Librarium

Find your next 40K read.

A spoiler-controlled reading guide presented as an Imperial archive terminal.



ASSIGNMENT 4 / PROFESSOR TINA AMOUZGAR

One more evening in that world

You close Xenos and sit with the feeling that follows a good book: you want another evening in that world. You remember the characters and the atmosphere, but you are less sure which title belongs next. You search for a reading order. One list sends you toward a different series. Another discussion starts with the answer and keeps going into plot details you wanted to discover on your own. A simple choice starts to feel like a risk.

You already know what you enjoyed. The missing piece is a way to turn that interest into a next step. You want to see the book that follows the one you finished, understand why it belongs there, and decide how much background to read. You should be able to make that decision before a summary tells you something you cannot unread.

THE READER

An Eisenhorn reader has finished Xenos and wants a clear next step with the surprises intact.

A path back into Eisenhorn

Librarium enters the story as a guide. You step into a fictional Imperial archive and mark Xenos as complete. The archive puts one recommendation up front: Malleus. A short explanation tells you that it continues the Eisenhorn series from your current point. Optional context sits behind a clearly labelled reveal control, so you can stay with the safe explanation or open the additional material by choice.

During an early walkthrough, the archive theme made the recommendation easy to spot, but my brother wanted a clearer reason to choose it and stronger feedback after saving. That changed what the archive needed to say. The recommendation gained a “Why it fits” explanation, and the saved path became a visible destination with a confirmation. The prototype tests this experience on one focused series, where each step can be explained clearly.

You leave with a book picked and a path to return to. The next time you open the archive, you can look back at what you saved instead of starting another search. You get to spend more of your evening reading, with the surprises still waiting on the page.

An archive that helps you choose

Immersive

Engraved rules, clear headlines and a cog-and-skull terminal stamp.

Use “archive” and “reading path” to frame the experience.

Protective

An inset panel with a border and a visible hidden state.

Say “Optional context is hidden” and name what the reveal opens.

Clear

One high-contrast action per screen and a numbered reading path.

Use direct verbs such as “Save this path” and explain the recommendation.

Reassuring

Warm ivory text, muted green surfaces and a text confirmation.

Say “Saved for this session” after the action succeeds.

Atmosphere in the frame. Clarity in the task.

Librarium sounds like a careful archivist who knows the collection and respects the reader’s curiosity. The voice uses short, direct sentences and addresses the reader as “you.” Terms such as “archive” and “reading path” give the interface its setting. Actions use familiar verbs, so a first-time visitor can still predict what will happen. “Reveal series context” says what opens, while “Save this path” says what the reader keeps. Recommendation copy explains the order in one or two sentences and uses only the information needed to make a choice. A hidden panel tells the reader that context is optional, and a confirmation explains that the prototype saves the path for the current session. The visual system follows the same rhythm. Indexed titles and fine brass rules establish the archive atmosphere. Plain sans-serif body text keeps book information and explanations easy to scan. Ivory text and a labelled hidden state support legibility, and brass gives the primary action a clear place to stand.

RECOMMENDATION

Malleus continues Eisenhorn after Xenos.

SPOILER CONTROL

Optional context is hidden.

CONFIRMATION

Saved for this session.

From reader need to visual decision

READER / HERO

Find the next book and preserve the surprise.

CURIOSITY → IMMERSIVE

Archive setting → indexed titles, cog-and-skull seal

ANXIETY → PROTECTIVE

Explicit reveal copy → framed, labelled hidden state

UNCERTAINTY → CLEAR

Plain explanation → high-contrast reading order

RELIEF → REASSURING

Calm confirmation → warm ivory and saved status

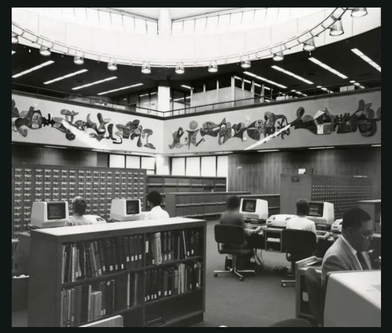
Inside the reading archive



01 / NLM rotunda, c.1964



05 / Catalogue handling



06 / Catalogue terminals

CATALOGUE → ORDER / CRT → INDEX

REAL PHOTOGRAPHS / 40K INTERFACE



02 / Catalogue drawer



07 / DEC VT100



03 / Reading room, c.1910



08 / IBM 2260



10 / DEC VT52



04 / Card consultation



09 / ADM-3A



11 / Darktide data-interrogator

A warm, readable terminal

DISPLAY / INTER REGULAR

The reading archive

Open letterforms and generous scale make titles readable. Brass rules and indexed labels carry the archive atmosphere.

Inter and IBM Plex Mono: SIL Open Font License 1.1.

BODY / INTER REGULAR

Malleus follows Xenos.

Use sentence case, plain verbs and short explanations for information and controls.

INDEX / IBM PLEX MONO

BOOK 02 / INDEX RECORD

Obsidian	Archive Green	Brass	Parchment	Phosphor
#101714	#22342B	#C9AF75	#EEE7D4	#A8BAAD
Canvas	Panels	Main action	Primary text	Supporting text

The logo, step by step

01 / BRAND BRIEF

Immersive / Protective / Clear
Audience: adult 40K readers choosing the next Eisenhorn book without spoilers.
Positioning: an Imperial reading archive that makes the next step clear.

02 / VISUAL TRANSLATION

Immersive: cog + indexed type.
Protective: enclosing ring + book.
Clear: simple geometry + Inter.
Avoid character art, gore and detail that disappears at interface sizes.

03 / CHECK THE SYSTEM

Research, type and palette: slides 7–8.
Six black-only thumbnails: slide 10.
Scale and clear-space rules: slide 13.
Application context: slides 11–12.
Informal brand-match feedback: slide 14.



01 / RELIQUARY

Physical relic; busy in UI.



02 / VAULT WARDEN

Archive cue; complex outline.



03 / ORIGINAL COG SEAL

Retain cog and split skull.



04 / VECTOR GEOMETRY

Regular teeth; clean split.



05 / FINAL / ADD BOOK

Make the reading cue explicit.

Construction views 04–05 show the geometry refinement and the open-book addition; final artwork is editable vector.

Explore the mark before adding colour

WORDMARKS / 2

Librarium

01 / Sentence-case wordmark

LIBRARIUM

02 / Indexed uppercase wordmark

LETTERMARKS / 2

L LR

03 / L: compact initial study

04 / LR: archive monogram study

SYMBOL + TYPE / 2



Librarium

05 / Horizontal combination



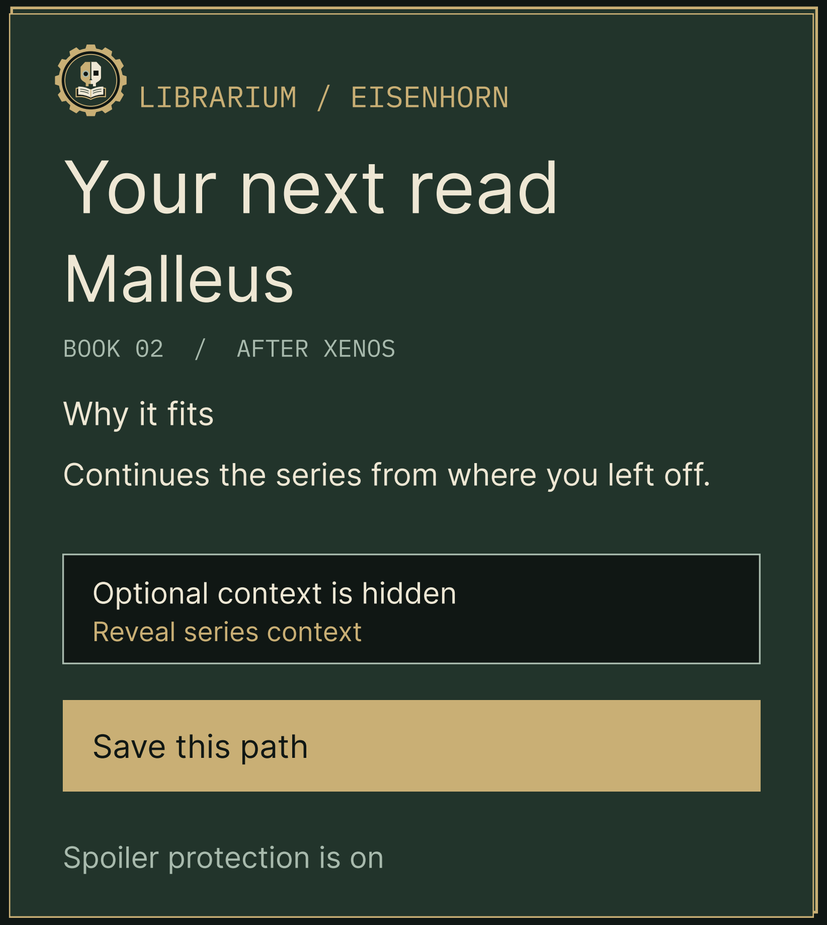
LIBRARIUM

06 / Stacked combination

Six monochrome vector thumbnails: 2 wordmarks, 2 lettermarks and 2 symbol + type combinations.

The cog-and-book seal becomes the final symbol. Colour, minimum size and use rules appear on slide 13.

The recommendation screen



THE READER HAS A REASON

The explanation links the recommendation directly to the book the reader finished.

THE REVEAL STAYS OPTIONAL

A labelled panel names what is hidden and gives the reader control over when to open it.

The website hero



The homepage previews the reading path and gives returning readers a direct link to their saved route.

Using the Librarium identity



Librarium

LOGO

Use the Cog Archive on quiet surfaces.
Leave half its height clear on every side.
Minimum full seal: 48 px. Keep the book
and skull legible. Do not stretch or

TYPE & VOICE

Inter / clear sentences

IBM PLEX MONO / SHORT TAGS

Display 64–76 px; body 28–32 px; labels 20–24 px in this deck. Scale proportionally for interfaces. Both fonts use SIL OFL 1.1.

Speak as a careful archivist. Use direct verbs. Say “Reveal series context” and “Saved for this session.” Name the action and its result.

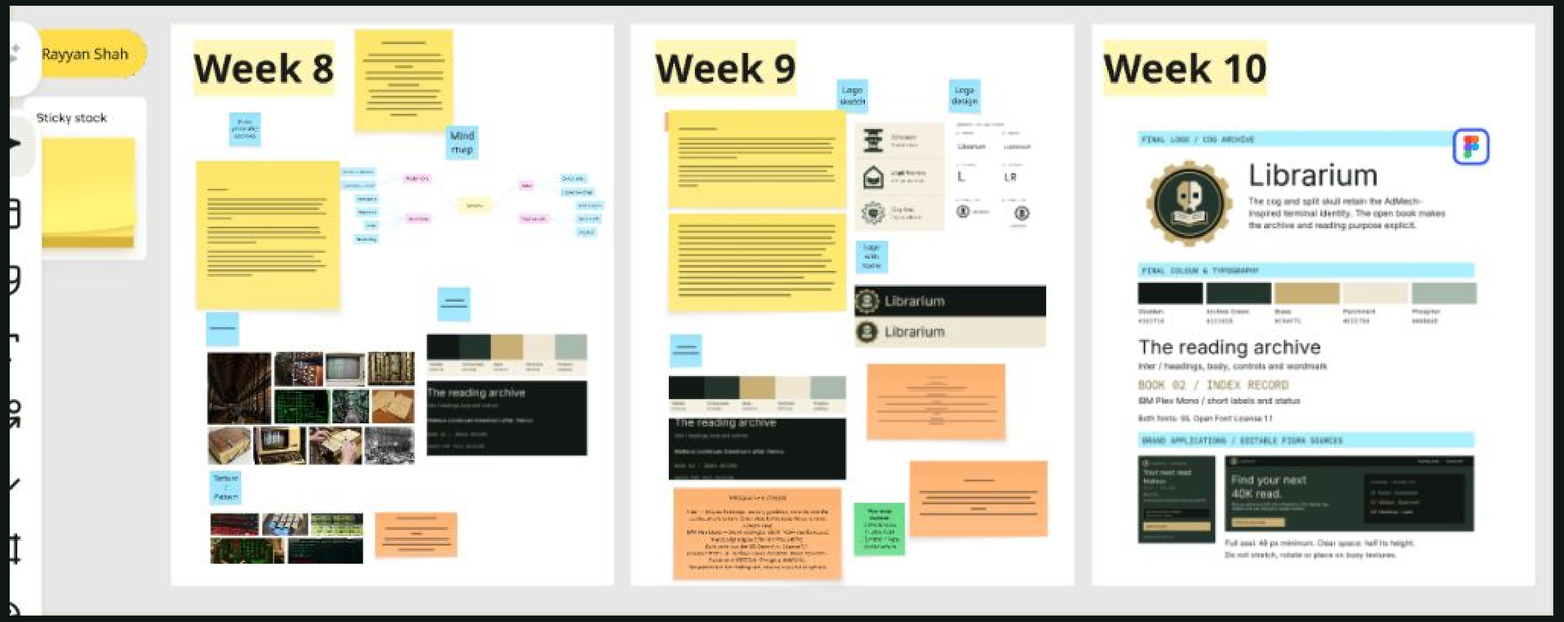
COLOUR / HEX

- Obsidian #101714
- Archive Green #22342B
- Brass #C9AF75
- Parchment #EEE7D4
- Phosphor #A8BAAD

IMAGERY & STATUS

Use archive spaces, catalogues and real CRT hardware.
Keep textures away from reading text.
Label hidden and saved states; never rely on colour alone.

Miro process and informal brand feedback



REPORTED FEEDBACK / STORE EMPLOYEE & FRIENDS

In a casual review, a Warhammer store employee said the logo looked like it belonged in-universe. Friends described it as “cool.” These comments support the immersive direction; no specific removal or change suggestions were reported.

01 / BRAND BRIEF

Three brand words, one audience and one positioning statement.

02 / VISUAL TRANSLATION

Connect words to shape and type. State what the mark should avoid.

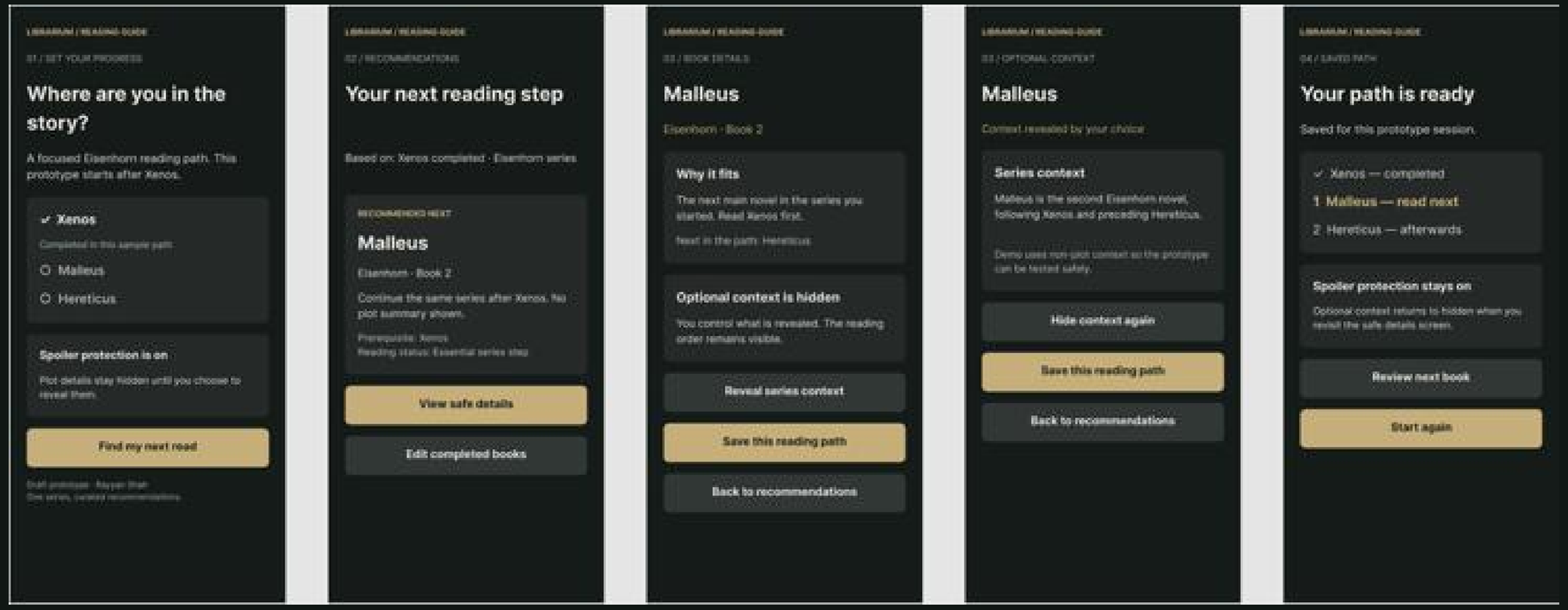
03 / SIX THUMBNAILS

Two wordmarks, two lettermarks, two symbol + type combinations. Black only; no shading or decoration.

04 / BRAND MATCH

Record the informal comments. Use them alongside design judgement.

How the reading path changed



Mark progress → Get a recommendation → Read the reason → Reveal context if wanted → Save the path

One early walkthrough with my brother surfaced three issues: the recommendation needed a reason, the reveal needed an example, and saving needed confirmation.

The revised prototype adds “Why it fits,” a labelled reveal state and a saved path screen.

Sources / editable project links

MOOD BOARD / IMAGES 01–11

01 NLM rotunda, c.1964 / NLM #101445862.
02 Catalogue drawer / NLM, Card Tricks feature.
03 Reading room, c.1910 / NLM #101415763.
04 Card consultation / NLM #101445867.
05 Catalogue handling / NLM, Ming-Nicole Card Cat.
06 Online catalogue, c.1985 / NLM #101445872.
07 DEC VT100 / Wikimedia Commons file.
08 IBM 2260 / Wikimedia Commons file.
09 ADM-3A (82481457) / Wikimedia Commons file.
10 Terminal-dec-vt52 / Wikimedia Commons file.
11 Darktide interface / Fatshark; fbolduc capture.

NLM photographic archive

Computer terminal photographs

Darktide screen reference

PROJECT & TYPE SOURCES

BDI700 Assignment 4 / Tina Amouzgar, Seneca.
Brand-Story Pitch & Visual Identity brief (Miro).
Early walkthrough with my brother; qualitative feedback.
Week 8–10 evidence: Rayyan Shah's saved board work.
Final logo: SVG vectors, finished in Adobe Illustrator.

Canva editable logo studies

Canva selected Cog Seal

Application 01 source

Application 02 source

Class Miro development board

Inter license and font files

IBM Plex license and font files

Links open original sources and editable frames.