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SOCIAL BOOKMARKING AND SUBJECT INDEXING

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INTRODUCTION

Web 2.0 has spurred many web-based social networking activities, including YouTube, Facebook, MySpace, blogs, wikis, Twitter, and folksonomies. For those in the library field, none of the activities made possible by Web 2.0 has provided more challenge and opportunity than social bookmarking. In recent years, social bookmarking has become a very popular activity for Web users, including members of the general public.

The rapidly growing phenomenon of social bookmarking may offer the library community – and especially the subject cataloging field – an unusual opportunity. Libraries, with their long history of collaboration and participation, would seem to provide a natural venue for implementing an optional social bookmarking operation as an adjunct to its normal subject cataloging or indexing program. In this respect, social bookmarking can be seen as a way of allowing interested users not only to label documents of interest with terms that they believe would help themselves and others to retrieve them but to offer their opinions of various works.

Definition of Social Bookmarking and Related Terms

For the popular topic of social bookmarking, perhaps it is appropriate to cite a popular source:

Social bookmarking is a method for Internet users to store, organize, search, and manage bookmarks of web pages on the Internet with the help of metadata. ... In a social bookmarking system, users save links to web pages that they want to remember and/or share. These bookmarks are usually public, and can be saved privately, shared only with specified people or groups, shared only inside certain networks, or another combination of public and private domains. The allowed people can usually view these bookmarks chronologically, by category or tags, or via a search engine. (Wikipedia, accessed 6/12/09)

There are many neologisms for web-based social networking activities, several of which include the term “tagging.” For “social tagging” there are many variant expressions. A recent Google search on a number of related terms resulted in the following:

Collaborative tagging	70,400
Collective tagging	4,620
Social bookmarking	47,600,000
Social indexing	19,900
Social tagging	738,000

(www.google.com, accessed July 4, 2009)

The term “social bookmarking” was adopted for use in this study because it is the most frequently used term for the activity, indicated by the statistics above.

The purpose of social bookmarking is to provide subject representation and access to facilitate information retrieval for the benefit of users. This is also the purpose of subject indexing, the traditional method of providing subject access to information by way of formal subject cataloging and indexing activities, typically with the use of a controlled vocabulary such as a thesaurus or subject heading list, in libraries and abstracting and indexing services.

Automatic keyword indexing is the predominant approach to information retrieval on the Web. Controlled vocabulary indexing is the primary method for providing subject access and retrieval in library catalogs and in many of abstracting and indexing services and products. In controlled vocabulary indexing, assigning controlled vocabulary terms is an intellectual process, requiring professional training and considerable mental acuity. Between automatic indexing and subject indexing is social bookmarking, which requires effort, thought, insight, and judgment but does not require knowledge of indexing principles or controlled vocabulary. Like automatic indexing, social bookmarking uses natural language; unlike automatic indexing, social bookmarking requires individual effort.

In social bookmarking, an assigned bookmark is also called a *tag*. The following definition of “tag” is found in *delicious.com*, one of the most popular social bookmarking sites:

A tag is simply a word you can use to describe a bookmark. Unlike folders, you make up tags when you need them and you can use as many as you like. The result is a better way to organize your bookmarks and a great way to discover interesting things on the Web.

(<http://delicious.com/> (formerly: <http://del.icio.us/>), accessed June 30, 2009)

Another term that often appears in conjunction with social bookmarking is *folksonomy*. Vander Wal recalled the origin of the term “folksonomy” which he invented in 2004:

I am a fan of the word folk when talking about regular people. ...if you took “tax” (the work portion) of taxonomy and replaced it with something anybody could do you would get a folksonomy. I knew the etymology of this word was pulling in two parts from different core sources (Germanic and Greek), but that seemed fitting looking at the early Flickr and del.icio.us. (Vander Wal, February 2007).

In 2007, Jakob Voss offered the following definition of “folksonomy”:

Folksonomy (also known as collaborative tagging, social classification, social indexing, social tagging, and other names) is the practice and method of

collaboratively creating and managing tags to annotate and categorize content. In contrast to traditional subject indexing, metadata is not only generated by experts but also by creators and consumers of the content. Usually, freely chosen keywords are used instead of a controlled vocabulary. (Voss, 2007)

Trant sums up the distinctions between folksonomy, tagging, and social tagging in the following terms:

We can think of *tagging* as a process (with a focus on user choice of terminology); of *folksonomy* as the resulting collective vocabulary (with a focus on knowledge organization); and of *social tagging* as a socio-technical context within which tagging takes place (with a focus on social computing and networks). (Trant, 2009)

Examples of Folksonomies

The popularity of social bookmarking has resulted in many folksonomies. Among the best known are: Delicious (<http://delicious.com>) for webpages, Flickr (<http://flickr.com>) and YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com>) for multimedia, Technorati (<http://technorati.com>) for weblogs, and LibraryThing (<http://librarything.com>) for books.

Some folksonomy websites include **tag clouds**, which are lists of tags using font type and size to indicate frequency of term use, for example, this cloud from LibraryThing:

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson. 2004. (841)
 1893 **19th Century** **2005** **2006** **2007** **America** **American** **American history** architect
 architecture **Audiobook** **Biography** **book club** **borrowed** **chicago** Chicago history
 Chicago World's Fair columbian exposition **crime** **Daniel Burnham** **Ferris Wheel** **fiction**
historical **historical fiction** **history** Illinois **library** **murder** **mystery** **nf**
non-fiction **Novel** **own** **read** **serial killer** **tbr** **Thriller** **to read** **true**
crime **united states** **unread** **us history** **world fair** **world's columbian exposition** **world's**
fair

(LibraryThing, <http://www.librarything.com/work/12491>, accessed June 30, 2009)

For more examples, see Appendix A.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

This study was based on a review of earlier studies (see References) on social bookmarking and an examination of a group of 20 published nonfiction books (see Appendix B) which had been assigned bookmarks through the social bookmarking website LibraryThing (<http://www.librarything.com>). LibraryThing was selected as the venue for the study because not only is its tagging specifically applied to books but in addition, it is one of the most popular website for social bookmarking. Furthermore, its information and statistics are carefully documented.

The study focused on the general characteristics of social bookmarking, which were then compared to those pertaining to subject indexing. The aims of the study were:

- (1) to examine the practice of social bookmarking and user-assigned tags,
- (2) to compare social bookmarking and traditional subject cataloging or indexing, and
- (3) to explore, in each activity, issues relating to semantics (term selection) and syntax (grammatical form of term or phrase).

The study explores the following research questions:

- (1) How does social bookmarking differ in principle from traditional subject cataloging and indexing, particularly with regard to semantics and syntax?
- (2) What are the advantages and disadvantages of social bookmarking vs. controlled vocabulary indexing? and
- (3) Are there ways of bridging the two methods of indexing in order to achieve the best of both worlds for subject access?

The following information collected from the Library/Thing website was used as the basis of the study:

- (1) **Examples of Social Bookmarking**– see Appendix A
- (2) **Most often tagged non-fiction (20)** – see Appendix B.
- (3) **Top 75 Tags (tag cloud)** – see Appendix C
- (4) **Top 50 Long Tags** (*Tags with more than 20 letters*) – see Appendix D

After a review of the social tagging literature (see References), the bookmarks assigned to the 20 nonfiction books noted above were examined in order to determine their general characteristics. Next, the Library of Congress (LC) subject headings assigned to the same books by the Library of Congress and/or OCLC member libraries were collected from OCLC's WorldCat. The subject headings, too, were examined for eventual comparison with social bookmarks. Finally, based on conclusions reached in previous studies by other investigators and on an examination of records from Library/Thing, the retrieval effectiveness of the two ways of indexing were compared and assessed in respect to both semantics and syntax. Conclusions were drawn on characteristics, similarities and differences, and advantages and disadvantages. Finally, responses were made to the original questions posed for the study.

DISCUSSION

In social bookmarking, no training in cataloging or indexing is required, thus enabling broad participation. Most assigned terms are free-text keywords, usually short expressions in the form of single words and short phrases (see Appendix C). These reflect the predominant approach to indexing and retrieval on the Web, and so mirror a pattern that is already familiar to end users. Users find it easy to assign tags because they can see what others have done. Furthermore, there is no limit to the number of terms that may be assigned per document, and there are usually no established policies or guidelines other than prohibition of inappropriate or unacceptable expressions. Thus, users are allowed almost full freedom in term choice; spontaneity is the rule of the day. Another common practice is to assigned terms that are subjective expressions that provide both access points and additional information. Many bookmarkers add comments such as "wishlist" or "tbr" (for "to be read"). Some bookmarkers use coined words that are of no retrieval help to others, and few seem to edit what they submit.

The major characteristic of traditional subject indexing, on the other hand, is that it is based on standardized controlled vocabulary lists or thesauri that afford synonym and homonym control as well as cross references to broader, narrower, and correlative terms. Another characteristic, *de facto* rather than inherent, is that the number of subject headings or index terms assigned per work is relatively small. In the early days of subject cataloging in particular, the number of headings that could be assigned a given work was limited by the spatial restrictions of the three by five card and the prevailing policy that a subject heading should, as far as possible, represent “the whole book.” But, in recent years, the average number of headings assigned per item by library catalogers has been gradually increasing. A third characteristic is objectivity in assignment. It has been generally understood that catalogers or indexers should attempt to represent the subject contents of the resources objectively and not to express personal biases or judgment on what is being represented.

There are thus clear differences between these two ways of assigning subject terms to information resources. In the context of social bookmarking, the provider and the consumer of subject information are usually the same people, whereas in the library-information environment, the provider and the user are typically different individuals.

In social bookmarking, there has been almost unlimited freedom; subject indexing is restricted to the use of established terms, applied following firm rules. Professional catalogers apply relatively few headings per item; social bookmarkers provide an abundance of tags. Social bookmarkers are often highly subjective in their tags and comments; catalogers, by long custom, are objective. Professional cataloging is very expensive; social bookmarking is done by volunteers. Social tags may be unpredictable; professional indexing is consistent and predictable.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Social Bookmarking

The popularity and rapid acceptance of social tagging seems to indicate dissatisfaction with the retrieval aids previously available. That social bookmarking goes some way to abating that dissatisfaction is one of its major advantages. Another advantage is that, with so few restrictions, bookmarking is quick and easy, with little elapsed time between posting or publication and a work being tagged. Also advantageous is that social bookmarking is very popular, with the result that many people are involved and therefore many books or other items can be tagged without delay. One interesting observation has been, from the evidence of terms assigned, that taggers appear to develop a sense of community, a good thing in itself and good for others because loyalty to the group increases responsibility toward the task. Moreover, an overall study of assigned tags suggests that most participants assign a large number of tags per item, providing information that may be helpful to many others. And a semantic study of assigned tags shows that they are likely to reflect up-to-date terminology. Another observation is that a large percentage of the most frequently assigned tags are form or genre labels (see Appendix D), a fact that may be of interest to controlled vocabulary and metadata designers.

Another important contribution of social bookmarking is that user-assigned tags reveal their assigners’ perceptions of and approaches to subject access and information retrieval. This is important information for theorists of information retrieval. Catalogers, indexers, and creators of controlled vocabularies base their decisions about term selection in part on what is generally believed to be the “typical” user behavior in respect to information retrieval. User-assigned tags provide glimpses of “users’ real needs and language” (Quintarelli, 2005). They can go a long way toward providing the data sought in earlier user studies, if social bookmarking behavior is paid due attention.

Last but by no means least, because social bookmarking is done by volunteer end-users and requires no special training, basically no costs are involved.

However, social bookmarking also has disadvantages. Researchers have identified the lack of vocabulary control as its greatest one. There may be multiple tags for the same concept, the same tag may have different meanings, and multiple inflections of the same word may be used. Near synonyms abound. Also, relationships among terms (broader, narrower, correlative consistency in expression) are not indicated. Searching on a given topic is difficult, and retrieval results are spotty. A related problem arises from the tendency of some bookmarkers to use ad hoc coined words; such terms, known only to their coiners, cannot play a retrieval role, nor do they often convey much information to other users. Moreover, many bookmarkers are careless spellers. For example, the following tags and expressions (identified and collected on the LibraryThing website) have been found among user tags for the concept of “nonfiction”:

Tag info: non-fiction

Includes: non-fiction, *non-fiction, *sachbuch, @nonfiction, A:unfiction, Genre: non-fiction, Non Fictioin, Non Fiction, Non- fiction, Non-Fiction **, Non-Fiction., Non-Fiction;, Non-fictie, Non-fiction , Not-fiction, "non fiction", ^Nonfiction, facklitteratur, genre - non fiction, no-ficcion, nofiction, non fic, non-fcition, non-fic, non-ficion, non-fiction, non-ficiton, non-fictin, non-fictional, non-fictios, non-ficton, non-fistion, non-fitction, nonfic, nonficion, nonfiction, nonficion, nonfictin, nonfiction, nonfiction., nonficton, não-ficção, sachbuch, sakprosa (what ?)

Tag and its aliases used 1,673,568 times by 28,970 users.

(<http://www.librarything.com/tag/non-fiction>, accessed June 30, 2009)

The fact that many social bookmarks are subjective has already been pointed out. Bias in indexing has always been deplored, although for those interested in search behavior, self-referential tags may provide clues that are not easily available through other means.

There is also the concern about the scalability of social tags as the content of social bookmarking sites grows larger and larger:

I also wonder how well Flickr, del.icio.us, and other folksonomy-dependent sites will scale as content volume gets out of hand. Even now, for example, uploading your summer vacation photos to Flickr and tagging them "summer" will group them with over 6,000 other photos. Hard to browse now, harder when there are 60,000 photos a year from now. And it's a safe bet that no one will bother to go back and re-tag their photos with more precise terms. (Rosenfeld 2005)

Adam Mathes summarizes the pros and cons of folksonomy in the following terms:

A folksonomy represents simultaneously some of the best and worst in the organization of information. Its uncontrolled nature is fundamentally chaotic, suffers from problems of imprecision and ambiguity that well developed controlled vocabularies and name authorities effectively ameliorate. Conversely,

systems employing free-form tagging that are encouraging users to organize information in their own ways are supremely responsive to user needs and vocabularies, and involve the users of information actively in the organizational system. (Mathes, 2004)

Advantages and Disadvantages of Subject Indexing

Traditional approaches to subject indexing also have their advantages and disadvantages. The trained personnel who follow established policies and use controlled vocabularies to perform subject analysis and indexing have been recognized as the source of the major advantages of traditional subject cataloging and indexing. In subject cataloging in particular, the complex syntax of many subject headings enables the provision of context and so renders an access point more expressive. In addition, terms in a controlled vocabulary are linked in a hidden ontology that is implied by broader-term, narrower-term, and related-term relationships, thus providing a hierarchical framework. Because of synonym control and established application policies, searchers can depend on the consistency and greater predictability in retrieval results.

Most of the disadvantages of current subject indexing practice lie in its high costs, costs that include training professional catalogers and indexers, who, in turn, merit high pay because they are specialists. Some of the rest lie in how much time normally passes between the publication of a work and the appearance in catalogs of its fully cataloged record. Building and maintaining a thesaurus, a subject headings list, or a classification system is a time-consuming and intellectually demanding undertaking. Such work is thus costly and unavoidably somewhat behind the times, often discouragingly so. Also, the complexity of the indexing and retrieval systems sometimes discourages searchers so that they are unable to benefit from all that it offers. Another shortcoming is the absence of a direct way to gauge users' viewpoints. Nevertheless, for well over a century, the subject heading system run by the United States Library of Congress has provided searchers with dependable, inclusive search results with high precision and good recall.

CONCLUSION – FUTURE PROSPECTS AND POTENTIALS

The discussion above seems to lead us to a crucial question: should social bookmarking or subject indexing prevail? But must this question be an either-or proposition? This study has shown that each way of assigning subject terms to information resources has its strengths and its weaknesses, and each has something to offer the other. Can we not achieve the best results by combining the two approaches, thus maximizing the benefits of both?

In the search for answers to these questions, writers on social bookmarking and folksonomy have proposed various measures. One is to incorporate social bookmarks into library catalogs (Rolla 2009). Another recurring proposal is to incorporate or implement controlled vocabulary into folksonomy. Mathes offers the following observation:

Overall, transforming the creation of explicit metadata for resources [for example, controlled vocabularies] from an isolated, professional activity into a shared, communicative activity by users is an important development that should be explored and considered for future systems development. (Mathes, 2004)

The desirability of incorporating controlled vocabulary, or at least its features (synonym and homograph control and related terms) is echoed by other writers on folksonomy (Rosenfeld 2005).

How best to bridge the social bookmarking and subject indexing in order to maximize the benefits of both is a challenge for all those in the field of providing the most efficient and effective subject access tools. There are different ways of achieving this goal. Two possible approaches come to mind.

From the perspective of social bookmarking operations, my suggestion is to match – automatically - user-assigned tags with controlled vocabulary terms. There are two ways to do this. The first is to develop a mechanism that maps existing user-assigned tags to controlled vocabulary terms. The second is to suggest controlled vocabulary terms to users during the tagging process. Ideally, a parallel operation would make it possible to include cross-references from controlled vocabularies in the search engine. Incorporating the advantages of controlled vocabulary should greatly facilitate the process of social bookmarking and at the same time enhance its value and usefulness.

In the other direction, from the perspective of subject indexing, controlled subject access could be substantially enriched by consulting social bookmarks with three goals in mind: to gain users' perspectives, to understand users' searching behavior, and to enhance subject access terms. Furthermore, for those responsible for creating and maintaining controlled vocabularies, social bookmarks provide a rich source for suggesting terms (both valid terms and lead-in terms) for inclusion in the thesauri or subject heading lists.

In conclusion, both social bookmarking and subject indexing have the same ultimate goal—to provide the most efficient and effective method for information storage and retrieval. These two methods represent considerably different approaches, but there is potential for user benefit in capturing the best from both. Social bookmarking is an interesting and significant phenomenon; it behooves the library community to consider its power.

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Appendix A

Examples of Social Bookmarking

(1) A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson. 2004 (957)

2003 2005 2006 2007 American **astronomy** Audible audio **AudioBook** **biology** bryson chemistry
 cosmology earth **essays** evolution **favorite** **funny** general science geology **history** history of
 science **humor** **humour** library natural history nature **non-fiction** own owned
 physics **popular** popular science **read** **Reference** **SCIENCE** tbr to read travel universe
unread wishlist world history

650 0 Science \$v Popular works.

Summary: In this book Bill Bryson explores the most intriguing and consequential questions that science seeks to answer and attempts to understand everything that has transpired from the Big Bang to the rise of civilization. To that end, Bill Bryson apprenticed himself to a host of the world's most profound scientific minds, living and dead. His challenge is to take subjects like geology, chemistry, paleontology, astronomy, Read more

(2) Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser. 2005 (919)

agriculture **america** **American** American Culture animal rights **business** capitalism consumerism
 corporations **cultural studies** **culture** **Current Affairs** current events **diet** eating **economics**
 environment expose **fast food** **food** food industry food politics **food** **writing** health **history**
journalism labor **mcdonalds** **non-fiction** nutrition obesity **own** owned political
politics pop culture **read** restaurants science **social commentary** **society** **sociology** united
 states **unread** usa vegetarian

650 0 Fast food restaurants \$z United States.

650 0 Food industry and trade \$z United States.

650 0 Convenience foods \$z United States.

650 6 Restaurants-minute \$z États-Unis.

650 6 Aliments \$x Industrie et commerce \$z États-Unis.

650 6 Aliments précuisinés \$z États-Unis.

Contents: American way: The founding fathers. Your trusted friends. Behind the counter. Success -- Meat and potatoes: Why the fries taste good. On the range. Cogs in the great machine. The most dangerous job. What's in the meat . Global realization -- Epilogue: Have it your way -- Afterword: The meaning of mad COW.

(3) Blink: the power of thinking without thinking by Malcolm Gladwell. 2005 (782)

2005 2006 2007 audio audiobook blink brain business cognition cognitive science culture
 decision making decisions economics gladwell human behavior ideas interesting Intuition
 Leadership library management Marketing mind **non-fiction** own perception philosophy
 pop psychology popular science psychology read science self-help social Social Psychology
 social science society **sociology** subconscious tbr thinking thought to read unread wishlist

650 0 Decision making.

650 0 Intuition.

No summary

(4) The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big... by Malcolm Gladwell. 2002
 (739)

2005 2006 2007 borrowed business causation change contagion cultural studies culture current
 affairs current events economics epidemic essays fads Gladwell ideas influence innovation leadership
 library management marketing networks nf **non-fiction** own Philosophy
 psychology read science social social commentary social networks social psychology
 Social Science social theory society sociology tbr thinking tipping point to read trends
 unread wishlist

650 0 Social psychology.

650 0 Contagion (Social psychology)

650 0 Causation.

650 0 Context effects (Psychology)

650 2 Social Behavior.

650 2 Psychology, Social.

650 2 Diffusion of Innovation.

650 2 Leadership.

650 2 Marketing.

650 2 Group Processes.

Summary: Ideas, products, messages and behaviors "spread just like viruses do." Behavior can ripple outward until a critical mass or "tipping point" is reached, changing the world. Gladwell develops these and other concepts (such as the "stickiness" of ideas or the effect

of population size on information dispersal) through simple, clear explanations and entertainingly illustrative anecdotes.

Contents: The three rules of epidemics -- The law of the few: connectors, mavens, and salesmen -- The stickiness factor: Sesame Street, Blue's Clues, and the educational virus -
- The power of context (part one): Bernie Goetz and the rise and fall of New York City crime -- The power of context (part two): the magic number one hundred and fifty -- Case study: rumors, sneakers, and the power of translation -- Case study: suicide, smoking, and the search for the unsticky cigarette -- Conclusion: focus, test, and believe -- Afterword: tipping point lessons from the real world.

Appendix B

Most often tagged non-fiction (20)

June 30, 2009, 2009

Freakonomics [Revised and Expanded]: A Rogue Economist... by Steven D. Levitt (1143)

Guns, Germs and Steel by Jared Diamond (1021)

Eats, Shoots & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to... by Lynne Truss (985)

A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (957)

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser (919)

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson (841)

Blink: the power of thinking without thinking by Malcolm Gladwell (782)

The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big... by Malcolm Gladwell (739)

Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America by Barbara Ehrenreich (734)

A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking (727)

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote (726)

The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank (678)

The Professor and the Madman by Simon Winchester (664)

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest... by Jon Krakauer (663)

On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King (663)

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer (646)

The Elements of Style by William Strunk (642)

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson (637)

Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach (619)

Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books by Azar Nafisi (615)

(LibraryThing, accessed June 30, 2009)

Appendix C

Top 50 Long Tags

(Tags with more than 20 letters)

contemporary fiction (8856), 20th century literature (4480), contemporary romance (4276), 20th century fiction (2813), mass market paperback (2746), political philosophy (2683), Fantasy/Science Fiction (2394), Science Fiction/Fantasy (2279), childrens literature (2257), international relations (1841), children's picture book (1670), personal development (1565), contemporary literature (1564), intellectual history (1559), artificial intelligence (1425),

philosophy of science (1363), British Crime Fiction (1302), software development (1280), science fiction and fantasy (1254), 19th century literature (1245), permanent collection (1243), history of philosophy (1229), contemporary fantasy (1108), latin american literature (998), children's non-fiction (974), Christian Nonfiction (957), juvenile non-fiction (951), philosophy of religion (903), dungeons and dragons (897), classical literature (891), programming languages (887), African American Fiction (857), literature in translation (852), short story collection (827), philosophy of language (826), information technology (802), comparative religion (774), biography/autobiography (765), 19th century fiction (764), african-american literature (754), historical linguistics (750), software engineering (727), children's nonfiction (726), victorian literature (715), books i want to read (708), young adult literature (695), Atlantian Reference Library (660), computer programming (630), illuminated manuscripts (615), American Contemporary (570)

(LibraryThing, accessed July 9, 2009)

Appendix D Top 75 Tags

(1) tags with usage data

fiction (2,695,675), fantasy (905,349), history (758,368), non-fiction (536,284), mystery (505,376), read (483,593), science fiction (476,567), nonfiction (424,887), poetry (337,330), biography (336,907), unread (312,539), novel (293,044), reference (286,609), own (252,531), (250,312), romance (246,922), literature (244,753), philosophy (244,249), art (228,035), religion (217,804), short stories (209,441), humor (207,349), sf (205,037), tbr (202,983), science (201,927), historical fiction (181,676), children's (162,795), series (159,130), travel (152,040), horror (151,169), manga (150,157), children (137,791), comics (136,400), classic (135,527), music (132,880), politics (123,969), young adult (123,731), paperback (122,902), anthology (118,822), classics (117,758), memoir (116,544), 20th century (114,377), theology (107,553), crime (103,066), psychology (103,028), picture book (102,308), graphic novel (100,834), american (98,817), england (98,798), cooking (97,057), cookbook (96,893), ya (96,848), essays (96,402), thriller (91,141), drama (90,048), christianity (88,614), british (88,049), humour (87,315), adventure (85,814), historical (82,837), english (82,357), sci-fi (81,728), language (81,337), wishlist (81,031), owned (77,516), childrens (76,364), writing (76,052), animals (75,137), magic (74,779), autobiography (73,894), christian (72,705), 2008 (71,491), hardcover (69,322), photography (69,097), ebook (67,962)

(LibraryThing, accessed July 9, 2009)

(2) tag cloud

Essays **Ethics** etiquette Europa Europe European **Evolution** ex-library exercise exhibition history Evangelism **Evolution** ex-library exercise exhibition exhibition catalog existentialism exploration f fables faerie fairies fairy tale **Fairy Tales Faith** families Family Fantasy

fantasy fiction farm farming **fashion** **Favorite** favorite author
Favorites favourite female author female protagonist **Feminism**
 feminist Fic fictie **fiction** field guide **Film Finance**
Finished finnish First Edition fish fishing fitness Florida flowers
 Folio Folio **Society Folklore** folktales **Food** food and drink
 football for sale foreign language forensics Forgotten Realms fr France
 Freemasonry **French** French History French language **French**
Literature French Revolution friends **Friendship** fun funny
 furniture **future** futuristic g gaiman game **Games** gaming garden
 Gardening gardens gave away **Gay** gay fiction gender gender
 studies Genealogy **General General Fiction** genetics
 Geographie **Geography** geology Georgia German German
 History German Literature Germany **Geschichte geschiedenis** ghost
 stories ghosts gift girl **girls gbt** globalization God gods Golf gone good
 Gospels **Gothic** government **Grammar** graphic graphic design
 Graphic Novel **Graphic Novels** graphics Great Britain
Greece Greek Greek literature greek mythology green grief growing up
Guide guidebook guitar gurps h Halloween handbook **Hardback**
 Hardcover harlequin Harlequin Presents **Harry Potter** have have
 read Hawaii **hb** hc healing Health Hebrew herbs hermeneutics high
 fantasy high school hiking Hinduism his histoire **Historia** Historical
 historical fantasy **Historical fiction** historical mystery
 historical novel Historical Romance historiography **history**
 history of science **Hobbies** holiday holidays Hollywood **Holocaust**
Home homeschool homeschooling homosexuality **Horror**

(LibraryThing, accessed June 30, 2009)