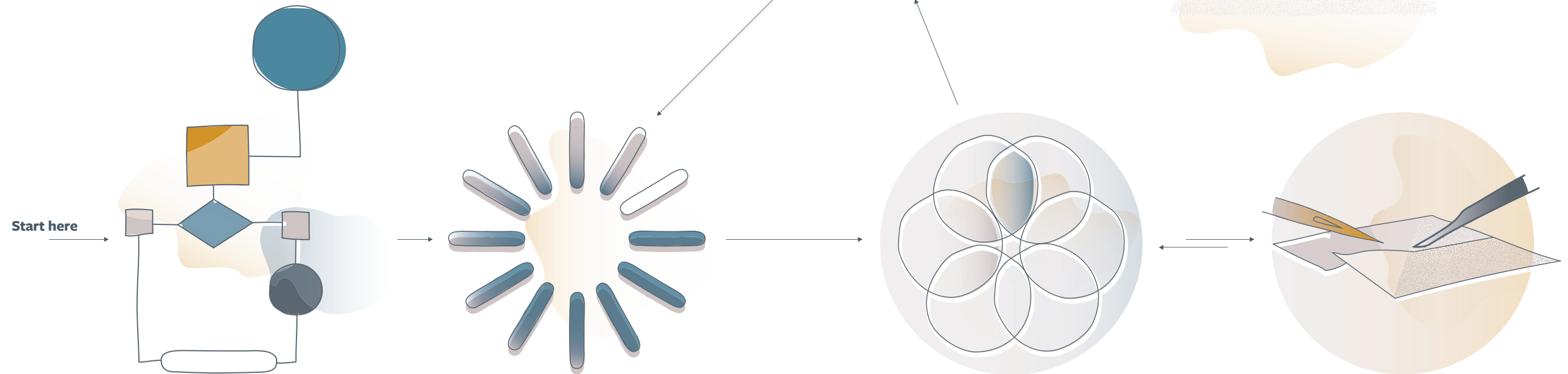


A BOOK'S LIFE

STORY BY TOR HAUGAN

At the UC Berkeley Library, each book goes on a grand journey before making its way into a user's hands or onto their screen. Not all paths are the same, but the goal is — to preserve knowledge and share it with scholars now and into the future. The process outlined below isn't comprehensive: It focuses on print books and books digitized from those volumes, which we have by the collective millions. Here's a closer look at the life cycle of a book, from selection to circulation, and from paper to pixels.



SELECTION AND ACQUISITION

Expert librarians thoughtfully select books, old and new, across a variety of subjects and disciplines.

PROCESSING AND CATALOGING

Next, books are organized and described. This helps users find them in UC Library Search, the University of California libraries' online catalog.

ACCESS, DISCOVERY, AND SHARING

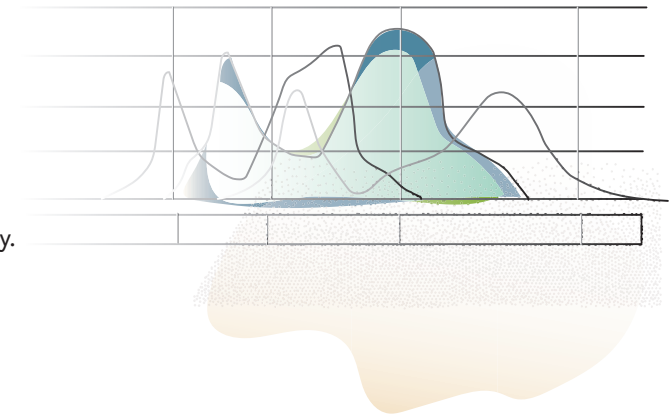
Print books are then shelved, and digitized books are put online. Both can be found on UC Library Search. Books are shared with scholars and institutions around the world, including through open access.

PRESERVATION

Print books are carefully repaired and preserved, and digitized books are placed in repositories. This ensures they can be used by scholars for generations to come.

DIGITIZATION

Books are selected for digitization based on need and usage. Digitized books undergo additional metadata processing to enhance discovery.



To learn how you can provide support for Berkeley's scholarly resources at every step of their life cycle, contact the Library Development Office at 510-642-9377 or give@library.berkeley.edu.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY AISHA HAMILTON