

# The Society's Use of Digital Literary Reading Applications

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**Abstract.** Reading literature requires a process of communication between the writer and the reader as an awareness of the constellation of authors. Furthermore, in this digital era, obtaining digital literature has gotten easier. There are indeed various applications for reading digital literature that the public may utilize to meet their reading demands. The suitable reading application and the correct pattern of information retrieval will have a significant impact on the acquisition of literature to be read. This retrieval will have an impact on people's experiences reading digital literature. As a result, the goal of this study is to investigate the society's use of digital literature reading applications in Tulung District, Klaten Regency. The approach used in this study is qualitative. Interviews, documentation studies, and observations had been used to acquire data. Tulung District residents who have utilized digital literary reading programs in their daily lives were interviewed. According to the results of this study, the informants in this study were generally familiar with the various reading digital literature applications. However, Wattpad is the program they use the most to read digital literature. The application provides access to a variety of literature. The informants most commonly access and appreciate literature in the romance category. The results of this study may be utilized to provide a collection of literary reads in the library based on the types and genres of literature that are of public interest.

## 1 Introduction

The digital world is currently growing rapidly, especially supported by the advent of mobile technology. This technology allows the digital world to be in the hands of society. Various advancements in mobile technology are also expeditiously expanding. This is demonstrated by the increasing number of applications available for download and installation on mobile devices.

Several study findings indicate that the presence of technology has a significant influence on people's reading habits. According to the findings of Idhamani's research, the availability of technology, in the form of electronic media, has an influence on the rising abandonment of book reading activities by some individuals, particularly students [2]. Obviously, scholars

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and library practitioners must pay attention to this so that reading activities are not disturbed by the presence of electronic device technology.

The condition of the low interest in reading, especially among Indonesian children, has been a matter of debate for quite a long time. The condition of reading interest is not only influenced by the presence of electronic devices. This can also be caused by the availability of reading materials for the community [11]. Various problems related to reading interest particularly need solutions continuously.

Literature is a popular kind of reading among the general people. Literature, as one of the most popular reading resources, engages not only visual activities; but also the imagination of social intelligence of the reader. Readers of literature appreciate more than just the words but also the included inside the piece of words. They may also appreciate the contents of literature that are typically about life, both actual life and the realm of fantasy [4]. Even the process of reading literature can also be used as a medium to hone the emotional intelligence of the readers [5].

As previously said, many applications may be downloaded and installed on mobile devices. One of these applications is one that may be utilized for reading. There are currently several public reading applications available, including applications for reading digital books. As a result, more research is required to examine the utilization of digital literature reading applications in Tulung District, Klaten Regency.

Based on the foregoing, the issue formulation in this study is how to examine the usage of digital literature reading apps in Tulung District, Klaten Regency. The purpose of this research is to examine the utilization of digital literature reading applications in Tulung District, Klaten Regency.

The growth of various applications for reading literature in the community indicates that there is an effort to stimulate interest in reading with existing technology. This technology might be one of the solutions to the Indonesian people's reading interest difficulties. However, many of these applications require special attention from the public, particularly in determining which application to read digital literature is best to utilize. As a result, it is critical to understand how to use digital literature reading tools.

## 2 Literature Review

According to Damono in Efendi, in order to be classified as literature, a creation must be intended as literature by the author, written in the form of literature, and acknowledged as literature by the reader [1]. As a result, reader approval is critical in the acknowledgment of a piece of literature. Literature can take various forms, including poetry, short stories, and novels [9].

The writer's responsibility in the creation of a piece of literature is equally vital. A piece of literature is often the manifestation of the author's thoughts. It is not uncommon for authors to communicate their sentiments through their creativity, taste, and works in their pieces of literature [13]. Some even believe that literary works represent the author's interpretation of current reality [7]. However, it is not commonplace for authors of pieces of literature to utilize parables during the production process. This is indeed reading material that demands the reader's imagination to capture the author's goal.

Mafar, Sudiard, dan Rosman H. summarized the result of their research in 2016, stating that the respondents they investigated engaged in reading activities using both paper and electronic reading resources [8]. This demonstrates that reading is not restricted to print mediums. Reading activities also include the use of electronic media in society.

There are several applications for reading digital literature that are becoming more popular in society. Talitha stated that there are at least 15 applications that the public may utilize to read various literary works, particularly novels. Gramedia Digital, iPusnas,

GoogNovel, Wattpad, Gramedia Writing Project, WebNovel, NovelMe, Innovel, Storial.co, Free Books-Spirit, Cabaca, and Amazon Kindle are a few examples [12]. These diverse programs offer a variety of possibilities for consumers to conveniently discover the material they want.

### 3 Research Methods

The study is based on information gathered from residents of the Tulung District, Klaten Regency, who have utilized digital literary reading programs in their daily lives. The approach in this study is qualitative. Interviews, documentation studies, and observations were used to acquire data. Interviews were performed to get information from informants about the use of digital literary reading applications. Documentation studies are used to collect supporting data from digital literary reading applications, such as commenting activity, rating, and the like. While observation is used to gain a direct description of the application's use. Following the collection of data, it will be examined using qualitative descriptive analysis. This was studied to demonstrate how the use of digital literary reading applications in Tulung District, Klaten Regency.

The targeted output in this research is an illustration related to the use of digital literary reading applications in Tulung District, Klaten Regency which will be published in international proceedings.

## 4 Result and Discussion

### 4.1 Applications for Reading Digital Literature

The availability of the internet has spurred the growth of other publication mediums, besides printed publications. Another type of publication medium allows the audience to experience literary works in many formats [10]. Several applications for reading literary works have developed recently. The program facilitates writers' communication with readers through the literary pieces they create. The audience may select which of the available applications is the most convenient for them to appreciate piece of literature.

According to the interview results, people frequently utilize the Wattpad program to read digital literary works. One of the informants (DND) stated that Wattpad is an application that is chosen and downloaded to read literary works in digital form, "... *I choose to download Wattpad..*" RA expressed the same thing, stating that Wattpad is preferred above other digital literature reading applications. "...*Wattpad is more convenient to use.*"

MRW, unlike the previous two informants, indicated that Wattpad was the second preference, "*At that time Wattpad was number 2, I used to be a Web Toon user.*" According to him, WebToon was originally utilized to read digital literary works. However, the decision to utilize Wattpad emerges because the accessible literary works may be downloaded and read when not connected to the internet, "...*if Wattpad is enough just writing and it can be downloaded so it can be read when offline like that.*"

According to the outcomes of the interview, the Wattpad application is a preference among readers for relishing digital pieces of literature.

### 4.2 The Genre of Literature

According to Lukens [6], there are various literary genres, including realism, formula fiction, fantasy, classic literature, poetry, and nonfiction. Unlike Lukens, [3] believe that literary genres include romance, religion, crime, fantasy, history, and fan fiction. The findings of informant interviews are mainly focused on Septiaji's point of view. According to one of the informants (RSR), the romance genre is the favorite genre: "*Personally, I love the rich*

romantic genre." DND agreed with this viewpoint "...I enjoy romance. I didn't open anything else since I was immediately drawn to romance." MRW and HAN both voiced similar sentiments. "...most of the time I open odd genres, non-fiction, and romance," MRW said. Meanwhile, HAN remarked, "I read romance in the heat of the moment..."

The informants also appreciated other genres. "... There are various types of reading genres, both fiction and non-fiction, Miss," said RA, implying that he has read both fiction and non-fiction. Furthermore, another informant, RSR, noted that, in addition to romance, he also appreciated the fantasy genre, saying, "...the youth genre is like school, if the fantasy genre has also been..." Meanwhile, HAN revealed that he occasionally reads religious literary works, "... read religious ones as well." Based on the interview findings, it can be demonstrated that the romance genre literary work is in high demand among informants. Furthermore, readers are also interested in genres of literary works such as non-fiction, fantasy, and religion.

## 5 Conclusion

Based on the results of this study, it is possible to infer that Wattpad is an application that informants frequently use to read and appreciate literature. Aside on Wattpad, Web Toon is another program that informants use to appreciate digital literature. Furthermore, romantic literature, along with non-fiction, fantasy, and religious genres, is the genre most in demand by informants.

The author would like to thank Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University for providing funding for the implementation of this research. The author would also like to thank all informants and various parties who participated in the implementation of this research.

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