

# FREE YOUR BOOKS!

## A Guide to Scanning Books and Zines



### HEY YOU!

What the fuck are you doing buying that book?!

Look inside the front cover of any piece of commodified treeware that you come across. Do you see that little circle c, →©←, that padlock placed there by those who want to ©ont@ol knowledge?

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The idea that knowledge can belong to a specific author, that that author (or zir publisher!) can forbid distribution of knowledge except in the mediums that they condone (and usually get \$\$\$ for) is a lie! Think about it. What fucking right does X have to tell Y that he must PAY(?!) to receive knowledge?!

Reject *authority*!

Publishers and authors try to lock the reader into the passive role of the consumer. You can read the book (as long as you pay for it!), but don't you fucking dare modify or distribute it, or it's off to the gulag you go!

It's time to reject the roles being assigned to us, this bullshit forced spectatorship. It's time to start liberating knowledge, it's to learn...

### HOW TO SCAN BOOKS!

The first thing you need is a scanner. Find one at your local public or university library, or try a return scam to nab one for free (check [www.rorta.net](http://www.rorta.net) for advice on return scams). A digital camera can also work if you're in a crunch, but tends to produce shittier quality page images.

Once you've got a scanner, you need special software that'll turn the text in the page images into actual searchable text on the computer (this is called OCR: Optical Character Recognition—cool, huh?). You can either use any software preinstalled with the scanner (see what happens when you press the scan button), or get a program called **ABBYY FineReader OCR Professional**. You can download it at: <http://download.abbyy.com/content/default.aspx> and then find a crack for it at <http://astalavista.box.sk> (you need the crack so you don't have to pay for it :)).

Now that you've got the software installed, there are a few things you need to do to tweak it for *optimal performance*.

→ Go to Tools > Options, and under the Scan/Open Image tab if you don't see the scanner automatically listed in the TWAIN Driver box, click on Select Source. Then be sure to select the Use FineReader Interface radio button, not the Use TWAIN-Source Interface.

→ While still under the Scan/Open Image tab, click on Scanner Settings. Unless you're scanning something which has colour, you should select the grayscale option under Picture Scanning Mode (never use the black & white mode, it produces shitty results). The Resolution should be kept at a minimum of 300dpi, and you can leave the rest of the options on their default settings for now. Finally, uncheck the 'show this dialog before scanning' box, and hit OK to exit out of the Scanner Settings.

→ Returning, once again, to the Scan/Open Image tab, be sure the Despeckle Image, Split Dual Pages, Detect Image Orientation, and Open Image During Scanning options are all checked.

→ Finally, exit out of the Options menu and let's start with the book liberation!

Place the book on the scanner and hit the Scan & Read button in FineReader. Once the pages finish scanning, you'll see a thumbnail version on the far left, a larger page image in the middle, and the recognized text on the far right-hand side.

Along the middle area, you'll see a row of various buttons. The ones that are of interest to us are the 2nd (The green-bordered T button) and 4th (the red-bordered mountain button) buttons from the top. The areas that you want to keep as pictures should be selected using that red button, while the areas with text that you want to be OCR'd should be selected with the green button. If you don't have the time to OCR the pages, just select the entire page with the red image button.

After you've finished selecting all the areas, click the Read button, and after that's done click on the Save button. Click on the Formats button and go to the PDF tab. The 'text and pictures only' option (recommended!) will save the text/pictures that you selected in the previous step, while Page Image saves the original, unedited page image seen as a thumbnail in the left-hand menu of FineReader.

And you're done!

Once you have finished scanning the book and either saved the OCR'd version or/and the page images, upload it to an online file-storage site like [www.megaupload.com](http://www.megaupload.com) or [www.rapidshare.de](http://www.rapidshare.de) and post the links on your favourite forums and **SPREAD THE KNOWLEDGE!**

For a more detailed version of this scanning guide, look here: <http://rorta.net/forum/showthread.php?t=237>

If you want some more advice on subverting copyright restrictions, or have any questions, drop DIzzIE a line at [xcon0@yahoo.com](mailto:xcon0@yahoo.com) or call/fax 1-610-887-6072\*

### ENJOY!



\* Note to publishers: *think* about what the fuck it is that you're doing! You will *never* stop us, so you might as well join us, because we will fucking *destroy* you and your attempts to privateer/profiteer from knowledge. You have been warned.