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Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 11:02 AM
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Subject: Agency pricing and bookstores

Amazon controls a huge percentage of the book market. If we want a strong, well-read, diversified population, we need more than one option for book purchasing.

Brick and mortar stores, with their handselling staff versed in so many kinds of books, are a fantastic way for people to find things they might otherwise lose. Amazon, with its click here and get something exactly the same, is not. Their predatory pricing, which allows them to take a loss to grow their business, is terrible. They've even invented an app that will let someone find a book at a bookstore, tell Amazon the price and then give Amazon the option to beat that price. How is that a fair business practice?

A healthy book market depends on diversity, not a one-source, one size fits all option. And if Amazon is the only choice, how many books will never be presented to the public at large?

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