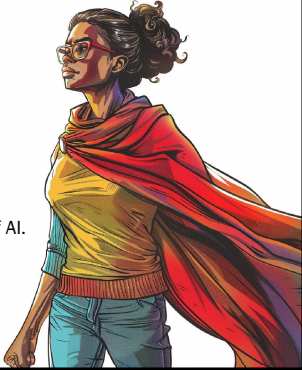
- We need to learn new skills—then turn them outward.
 - Staff continuing ed must be a priority!
- AI will disrupt the job market.
 - Opportunity & threat to small business.
 - We've been here before!



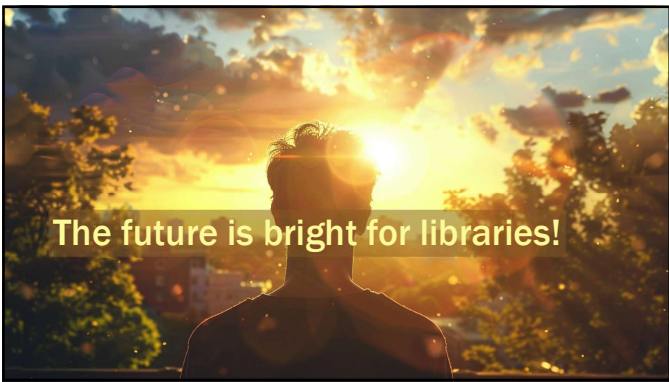
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Libraries Can Assume a Leadership Role!

- New frontier of info/media literacy.
 - Slew of new programs/services.
 - Help discerning accurate info.
- We can be community AI navigators.
 - We have the public's trust.
- We can articulate an ethical vision of AI.
 - How should AI work?



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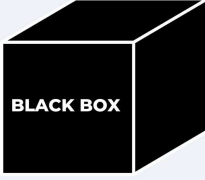


The future is bright for libraries!

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We Can Do Better Than This!

INPUT




OUTPUT


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