# CRAFTING DIGITAL NARRATIVES with SCALAR

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# **WHAT IS SCALAR?**

An overview

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2

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# "

Scalar is a free, open source authoring and publishing platform ... [that] enables users to assemble media from multiple sources and juxtapose them with their own writing in a variety of ways, with minimal technical expertise required.

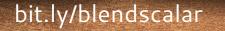


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# WAYS YOU MIGHT USE SCALAR

- Supplement a book project
- Publish an open access article or book

- Write a media-rich essay or thesis
- Create a free textbook
- (coming soon) Digital exhibitions



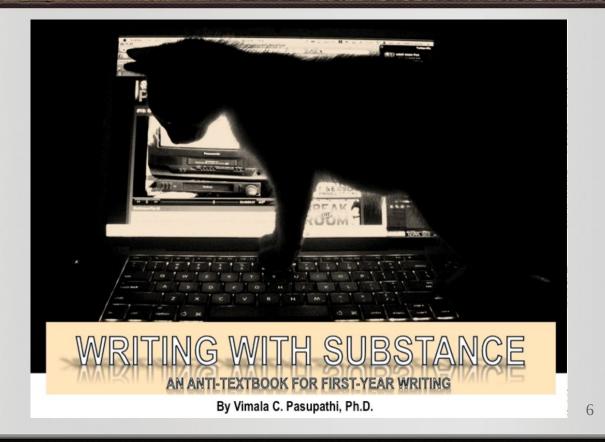
#### Vol. 1 Illustrations

Media Gallery



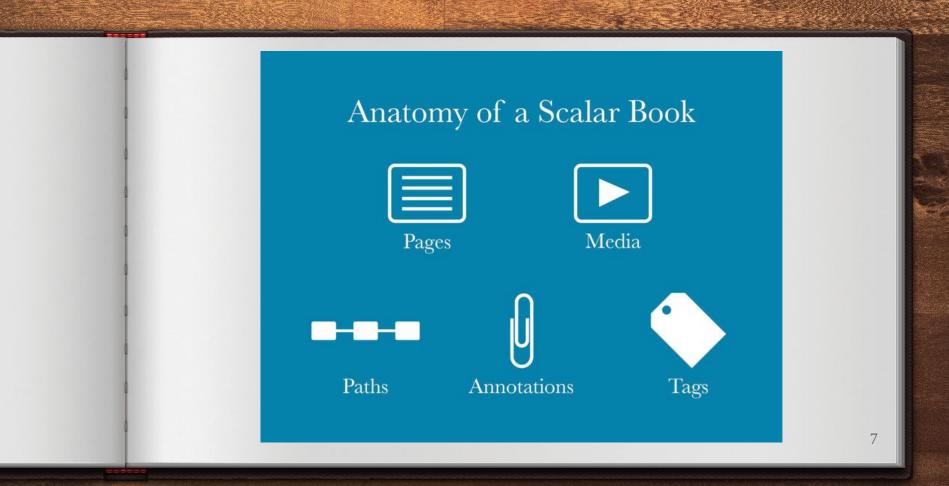
Performing Archive: Curtis + "The Vanishing Race"

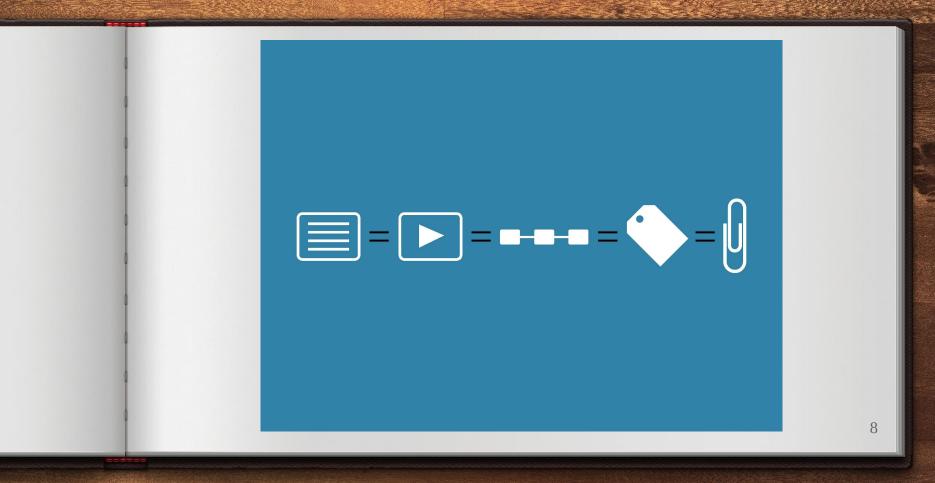
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Writing with Substance

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# 2. Workshop plan

Getting started

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# **WORKSHOP PLAN**

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- Create Scalar book
- Import media and content
- Craft alternative narrative structures
- Add design & visualization elements

# scalar.usc.edu/scalar/

scalar.usc.edu

Sign in

Sign up

12

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# **3. ADDING CONTENT**

http://scalar.usc.edu/works/guide2/working-with-media http://scalar.usc.edu/works/guide2/working-with-content

13

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# **ADDING CONTENT**

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- Import some media files
- Annotate media files
- Create a new page
- Embed media files and annotations
- Experiment with layouts

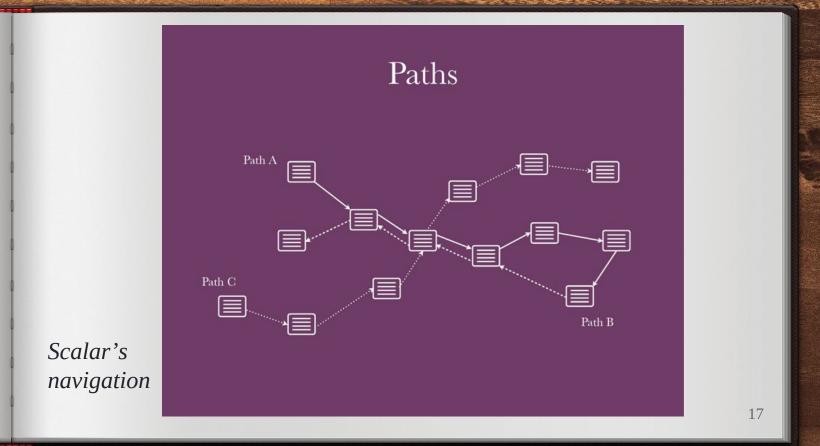
# 4. CONNECTING CONTENT

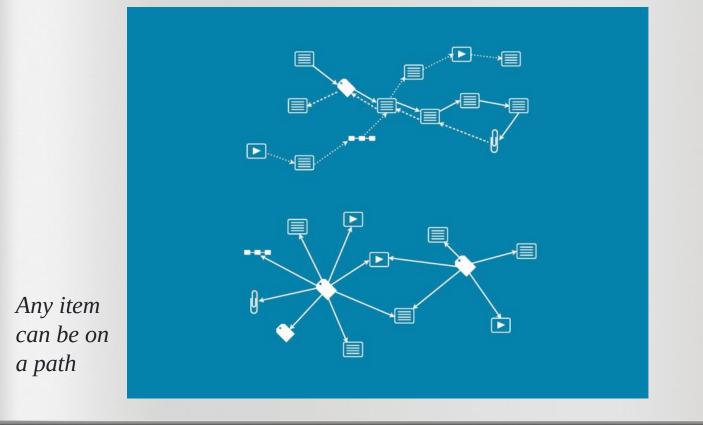
http://scalar.usc.edu/works/guide2/working-with-structure

15

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# 5. DESIGN & VISUALIZE

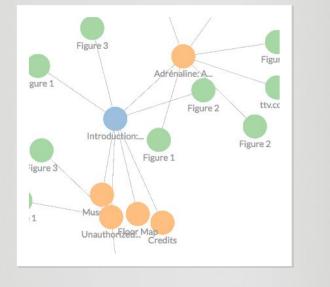
http://scalar.usc.edu/works/guide2/visualizations

19

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# **VISUALIZE RELATIONSHIPS**

Scalar provides many ways of visualizing the materials and connections you've made in your book.



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# **VISUALIZE RELATIONSHIPS**

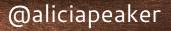
- Hover over compass icon (top left)
- Select "Visualizations"

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- Select a visualization type
- Explore your connections!

# **DESIGNING YOUR BOOK**

- Create a book cover:
  - Go to your site's home page
  - Select edit (pencil icon)
  - Under "layout" select "book splash"
    - Under "styling" select "key image" & add your desired image



# **LET'S REVIEW**

#### **Add Media**

With Scalar you can import media found online, from partners, or on your computer.

#### **Annotate Media**

Adding rich, scholarly and creative annotations to media enriches readers' experiences.

### **Craft Pages**

Scalar offers many different ways of displaying the relationships between text and media.

#### **Connect Objects**

Scalar allows for traditional and non-traditional structures of navigating content that better reflect scholarly arguments.

#### **Design Book**

Good design adds to the authority and accessibility of your site.

#### **Visualize Connections**

Using JavaScript's D3 library, Scalar builds in several different ways of visualizing your content.

23

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# **GET HELP**

Scalar 2 Guide Free Webinars DH Slack



24

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# CREDITS

This deck created from a free template by <u>SlidesCarnival</u>. Non-screenshot photographs by <u>Unsplash</u>.

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