

From: [Janice Trecker](#) [Halfyan[REDACTED]]
To: [Read, John](#) [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: proposed ebook settlement
Date: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 10:01:53 AM

Dear Mr. Read,

As a long time author of many published novels and non-fiction works, I hope that the Department of Justice will revisit its recent proposal on ebooks. While Amazon and other online outlets have opened the way for many more writers to be published in one form or another, Amazon's pricing of books from traditional publishers seriously undercuts the potential profits of most writers. Big name authors will do all right in any system. Less popular, more quirky or, dare I say, more unusual and original works may still be published but without much ability to earn enough money to sustain their authors.

Furthermore, while it is hard to weep for the chain bookstores, which, after all, squeezed out the traditional local bookstores, actual stores where people can examine and purchase books at a fair price are still important to writers, readers, and the general culture.

Even if the agency model was collusion to restrict trade by keeping prices higher, I fail to see how Amazon's top to bottom monopoly does not come under the same scrutiny. Perhaps both systems should be examined and if they are, I hope that the interests of the writers, as well as the consumers, will be considered, for unless writers can expect a reasonable return on their efforts our cultural landscape will be the poorer.

Sincerely,
Janice Law (Trecker)

[jolt4](#)[REDACTED]

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Blood in the Water available from www.wildsidebooks.com