

From: Phyllis Humphrey [mailto:phumphr[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2012 3:04 PM
To: Read, John
Subject: U.S. versus Apple, etc.

Dear Mr. Read:

I am a writer who, during some 35 years, has been published by traditional publishers, as well as - recently - Amazon and Smashwords. I also read everything I can find about the entire book publishing business and especially the DOJ suit about possible collusion among publishers. I do not know if they were guilty of collusion, but my experience leads me to believe they were. They were out-performed by Amazon and took that means to try to kill the giant, Amazon, who did nothing illegal.

As for the settlement, I am not a lawyer and the fine points of the details are unclear to me, but what I do know is that the Agency model is unfair to authors and reduces their income. Neither the Writers Guild nor the Assoc of authors agents speak for me, or for the thousands of writers who have been unfairly treated before Amazon. I therefore urge you to abolish the agency pricing system and add whatever sanctions necessary to protect authors' rights in this matter.

Sincerely,
Phyllis A. Humphrey