Getting an eBook on your Kindle using Libby

1. You can either use your device or computer to access Libby! First, on your computer, go to libbyapp.com and you should see the following.

   Welcome! Thousands of public libraries offer ebooks and audiobooks (for free!) in Libby. Let me ask you a few questions, to guide you to your library.

   First question: do you have a library card?

   Yes  Not Yet

   There are several ways I can help you find your library. How would you like to continue?

   If you already use Libby, choose this. It will keep all your data in sync.
   Copy From Another Device

   You can look up your nearest library by name or city or zip code.

   Search For A Library

   Guess My Library

2. You’ll click ‘Yes’ to enter in your library card number but if you don’t have one, no worries! Click ‘Not Yet’ to get a digital card. Once you click ‘Yes’, you’ll be directed to a page to find your library. There are multiple ways to do this but we’re just going to enter in the library’s zip code (it’s the easiest way).

   You can search for your library by name or branch location.

   48098

   Matching Libraries

   Midwest Collaborative for Library Services
   Troy Public Library
   510 W Big Beaver Rd
   Troy, Michigan, USA
   and 57 other branches

3. As you enter in the zip code, Libby will automatically bring the nearest library to that zip code. (You can search by name but there are several Troy libraries in the country). We are part of the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS) so we share what Libby has to offer with 57 other branches.

4. Click on the MCLS button and it will direct you to a page asking you to sign with your library card. (Again, you can get a card here if you don’t have one). After clicking “Sign in with my card”, the page will direct to another page showing the branches - Troy is starred. Click on Troy and it asks for your library card number. Enter in your card number and hit “sign in” and you’re ready to browse! Before you move on to browsing, you can rename your card and see how many loans or holds you have. For Troy: you get 10 loans and 15 holds but every co-op is different. Click ‘next’ and you’re ready to go.
Once you're through the sign-in page, Libby asks if you want to read with Kindle - and we do - so choose 'Yes, I read with Kindle'. Most of the eBooks on Libby are available on Kindle but there are a few that aren't so beware of that.

Now you're ready to start searching for a book! If you know what book, you can look for it using the search tool, located on the bottom of your screen.

But if you're just looking for something to catch your eye, you can apply filters to weed out anything that isn't available right now or for Kindle or even a specific audience. But just a reminder: if you can't find it - it's either not available for that format or we just might not have it. Here's what my preferences look like:

Once you're done with your preferences, you'll click apply and watch how many books are cut down.

So, you've chosen a book, now how to borrow! When you find your chosen book, you're going to click 'borrow' - it should have a little plus sign over the little library card - and make sure you're choosing 'borrow' because the sample only provides a snippet of the book.
Once you click borrow, you will be taken to a page to confirm your book - it shows how many days you’ll have the book, your library card and a big pink button. You can change how many days you can check out - the only titles you can’t do that for are HITS (High Interest Titles) Titles or “skip a head” titles (popular titles that have a long hold list), this borrow length is 7 days.

If you change your mind, you can just go back! But we like this title so we’re going to click ‘borrow’. Once you do that it’s placed on your shelf in your loans list and you’re given an option to ‘open book’, go to shelf or keep browsing - we’re going to open the book.

Choosing the Kindle option takes us to the Amazon sign in page, go ahead and sign in with your Amazon account.

After you sign in, you’re taken directly to the book’s Amazon page. It looks like every other page on Amazon but instead of ‘buy now’, there is ‘get library book’ and it gives you the date of its return and you can choose which device.

Once you’ve selected ‘get library book’, it will download to your Kindle (or any device you’re using Kindle on) almost instantaneously unless you aren’t connected to Wi-Fi or your device doesn’t also use cellular data.
You've chosen your book - now start reading! (If you get done before the due date, you can return it early or just let the loan expire. If you're not done and no one has it on hold, Libby will prompt you to extend your checkout date.) If you aren't finished with a book and you can't extend the deadline because it's on hold for the next person, you can place it on hold again and it picks up where you left off. So, how do you return it? Like this!

Alicia Jasinska
The Dark Tide

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