Team SamePage

Katie H., Zaid A., Rubina S., Zoe A.

Designing for Serendipity

CS 147



Team Members



Rubina Shrestha
Coterm in CS-HCI



Katie Heffernan
Coterm in CS-HCI



Zoe Atkin
Undergrad in SymSys



Zaid Akhtar
Coterm in CS-HCI

We are...

Team SamePage

Our value proposition → Same book. Same time. Someone new.

Our value proposition is not applicable to other apps. We emphasize in-person interactions during an alignment in users' free time.

Problem / Solution Overview

The Problem

Reading is usually a solitary activity. Readers want to connect with others through books, but book clubs feel like too much pressure, and busy schedules make it hard to find time to read with someone.

Solution

Users add the books on their TBR and their free time. The app pairs them with a reader nearby who shares a book on their list and is free at the same time, so they can meet up and read together.





Outline of Presentation

1. Heuristic Evaluation Results
2. Major UI and Product Revisions
3. Prototype Implementation Status

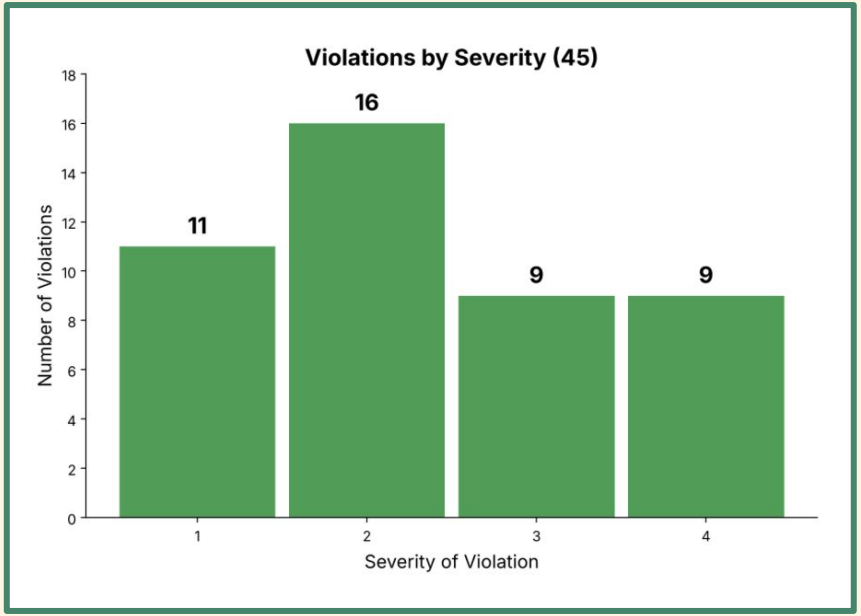




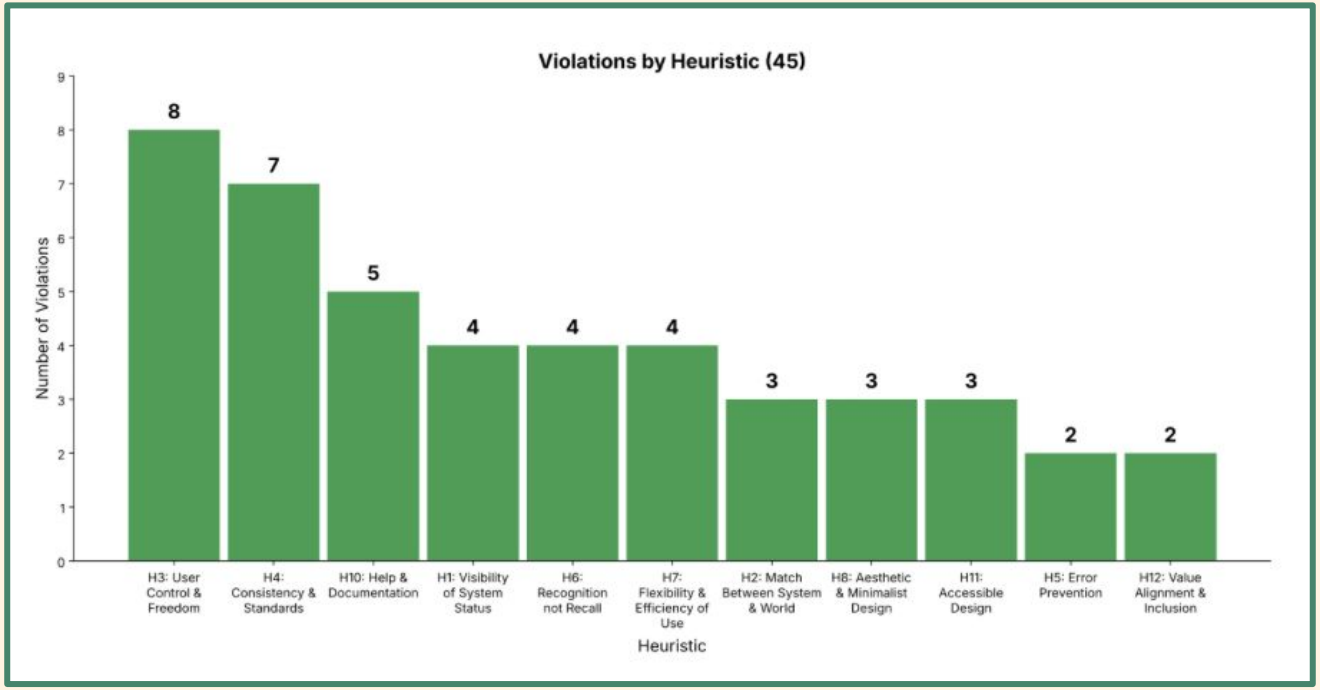
Heuristic Evaluation Results

We are going to make:

- 13 revisions based on severity 3 & 4 violations
- 12 revisions based on severity 1 & 2 violations



Heuristic Evaluation Results



Takeaway: we are going to prioritize giving users more flexibility (easier to add and edit books and edit reading buddy preferences).

Severity 3 Violations Changes

- Change wording of “TBR” to “To Be Read” across all screens
  - Removes potentially unfamiliar jargon and creates consistency
- Update weekly calendar immediately after a user inputs their availability for a day
  - Reduces confusion through immediate feedback
- Increase font size of time labels
  - Improves readability and accessibility
- Add summary of the user’s weekly availability in the requesting a reading buddy step
  - Reduces unnecessary visual clutter
- Add text labels under each navigation icon
  - Helps users navigate to different tabs more clearly
- Add explanation on calendar screen that availability needs to be updated weekly
  - Prevents users from confusion on how availability works





*** look at appendix for reasons why we are not making changes for several violations**

Severity 4 Violations Changes

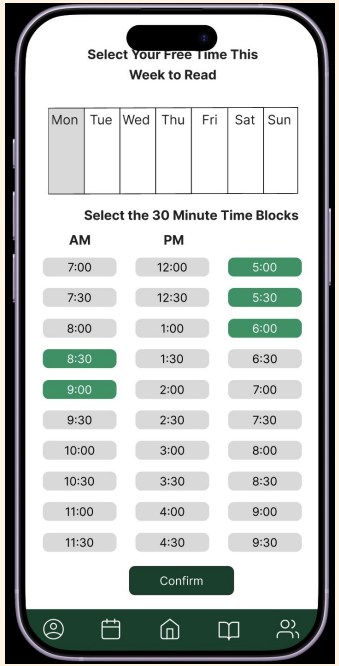
- Add a “Remove” button next to the “Add” button on the To Be Read page
  - Lets users customize To Be Read list by removing unwanted books
- Add book titles next to the cover image
  - Improves accessibility and helps with book recognition
- Let users customize availability time blocks and input time zone
  - Allows for more flexibility with timing and helps prevent time zone issues
- Add a reading buddy request shortcut from home page when users have none
  - Makes an important feature easier to discover
- Add a meeting location preference section to the reading buddy request screen
  - Gives a user more control over meetings
- Add a back button from the Calendar screen to the Home screen
  - Gives users more flexibility to navigate screens if they don’t want to press the icon for the home screen
- Add an information/FAQ button explaining the matching and meeting process
  - Sets clear expectations and helps users feel more comfortable with process

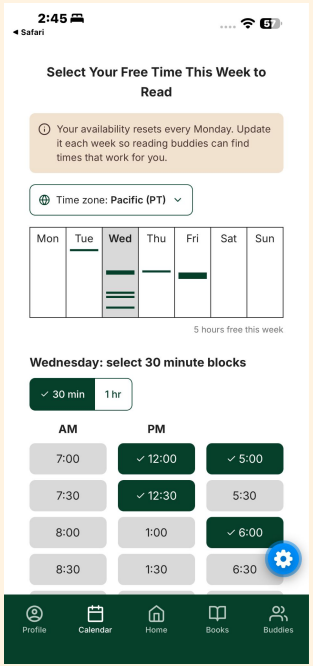




*** look at appendix for reasons why we are not making changes for several violations**

Major Revisions - Calendar





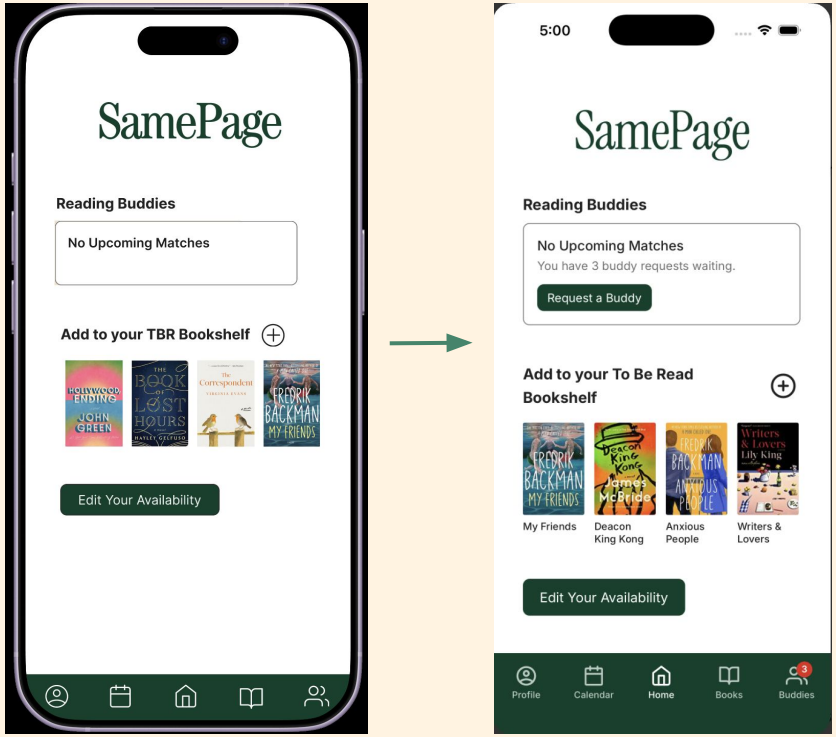
Changes:

- Added alert that availability is weekly
- Added time zone button

Rationale:

- Prevents confusion about how often to update availability
- Prevents confusion about conflicting time zones

Major Revisions - Home



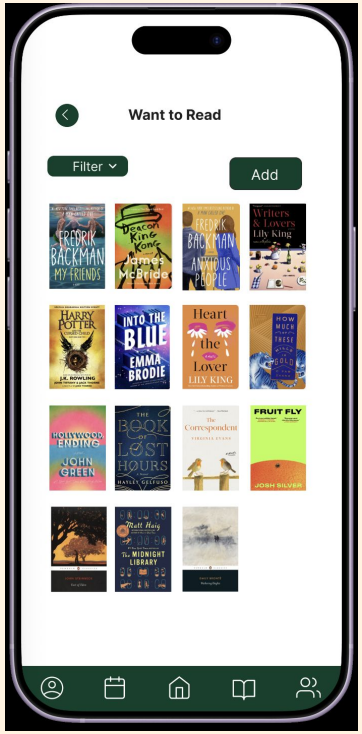
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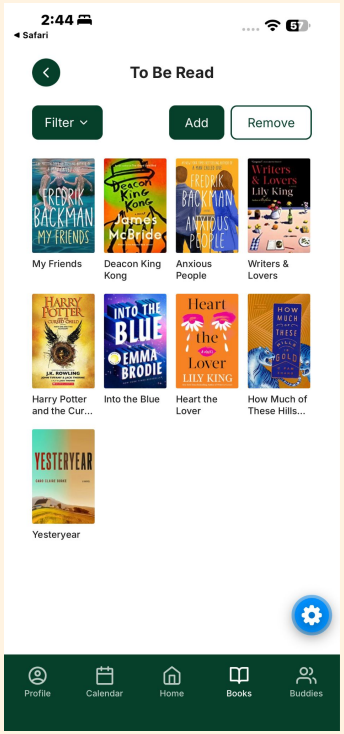
- When a user has no reading buddies, there is a shortcut to requesting a buddy from home page

Rationale:

- Encourages new users to send a buddy request, ensures this core feature is not hidden

Major Revisions - Books





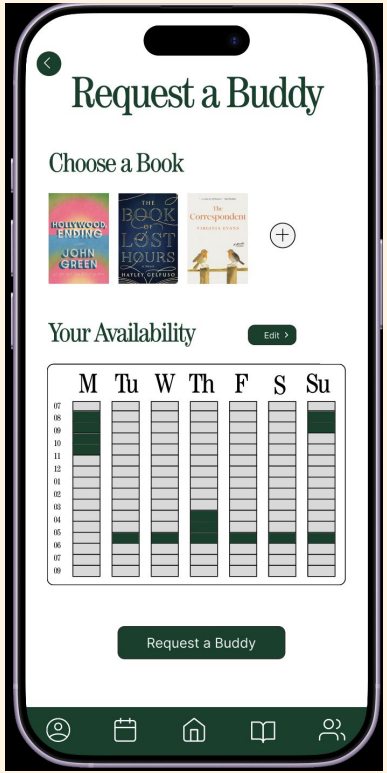
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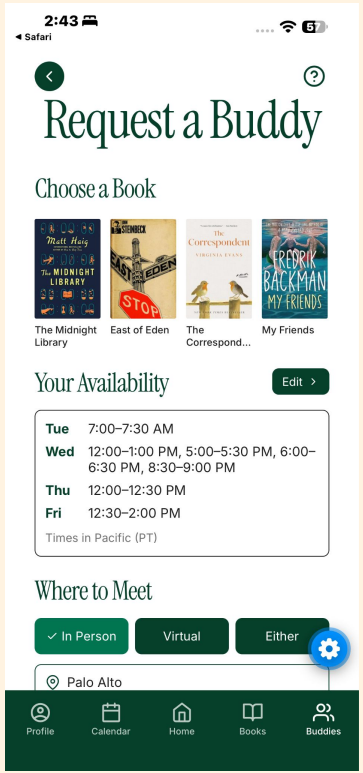
- Added “remove” button
- Added book title text

Rationale:

- More user flexibility to edit and remove books from To Be Read
- Book text increases accessibility and helps users recognize books

Major Revisions - Buddies





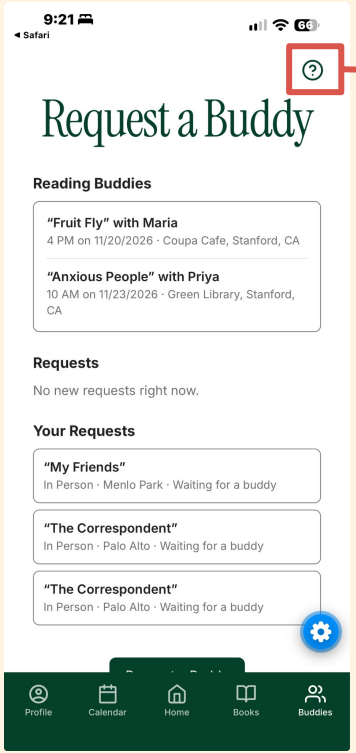
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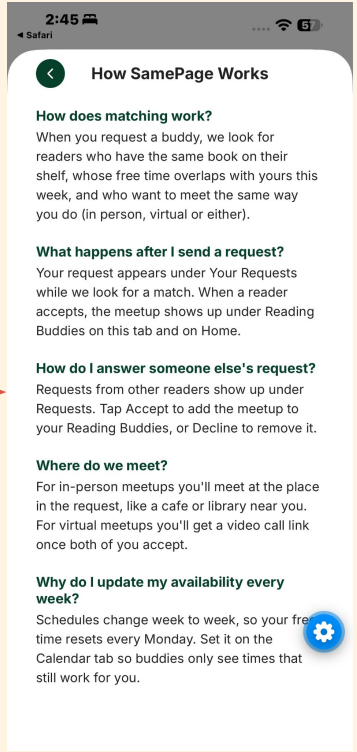
- Written summary of weekly availability
- Selection of in person or virtual meetup

Rationale:

- Written availability summary reduces unnecessary visual clutter
- Selecting where to meet in request provides additional user flexibility

Major Revisions - Buddies





Changes:

- Added a question mark icon in top right corner explaining how SamePage and matching works

Rationale:

- Reduces user confusion by answering common questions about how the Reading Buddy match system works

*** Note: there is no "before" photo because this feature did not exist previously.**

Progress Towards Usability Goals

Intuitive

- Measured by number of misclicks
- Changes since med-fi prototype:
  - Added text in addition to navigation icons to help users navigate to correct pages
  - Standardized “To Be Read’ label on all pages instead of using “TBR” jargon
  - Added clear “Remove” button to edit To Be Read list
- Future changes:
  - Ability to edit or unsend reading buddy requests

Efficient

- Measured by time to complete tasks and survey asking about length or task
- Changes since med-fi prototype:
  - Shortcuts to request a reading buddy from the homepage when a user has no buddies
  - Added shortcut to indicate virtual or in person meeting when sending a reading buddy request
- Future changes:
  - Map feature in meeting buddy request to speed up input for user location





Prototype Implementation Status

Frameworks Used →

- **React Native + Expo SDK 58 with TypeScript** → the app itself
- **Expo Router** → navigation, with a 5-bar tab and nested stacks for Books and Buddies
- **Supabase** → database for profiles, shelves, weekly availability, and buddy requests
- **Open Library API** → book search, cover images, ratings, and publication years
- **Google Fonts** → typography
- **expo-image:** cover images
- **@react-native-community/slider** → distance on Profile
- **Expo-haptics** → feedback when tapping time blocks
- **Apple Developer + Testflight** → development builds (helped by Alan)
- **GitHub** → version control
- **Figma** → design source





AI Usage

- We made all of the designs in Figma and decided the final revision list
- We used Claude Code for implementation of the first full version of the React Native code (screens, shared components, etc.). and the implementation of heuristic feedback
- Claude was also used for setting and debugging Supabase
- **No design choices were made without our approval** → if something did not line up with our vision, we prompted Claude to change it or changed the code ourselves
- Example:
    - Initially had completely incorrect flows from screen-to-screen, so we went in and manually changed the flows





Implemented Features

- **Home:** next meetup or “No Upcoming Matches” with a Request shortcut, To Be Read preview, Edit Availability
- **Books:** Currently Reading and To Be Read; move or remove books; the full To Be Read list with Filter (rating, release date, read by most buddies) and Add/Remove; live search of Open Library
- **Calendar:** pick free time per day, 30 min or 1 hr blocks, time zone, saved per week and reset every Monday
- **Reading Buddies:** accept or decline incoming requests; request a buddy (choose a book, availability summary, where to meet); “Buddy on the way!” confirmation; FAQ
- **Profile:** meeting preference, neighborhood, distance, places, Save Changes





Unimplemented Features

- Matching (sent requests just wait)
- Sign-in / create account page → Sprint 2 (CS 147L)
- The map feature on Profile (this is TBD at the moment)
- Notifications → Sprint 2 (CS 147L)
- Video call links for virtual meetups (integration with Zoom or just a placeholder)
- Cancelling or editing a sent request → Sprint 2 (CS 147L)
- Custom app icon and splash screen → Sprint 2 (CS 147L)





Wizard of Oz Techniques

- The other readers (Maria, Jordan, Priya) and their requests are fake
  - There is no real user base to match with.
- To simulate a match during a test, a teammate can go into Supabase Table Editor and change a sent request's status to accepted. The meetup then shows up on Home and the Buddies tab after a reload.
  - To make this actually happen, we need to:
    - sign-in, so each person has their own account
    - code that compares shelves and free time across every user, including different time zones
    - picking a meeting time both people are free
    - notifying both people





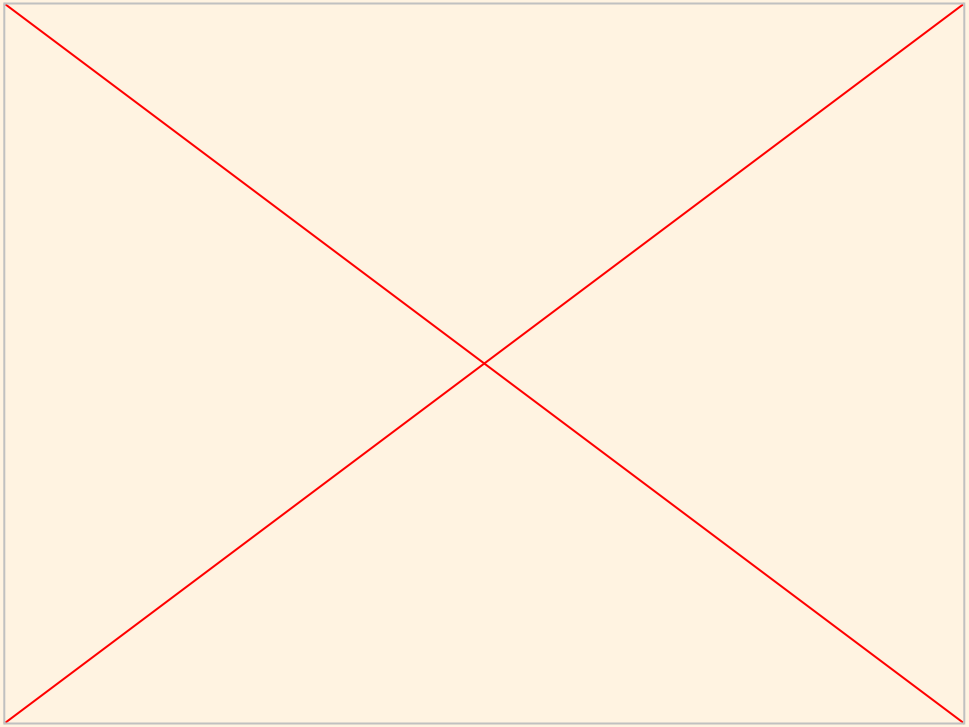
Hard-Coded Elements

- One user, Katie H. → there is no sign-in page right now
- The starting shelf → need books on the shelf for Task 3
- Three incoming requests → for demo purposes
- Reading hours of 7 AM–10 PM (stored in database)
- The list of 13 time zones (stored in database)
- Place options: Cafes, Libraries, Parks, Bookstores, Campus (stored in database)
- FAQ text (stored in database)





Demo



Looking Forward

- No questions for Julia!
- Rubina will continue to work on the hi-fi prototype and record the demo video (she is in CS 147L).
- Katie and Zoe will finish the final report.
- Zaid will design the poster and help structure the pitch.





Appendix

Justifications for not making changes in response to several severity 3 and 4 violations:

- Violation #8 (severity 4) says that there is no way to save changes in the profile page, but we already (and still have) a save changes button in the profile page
- Violations #1 and #3 (both severity 3) both talk about the TBR label, so we consolidated these two into one change of writing “To Be Read” on all screens
- Violation #15 (severity 3) says that there is no way to view all pending buddy requests, but there simply was only one pending buddy request for our task flow and in our updated version, there are multiple pending requests that can all be viewed at once
- Violations #7 and #2 (both severity 4) are both about an inability to remove books from the TBR, so we consolidated these two into one change of adding a “remove” button
- Violation #16 (severity 3) points out that editing your profile automatically sends a buddy request, but this was the result of a mistaken figma interaction and was not replicated in the hi-fi prototype





Thank you!
Any Questions?



