

CONCEPT: BOOK CLOUD

People's connection with their neighborhood has decreased over the past few decades. The digital world has given us the opportunity to connect with people anywhere at anytime, decreasing the value of neighbors. Neighborhoods have become more anonymous, making people feel less at home and decreases their sense of belonging.

The BookCloud is a sharing system with which neighbors can share their books with one another. Neighbors can write a short personal message (in which they recommend a book of theirs) and hanging this in the BookCloud. They read each others' messages and are triggered to visit a neighbor and borrow a book.

By having contact and sharing their experiences neighbors get connected again, increasing the feeling of belonging to your neighborhood and feeling more at home.

DESIGN GOAL

STRENGTHEN **COMMUNITY** FEELING
BY GIVING **NEIGHBORS** A TRIGGER
FOR PERSONAL **CONTACT**

INTERACTION VISION

The interaction should be natural and effortless. It should feel like coming to them, as an unexpected but fortunate discovery of a shared feeling, thought or experience.

MOMENT OF SERENDIPITY

- ▶ ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERY OF A SHARED INTEREST
- ▶ A FORTUNATE DISCOVERY WHILST NOT SEARCHING FOR IT

NATURAL

EFFORT
LESS

OPEN

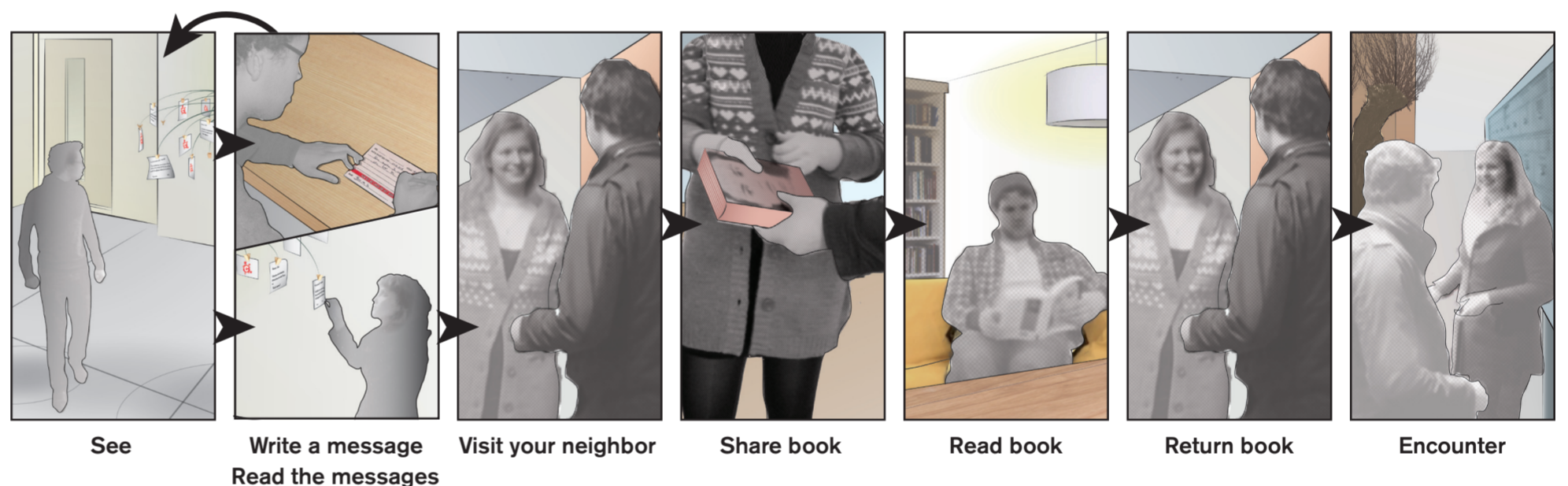
LIVELY

CURRENT CONTEXT

Many people experience their neighborhood as being too anonymous. They would like more contact with neighbors, but will not initiate this unless they have a validable reason.

THERE IS A **WILL**, BUT NOT A **REASON**

SCENARIO



See

Write a message
Read the messages

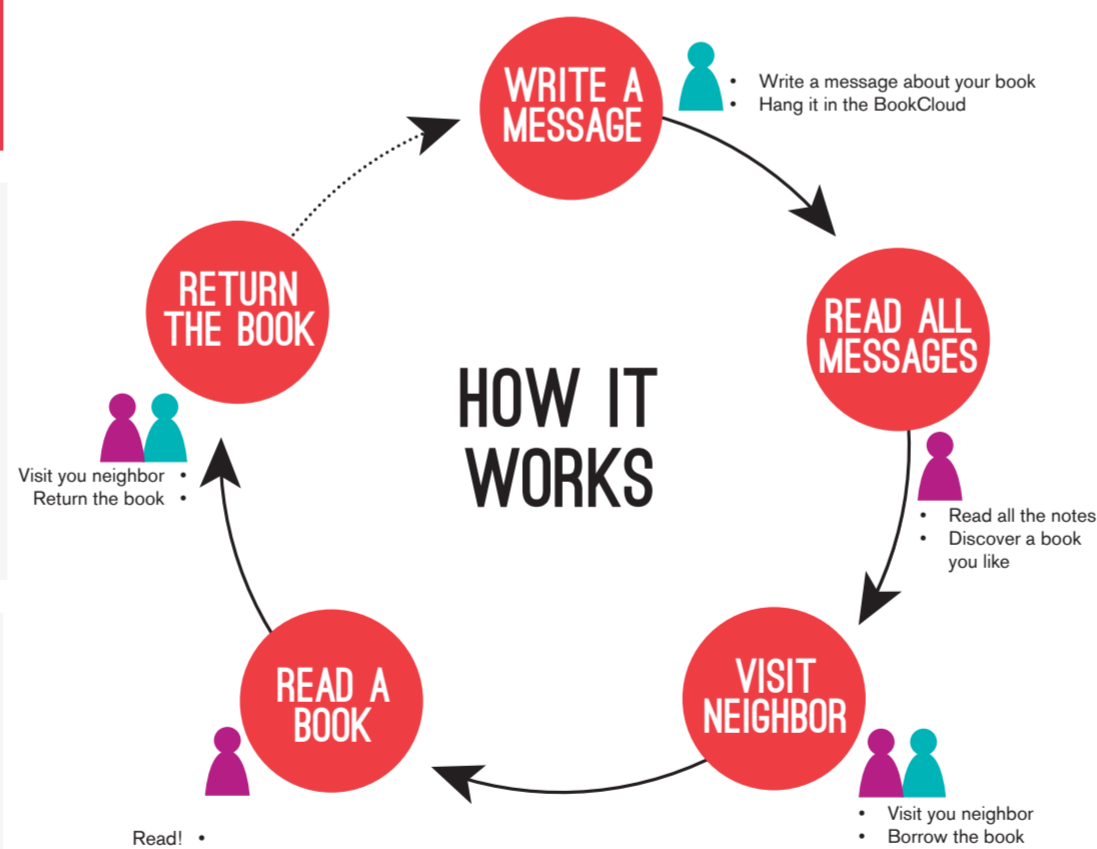
Visit your neighbor

Share book

Read book

Return book

Encounter



WHY BOOKS?

- EASY** Everybody has books
Just standing on your bookshelf
Suitable for sharing: price & personal value
- :)** People like sharing
Especially books
- CONNECT** Discover shared interest
Something to talk about
Triggers *personal* contact

ONLINE SUPPORT SYSTEM



“ I LOVED WRITING A MESSAGE ABOUT MY BOOK. I KEPT THINKING OF MORE THINGS I WANTED TO TELL. ”

“ I MET MY NEIGHBOR SOME TIME LATER ON THE STREET. THAT WAS A NICE SURPRISING MOMENT. ”

“ WE SHOWED EACH OTHER OUR HOMES. IT WAS FUN TO KNOW WHERE MY NEIGHBOR LIVES. ”