

Bill Eidson
Freelance Writer

7 Muzzey Street, 2nd Floor, Lexington, MA 02421 T 781 652-0320 M 617 852-3122 bde@dsr

B. Eidson.com

May 8, 2012

RECEIVED *km*

MAY 29 REC'D 2012

LITIGATION III, ANTITRUST DIV.
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

John R. Read
Chief, Litigation III Section
United States Department of Justice
450 5th St NW
Suite 4000
Washington DC 20530

Dear Mr. Read,

I write to you a novelist with eight books in print, which are soon to be available as e-books. I firmly oppose the proposed settlement between the Justice Department and three publishers with respect to e-book pricing.

I believe readers, writers and the general public benefit when there is a healthy competitive literary marketplace. This settlement will allow artificially low pricing that threatens the world of writing, publishing and bookselling and will ultimately have a devastating effect on the choices available to book consumers.

I urge you to reject the proposed settlement and allow the market to return to one that protects the writer's intellectual property from unfair and predatory discounting. This will protect and encourage broader competition among all booksellers, will allow the consumer the protection of a range of choices in format, price, and retailer, and will encourage digital innovation in the burgeoning field of e-book publishing and retailing.

Best regards,



Bill Eidson