

From: Carla Norton [mailto:cjnorton[REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 9:31 AM
To: Read, John
Subject: the reading public

Dear Mr. Read:

For an author, watching the battle between Amazon, Apple, and the Big Six publishers is like watching your children fight. You cringe and wince at every blow, because your greatest desire is that they all thrive.

A recent article in *The New Yorker* quotes, Tim Wu, a senior advisor to the Federal Trade Commission, as asking: "Is protecting booksellers worth it if consumers are paying more?"

But how does one measure this cost when not all consumers own an e-reader? Many bibliophiles will never use one. For much of the reading public, a library or the local bookstore is their primary source for books.

No one is worried about Amazon failing. Amazon is a thrilling success. But Amazon is an online dealer, and not all consumers search for books online. Humans need more than just the digital experience, and if the DOJ's mandate is to protect consumers, please consider that this protection must equally extend to readers who rely upon traditional brick-and-mortar bookstores.

Sincerely,

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