

The official blurb: Local authors (indie, self-published, aspiring, and mainstream) can create eBooks and share them with readers across the state and country using free tools provided by the Carver County Public Library.

Where to find it: The direct link is at <https://www.carverlib.org/services/ebooks-eaudio-emagazines/mnwritesmnreads>. It is also via our eBooks, etc. page and our main list of resources from the front page of our website. Note that currently this is available for the metro area library patrons. Eventually they hope to have it available statewide.

What it is: three websites used to create, share, and read eBooks.

Part 1: Create Your Book using Pressbooks

Pressbooks is a tool for getting self-published books into the correct format to publish. You will need to create an account to do this.

Pressbooks lets you upload a book you have written in a common format (like Microsoft Word or another word processing program) and convert it to a more self-publishing ready format (like ePub or PDF). You can also create cover pages, change fonts, and more. If you don't have a book written, you can use Pressbooks as a platform for that, and format as you go.

Part 2: Share Your Book with SELF-e

SELF-e is a tool for authors to upload books formatted using Pressbooks (above). The approved titles will be publically available in the Indie Minnesota statewide collection. You will need to enter in contact information and some data about your book during the upload process.

Note that all submitted books go through an approval step, checking for copyright infringement and such. If approved, they are added to the Indie Minnesota collection. This takes a few days or so. Some titles will get further review and be added to a nationwide collection called SELF-e select, available to Biblioboard Readers nationwide. This part of the process takes a month or two.

Part 3: Read Books in the Indie Minnesota BiblioBoard Collection

BiblioBoard's Indie Minnesota collection lets the public read the local works added using SELF-e. It has the same 'parent' as our eBooks Minnesota collection and works much the same way. You can create an account if you wish to use some features of the collection, but you can read titles online without one.

Help sources for MN Writes MN Reads

There are help resources available on the MN Writes MN Reads page (<https://www.carverlib.org/services/ebooks-eaudio-emagazines/mnwritesmnreads>), we'd recommend you start there.

If you need a bit more help with Pressbooks, their help page is at <https://pressbooks.com/help> and it includes an email for technical support.