MCP SERVER | NO CODE | CLOUD HOSTED

Open Library MCP

Access millions of book records from natural conversation.

Open Library provides direct access to one of the world's largest public book databases. Your AI agent can search millions of records for books by title or keyword, look up precise metadata using ISBN numbers (ISBN-10/ISBN-13), and list every work associated with a specific author key.

A+ Quality Score 100/100

books | library-catalog | metadata | isbn-lookup | authors | bibliography

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vinkius.com/mcp/open-library-alternative

SCAN TO VIEW

The connectivity layer between AI and the world's software.

Vinkius sits between AI and every application. All communication passes through Vinkius Cloud via the Model Context Protocol (MCP) — with governance, observability, and security at every layer.

Your AI Connections Run Through Vinkius Cloud

The world's largest managed MCP catalog

Vinkius is the connectivity layer where AI connects to the software your business already runs. We handle the hosting, the security, the credentials, the uptime — you get agents that actually do things.

We operate the world's largest managed MCP catalog. Major SaaS platforms, CRMs, databases, and cloud providers — running, monitored, production-ready. This MCP server is hosted and maintained by the Vinkius Cloud for AI Agents.

> *The agent doesn't manage credentials, doesn't manage uptime, doesn't manage security. Vinkius does.*
>
> — Architecture principle

Four Pillars of the Vinkius Runtime

01 — Security by design

Credentials stay encrypted at rest via AES-256. The AI agent never touches raw keys — they're injected into a sandboxed V8 isolate at runtime. Actions are logged, and connections have an emergency kill switch.

02 — Built on MCP Fusion

This MCP server was built with **MCP Fusion**, the open-source framework (Apache 2.0) that powers the entire Vinkius catalog. Schema-as-firewall strips undeclared fields, compiled PII redaction runs at zero overhead, and cryptographic lockfiles produce git-diffable audit trails.

03 — Deterministic observability

Eight immutable metrics per endpoint: request volume, p95 latency, error rate, active connections, cost attribution. A live payload feed logs every tool call with mutation detection.

04 — Autonomous operations

Servers are deployed, monitored, and patched autonomously. New capabilities and security patches ship weekly. Zero-downtime deployments ensure continuous availability across all managed MCP servers.

AES-256	Ed25519	24h TTL	V8 Isolate
Encryption at rest	PKI vault signatures	Ephemeral session keys	Sandboxed execution

One Token. Instant Access.

Every MCP server on Vinkius is accessed through a **Connection Token**. Tokens are generated in the cloud dashboard and produce a unique MCP endpoint URL. Paste this URL into any MCP-compatible client — no SDK required.

A single token can serve **multiple AI clients simultaneously**, or you can issue separate tokens per client for granular access control. Each token tracks its own request count, last activity timestamp, and can be individually enabled or revoked.

MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/{token}/mcp
```

Claude · Cursor · VS Code · Windsurf · Grok · Gemini

Security Is the Architecture

Security in Vinkius is not a feature — it's the foundation of the runtime. The gateway enforces multiple independent protection layers between AI agents and third-party APIs.

01 — Ed25519 PKI Vault

Every workspace has an Ed25519 Master Key. Session keys are generated ephemerally (24h TTL) and signed by the Master Key. Credentials never leave the vault boundary.

02 — V8 Isolate Sandboxing

Tool code runs inside isolated-vm V8 isolates with 64 MB memory caps and per-request timeouts. No filesystem access, no network access except through the SSRF-guarded fetch bridge.

03 — SSRF Guard

All outbound HTTP requests are DNS-resolved and validated before execution. Private IP ranges (10.x, 172.16-31.x, 192.168.x, AWS metadata 169.254.x) are blocked at the network layer.

04 — DLP & PII Redaction

A ResponseGuard pipeline intercepts every tool response. Configurable redaction patterns strip sensitive fields (emails, SSNs, card numbers) before data reaches the AI agent.

05 — Cryptographic Audit Trail

Every request is signed into a SHA-256 hash chain with Ed25519 signatures. Events form a tamper-proof, SIEM-exportable forensic record.

06 — Honeytoken Trap System

Phantom credentials are injected into isolated environments. If a honeytoken is used outside Vinkius infrastructure, the server is quarantined instantly.

Emergency Kill Switch

EU AI Act Art. 14(1) Compliant

The kill switch is an **emergency halt** mechanism — not a simple toggle. When triggered, it executes three actions atomically:

01 — Server deactivated

The MCP server is immediately taken offline across the entire cluster.

02 — All tokens revoked

Every connection token is invalidated. Total lockout — reconnection blocked until new tokens are issued.

03 — WebSocket connections killed

Active connections terminated via Redis pubsub broadcast. Propagates to every runtime node in the cluster.

Full Visibility. Zero Guesswork.

The Vinkius cloud dashboard includes a full MCP Governance suite — real-time analytics and security controls for production AI operations.

Control Plane

KPI dashboard with request volume, latency, success rate, token consumption, and AI-generated operational briefings.

Agent Activity

Which AI clients are connecting, how often, and what they're doing — real-time session tracking.

FinOps

Cost tracking per tool, payload compression savings, budget optimization signals, and consumption trends.

Tool Health

Slowest and most error-prone tools, with actionable root-cause insights and performance baselines.

Firewall & DLP

PII redaction activity, sensitive data protection counters, and security event timeline.

Incident Log

Error trends, failure rates, status-code breakdowns, and forensic audit trail access.

> Get started at **cloud.vinkius.com** — connect your AI agent in under 60 seconds.

Open Library MCP

3 tools available
Cloud-hosted on Vinkius

Need to verify publication details or build a knowledge base around classic literature? This MCP connects your agent directly to the Open Library database. You can ask it to search across millions of book records, pulling back detailed metadata for any title—things like subject matter and classification data. If you know an ISBN number, it pulls up all the specifics for that edition. Better yet, if you give it an author's name or key, your agent lists every single work they published, helping researchers build a complete bibliography instantly. When you connect this through Vinkius, your AI client acts less like a search engine and more like a specialized digital librarian, handling the data retrieval in natural conversation.

Core Capabilities

01 — Search books by keywords

Find book titles or authors using general search terms across millions of records.

02 — Retrieve details via ISBN lookup

Get precise publication metadata for a specific edition using either an ISBN-10 or ISBN-13 code.

03 — List all works by an author

Pull up a complete list of titles and editions published under a single author's key.

One Click on Vinkius — From Prompt to Execution

Available at **vinkius.com/mcp/open-library-alternative** — connect your AI agent in three steps.

01 Subscribe to this MCP on Vinkius. No API key is needed because it uses public access.

02 Connect your preferred AI client (Claude, Cursor, etc.) to the catalog.

03 Ask your agent a question like 'What are all the works by Jane Austen?' and get structured data back immediately.

The bottom line is you use natural conversation to query vast, structured library data without writing any code or dealing with API endpoints.

Built For

Bibliophiles, academic researchers, and content curators need this. If your job involves tracking down obscure publications, verifying publication history, or building a detailed catalog of authors, this MCP is essential.

Academic Researcher

Needs to verify the exact publication date and subject matter for multiple sources quickly. They use it to build comprehensive bibliographies that can't be found via a general web search.

Content Curator/Writer

Requires historical accuracy when writing about literature, using ISBN lookups to pull verified data points and citation details for articles or books.

Library Cataloging Specialist

Manages collections by pulling up complete lists of works for an author key and checking metadata across editions to ensure consistency in a database.

What Changes When You Connect

01 Instead of sifting through search engine results, you ask your agent to list all works by a specific author using `get_author_works`. You get the full bibliography instantly, saving hours of manual cross-referencing.

02 When dealing with physical copies or academic citations, use `get_book_by_isbn` to pull verified metadata. This tool confirms page counts and subjects for an exact edition, eliminating guessing games.

03 If you need a general starting point, the `search_books` function lets you query millions of records using keywords. It's perfect for initial research when you only know a vague title or topic.

04 The MCP pulls structured data on publication dates and classification details that standard search tools bury under layers of ads and unrelated links.

05 It works with any compatible client, meaning whether you're coding in Cursor or analyzing documents in Claude, the library data is available through your agent.

Real-World Applications

Verifying a citation for a journal article

A researcher needs to confirm if a secondary source cited the correct edition of an early 20th-century novel. They prompt their agent, asking it to use `get_book_by_isbn` with the provided ISBN. The agent confirms the publication details and subject matter, saving them from publishing a flawed citation.

Building an author portfolio for a client

A literary agent needs to quickly assemble a comprehensive list of all available works by a major author. They tell their agent to run `get_author_works` on the author's key, receiving a complete, structured catalog they can immediately present.

Identifying obscure book editions

A collector finds an old book with no title printed and only an ISBN. They use `get_book_by_isbn` to identify the exact publication details, confirming if it's a rare or common edition.

General literature research

A student is writing a paper on 'Victorian era travel narratives.' They prompt their agent using `search_books` with general keywords. The tool returns several candidate titles and allows the student to verify details for each one.

Patterns to Avoid

Searching via generic web search

✗ AVOID

A user types 'Books by Hemingway' into Google, getting a mix of Wikipedia pages, booksellers, and random articles. They waste time clicking through dozens of links to find the full bibliography.

✓ INSTEAD

Use this MCP instead. Tell your agent to run `get_author_works` on the author key for Hemingway. You get a clean, structured list of all known titles directly.

Relying on partial metadata

✗ AVOID

A user finds an old book listing online that only provides a vague title and publisher name, making it impossible to verify the edition or date.

✓ INSTEAD

If you have any ISBN number, use `get_book_by_isbn`. This tool retrieves precise metadata—including page count and subjects—for that specific published edition.

Confusing title search with author search

✗ AVOID

A user searches for a book by keyword (e.g., 'London'), but the results are too broad, mixing books about London with other unrelated items.

✓ INSTEAD

First, use `search_books` to narrow down potential titles. Then, if you get an author name from those results, run `get_author_works` to confirm they wrote it.

The Right Fit

Use this MCP if your task involves querying massive, structured datasets about publications, authorship, or literary history. If you need to verify publication details for a specific ISBN, use `get_book_by_isbn`. If your goal is to build an entire catalog of works by one person, run `get_author_works`. You should avoid this MCP if you simply want general internet information—like current news about authors or user reviews. For that, a standard search engine is faster. Also, don't try to use it for books published after the open library database was last updated; its data is historical and academic in nature.

Tracking down obscure book details feels like an archaeological dig.

Right now, verifying a citation means hopping between WorldCat, Google Books, and publisher sites. You copy-paste ISBNs into different forms; you click through pages of generic results just to confirm the publication date or subject matter. It's tedious, slow, and easy to get details wrong.

With this MCP, your agent handles it all. You simply ask for the book data, whether by title or by an existing ISBN. The system pulls structured records from millions of books instantly, giving you verified metadata in one clean response.

Open Library gives you complete author bibliographies.

Without this tool, listing all works by a major writer means running multiple searches and manually cross-referencing different databases to ensure you haven't missed a minor edition. It’s an administrative nightmare of tracking keys and dates.

Now, telling your agent to use `get_author_works` gives you the full picture immediately. You get every known work associated with that author key—period. No missing titles.

Open Library: 3 Tools for Book Data

Use these tools together to perform deep cataloging research, verifying book details and assembling bibliographies using natural language prompts.

#	TOOL	DESCRIPTION
01	`get_author_works`	Retrieves all known titles and editions associated with a specific author key.
02	`get_book_by_isbn`	Fetches full metadata, including publication details and subjects, using an ISBN-10 or ISBN-13 number.
03	`search_books`	Searches the database for books using keywords or title fragments.

See It in Action

Real prompts you can use once this MCP is connected to your AI agent through Vinkius Cloud.

U Search for books by J.R.R. Tolkien on Open Library.

Searching for Tolkien... I've found his major works including 'The Hobbit' and 'The Lord of the Rings' trilogy. I can provide the author key or list all specific editions for you.

U Get details for the book with ISBN '9780141182704'.

Retrieving book data... This ISBN corresponds to 'The Great Gatsby' (Modern Classics edition) published by Penguin. I have information on its page count, subjects, and available formats.

U Find the author ID for 'Gabriel García Márquez'.

Searching for the author... Gabriel García Márquez has the unique key 'OL23714A' in the Open Library database. I can now list all his works, such as 'One Hundred Years of Solitude'.

Frequently Asked Questions

01 **How do I find a book using Open Library instead of ISBN?**

You can use the `search_books` tool by providing keywords or a title fragment to search across millions of records. This is helpful when you don't have an exact identifier.

02 **Does Open Library support current bestsellers?**

No, this MCP draws from the open library database, which contains historical and established academic works rather than real-time sales data or currently trending books.

03 **What is the difference between `get_author_works` and searching by title?**

`get_author_works` gives you a list of everything published under an author's key, regardless of the title. Searching by title only finds books matching that specific keyword or name.

04 **Can I use Open Library for modern academic texts?**

While it covers many classic works and established authors, its primary focus is on historical bibliography and well-cataloged library records. Always verify the expected publication date before relying on the data.

05 **Do I need an API key to use Open Library?**

No, you don't. The MCP uses public access credentials for querying the global book data, so no personal keys are needed to connect your agent.

Go Live in 60 Seconds

Get your connection token from **cloud.vinkius.com**, then paste the endpoint URL into any MCP-compatible client.

YOUR MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/[TOKEN]/mcp
```

CLIENT	WHERE TO CONFIGURE
Claude AI	Profile → Customize → Connectors → "+" → Add custom connector → Paste endpoint
Cursor	Settings → Features → MCP Servers → "+ Add New MCP Server" → Type: SSE → Paste endpoint
VS Code	Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+P → "MCP: Add Server" → add `"open-library-alternative": { "url": "…" }`
Windsurf	MCP Settings → `mcp_settings.json` → Add endpoint URL
ChatGPT	Settings → Tools & plugins → Add MCP server → Paste endpoint
Gemini	Extensions → Add MCP Server → Paste endpoint URL

ASK AN AI ABOUT THIS

Let your preferred AI explain this MCP server

- Ask ChatGPT
- Ask Claude
- Ask Perplexity
- Ask Gemini
- Ask Grok

READY TO CONNECT

Open Library is live on Vinkius Cloud.

Get your connection token, paste it into your AI agent, and start building. No SDK. No deployment. Just results.

Start at cloud.vinkius.com →

vinkius.com · support@vinkius.com

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