Copyright and Access in the Remote Digital Era

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My Two Other Organizations (Grant Funded)

Two distinct non-profit organizations operating for the technologypositive future of America's libraries.



Library Futures Institute is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization building a coalition and community that empowers libraries to take control of their digital futures. **(Part of NYU Law)**



EBOOK STUDY GROUP

eBook Study Group is a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization focusing on legislative change and policy.

Last 3+ Years: Library Pandemic Narrative

- Many libraires and institutions were closed can't perform normal functions, operations, programs
- Legally acquired works were "trapped" in libraires (estimated 650+ million)
 - No physical access
 - No ILL, Document Delivery
 - No Reserves
 - No reading books aloud (!)
- Digital access required permission or licensing only.
- Print had no value (yet libraires and archives spent millions on collections to share)

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Hachette Book Group, Inc. v. Internet Archive, 1:20-cv-04160 (S.D.N.Y 2020)













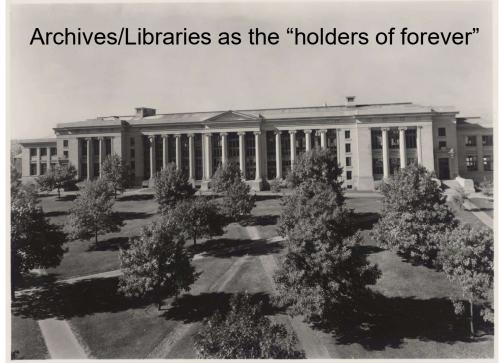
Despite closures, digital libraries were always "open".....

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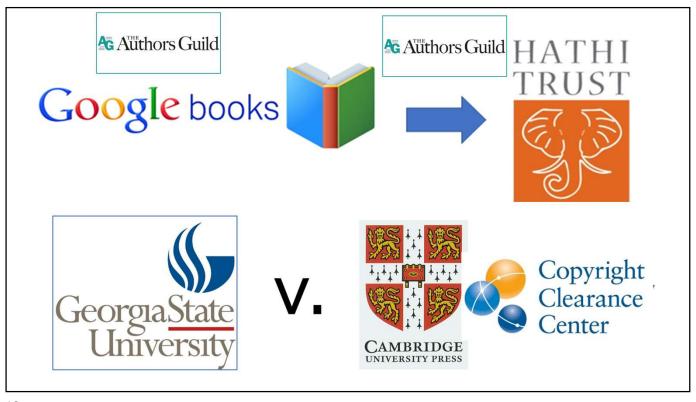
All things good on this Earth flow into the [libraries], because of the [libraries'] greatness.

- Pericles, Athenian Mayor



Harvard University, Harvard University Archives, W291208_1

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Other areas where attempts were made to curtail the ability to *access collections* (physcial and digtial)

- Interlibrary Loan
- Photocopiers in libraires
- Open Access
- eReserves
- Increasing Digital Access for the Print Disabled
- Text and Data Mining
- Controlled Digital Lending
- The Right to Borrow Books*

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Paper now in press: https://bit.ly/PubPlaybook

The Publisher Playbook: A Brief History of the Publishing Industry's Obstruction of the Library Mission



Citation

Courtney, Kyle K. and Juliya Ziskina. 2023. "The Publisher Playbook: A Brief History of the Publishing Industry's Obstruction of the Library Mission." Pre-print.

Abstract

Libraries have continuously evolved their ability to provide access to collections in innovative ways. Many of these advancements in access, however, were not achieved without overcoming serious resistance and obstruction from the rightsholder and publishing industry. The struggle to maintain the library's access-based mission and serve the public interest began as early as the late 1800s and continues through today. We call these tactics the "publishers' playbook." Libraries and their readers have routinely engaged in lengthy battles to defend the ability for libraries to fulfill their mission and serve the public good. The following is a brief review of the times and methods that publishers and rightsholder interests have attempted to hinder the library mission. This pattern of conduct, as reflected in ongoing controlled digital lending litigation, is not unexpected and belies a historical playbook on the part of publishers and rightsholders to maximize their own profits and

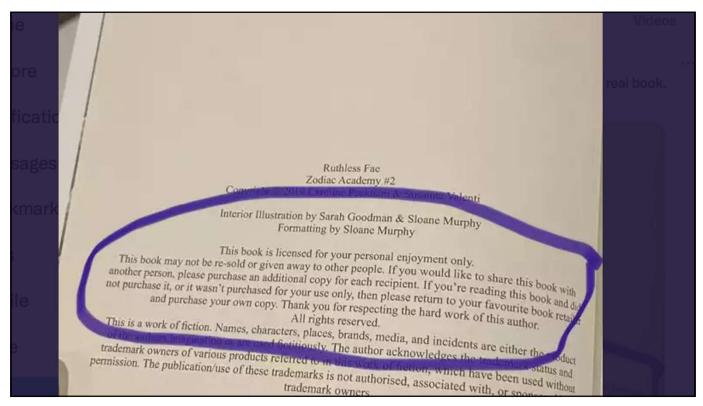
would you like to liave that passing hours are as home

A cruder method was to reframe as theft what had long been understood as sociable sharing. In 1931, Bernays launched a contest "to look for a pejorative word for the book borrower, the wretch who raised hell with book sales and deprived authors of earned royalties." Entries included "book weevil," "borrocole," "libracide," "booklooter," "bookbum," "bookkibitzer," "culture vulture," "greeper," "bookbummer," "bookaneer," "blifter," "biblioacquisiac," "book buzzard," and "greader." "22

In the new division of labor that Cold War publishers

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Welcome bookaneers & book weevils!



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I reject the [out-of-control] licensing culture

I reject devaluation of the significant legal and economic value in our collections

I reject excessively narrow fair use and other legal analysis

I reject fear of technology preventing legitimate legal sharing within our non-profit, educational, research, access-based mission I embrace fair use's flexibility as a right

I promote open licensing culture (*but I do not need a license for everything)

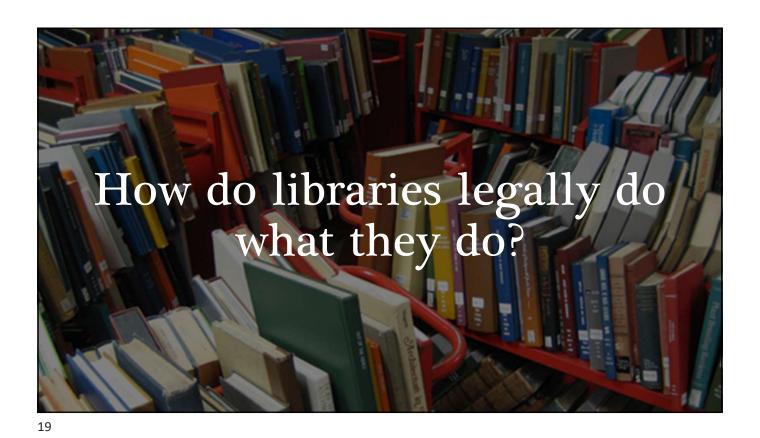
I encourage use of library and archive's federal copyright "superpowers" (§108 and more....)

I support copyright's real public purpose: "to promote the progress of science and the useful arts..."

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What can we do to increase access and the ability to share our collections with our patrons in the present?



U.S. Law Example:

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.

Article 1, Section 8
The Constitution of the United States



1790: "An Act for the Encouragement of Learning...."

Google LLC v. Oracle America, Inc., 593 U.S. ____ (2021)

"....to allow enforcement of Oracle's copyright here would <u>risk harm to the public</u>."

"To that extent, the [Oracle] lock would interfere with, not further, copyright's basic creativity objectives."

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Libraries and archives sit right in the middle of the economic purpose of copyright (we acquire the materials!) and the public benefit purpose of copyright (we share the materials!)







Issues with digitizing and providing access to our current collections

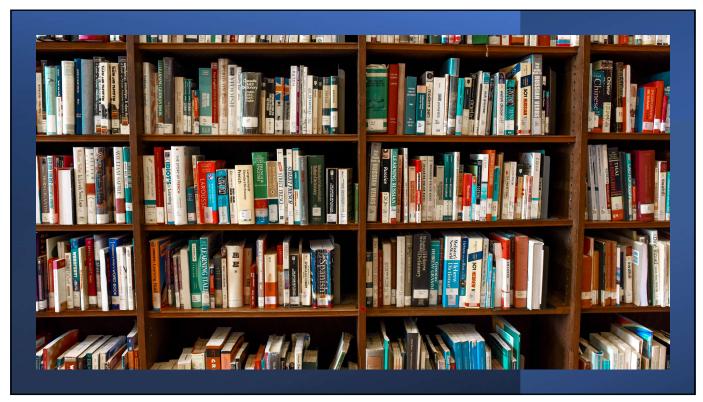
Issues with digitizing and providing access to our future collections

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Exclusive Rights Under © (§106)

- 1) to reproduce the work
- 2) to prepare derivative works
- 3) to distribute copies of the work
- 4) to perform the work publicly
- 5) to display the work publicly





Increasing Access with Copyright

First, maybe put <u>all</u> the public domain materials online?

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Public Domain Exists...

- U.S. published works (prior to Jan. 1, 1928)*
- U.S. government works
 - Most other governments copyright their work
- Things that are <u>not</u> copyrightable
 - Rulers, height charts, data, calendars, etc.

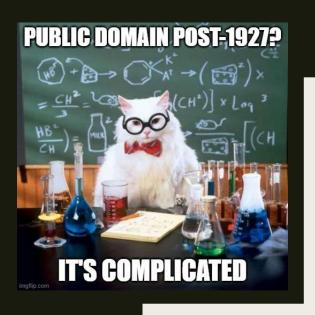








In the U.S. there is the wonderful realm of 1928 to 1978....



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Increasing Access with Non-Exclusive Licensing

Increasing Access w/ Policy

 Donors, faculty, students, any creators can grant non-exclusive rights to library in their materials

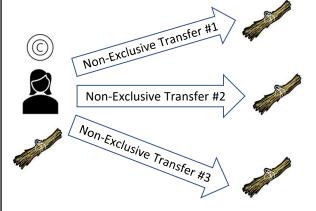
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Non-exclusive Licensing Copyright Law 17 USC § 205(e):

A **nonexclusive license**, whether recorded or not, **prevails** over a conflicting transfer of copyright ownership if the license is evidenced by a **written instrument signed by the owner** of the rights licensed or such owner's duly authorized agent, and if—

- (1) the license was taken before execution of the transfer; or
- (2) the license was taken in good faith before recordation of the transfer and without notice of it.

17 USC § 205(e) allows non-exclusive copyright transfer via license, contract, or agreement



Non-exclusive rights are not limited or restricted to one party

Granting non-exclusive rights still enables a copyright holder to grant or assign rights elsewhere

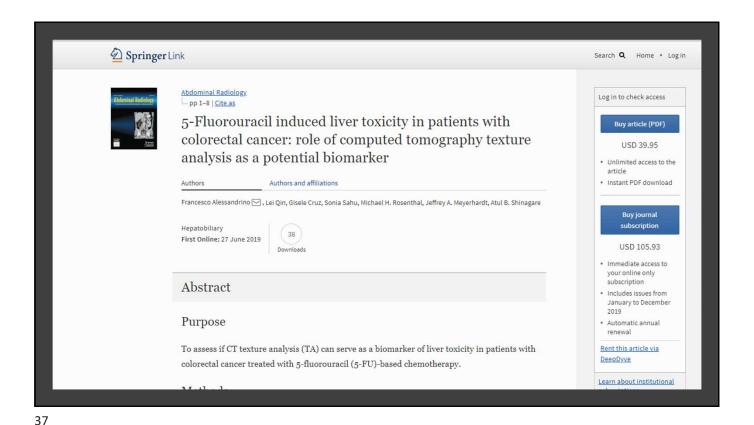
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Non-Exclusive Rights Increasing Access

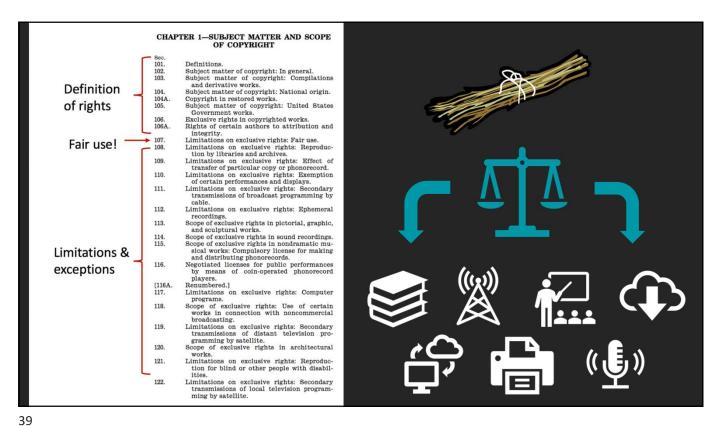
Exclusive Rights: one party controls

Non-exclusive rights: shared rights

- Provides library w/ rights to "do our job"
- Empowers open access
- Share with repositories
- Publish "openly licensed"
- Contracts with publishers







Statutory Copyright Exceptions

- Many statutory exceptions allow anyone to exercise one (or all) of the exclusive rights of the copyright "bundle"
 - without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner
 - without the payment of any license fee



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"Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106...the fair use of a copyrighted work...for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, or research" is not an infringement of copyright.

Fair Use, 17 U.S.C. §107





"Notwithstanding the exclusive rights of the owners of copyright," section 108 provides that, under certain conditions, it is not an infringement of copyright for a library or archives, or any of their employees acting within the scope of their employment, to reproduce or distribute works....

Libraries and Archives, 17 U.S.C. §108

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Section 108 Preservation Serving to Increase Access

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Fair use is for everyone, but §108 is only for libraires and archives

§108 manifests Congress' intent to support library and archive work:

Copy, digitize, transform, reproduce, and replicate to serve the greater mission: preservation and access to our culture

Whether it's law, textbooks, poetry, manuscripts, art, music, software, and more!

Also: §108 is the engine behind document delivery, preservation, & interlibrary loan

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Section 108 Pandemic Lesson?

There are very generous rights available to libraires and archives to digitize and distribute works.

Section 108: A Test & Three Buckets









Library Test

 Qualifications for relying on Section 108

Save It!

- Preservation
- Published & Unpublished
- Sharing

The Scholar's Delight

- Document Delivery
- Interlibrary Loan

"Get Out of Jail Free"

 Share the "Last 20 Years" of Works

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Save It!

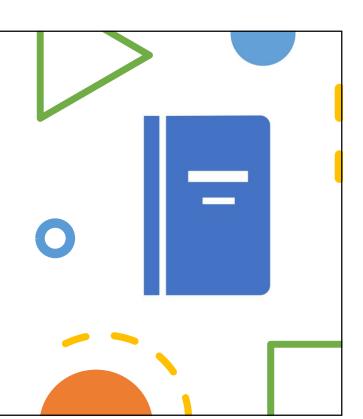
...and share it?

Sections 108(b) & (c)



Unpublished Works [Section 108(b)]

108(b) outlines the conditions for making up to three preservation copies of unpublished materials that are rare, unique, hazard of loss, and can't be replaced on open market



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Unpublished Works [Section 108(b)]

The following conditions must be met:

- §108(b) The copy is **solely for preservation** or security purposes (or for deposit at another library for research); and....
- §108(b)(1) The work is **currently in the collection** of the library making the copy.
- If one of the **copies is digital**, however, that copy may "not [be] made available to the public in that format outside the premises of the library or archives."

Published Works [Section 108(c)]

Up to three copies of a <u>published work</u> may be reproduced solely for the purpose of **replacing a copy** that:



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Published Works [Section 108(c)]

- §108(c) The original work is damaged, deteriorating, lost, stolen, or in a format that has become obsolete and...
- §108(c)(1) The library or archive has, after a reasonable effort, determined that an **unused replacement** cannot be obtained at a **fair price**; and...
- §108(c)(2) access to the **digital copy** must be limited to the "premises of the library or archives" language

A library or archive serving the digital copy through the lens of "premises of the library or archives" language?

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Sharing beyond the "premises of the library or archives?"

- Digital unpublished copies §108(b): "is not made available to the public in that format outside the premises of the library or archives."
- Digital published copies § 108(c): "is not made available to the public in that format outside the premises of the library or archives...."

(*And access to digital copies still could be utilized under a fair use analysis.)

Pandemic Access Lesson?

The "made available to the public...outside the premises of the library or archives" interpretation has been informed by the statute's language, affirmed by community practice, and advanced by the technology available

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Increasing Access Now

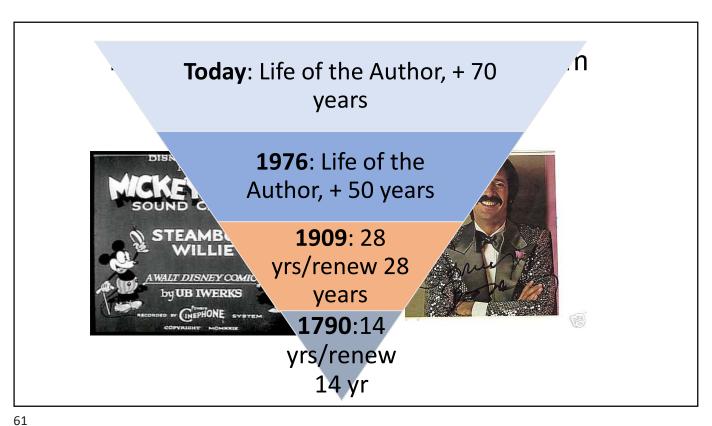
"Get Out of Jail Free"

§108(h): Last 20 Years



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The little used and mysterious §108 (h)

- Libraries may share copies of digitized works that are in the last 20 years of their copyright term.
- **Test:** Libraries should make a reasonable effort to determine that:
 - the work is not subject to normal commercial exploitation,
 - a copy cannot be obtained at a reasonable price, and
 - the copyright holder has not **filed notice** with the Register of Copyrights that either of the above conditions apply.

Section 108(h) Collections?



Modern Digital Access

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Exclusive Rights Under © (§106)

- 1) to reproduce the work
- 2) to prepare derivative works
- 3) to distribute copies of the work*
- 4) to perform the work publicly
- 5) to display the work publicly



"Notwithstanding" **section 106(3)** "the **owner of a particular copy** or phonorecord lawfully made under this title is entitled, <u>without the authority of the copyright</u>

<u>owner</u>, to sell or otherwise dispose of the possession of that copy"

First Sale, 17 U.S.C. §109

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First Sale Doctrine (§109)

- §109(a) does not require a **sale** it refers only to a copy being "lawfully made under this title"
 - "exhaustion" is the better description
- For a library, archives, museum, or other cultural institutions?
 - Purchases, donations, acquisitions, bequeathments, etc.

First Sale Doctrine

- Entire industries and enterprises are built upon the first sale rights
 - Libraries are permitted to lend copies of printed books that they acquired to patrons
 - Used CD/Record/Book stores sell copyrighted protected works in stores
 - eBay relies on this provision when it permits users to sell copyrighted protected works through its site



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A familiar system?

One acquired copy
Checked out to one person at a time
Limited time period, returned
Made available to next person

Repeat

[Without permission from, or more fees paid to, the © holder]

Book Loaning Workflow

One acquired copy
Checked out to one person at a time
Limited time period, returned
Made available to next person
Repeat

[Without permission from, or more fees paid to, the © holder]

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Reserves Workflow

One acquired copy
Checked out to one person at a time
Limited time period, returned
Made available to next person

Repeat

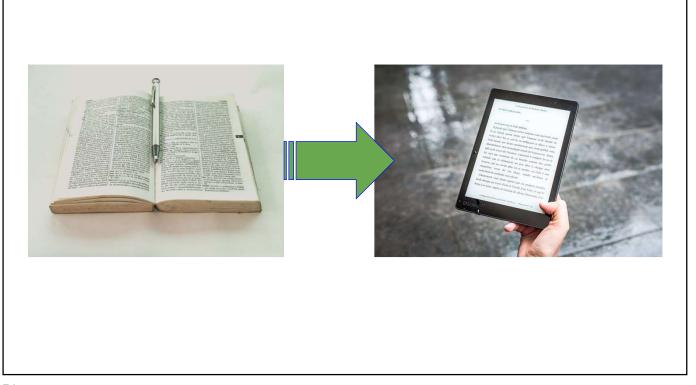
[Without permission from, or more fees paid to, the © holder]

Interlibrary Loan Workflow

One acquired copy
Checked out to one person at a time
Limited time period, returned
Made available to next person
Repeat

[Without permission from, or more fees paid to, the © holder]

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HarperCollins' 26-checkout limit on libraries' ebooks starts today

MARCH 7, 2011 | 2:00 PM



Macmillan Announces Two-Month Embargo on Library Ebooks

by Matt Enis
Jul 25, 2019 | Filed in News



Following a year-long test with its Tor imprint, Macmillan today announced a two-month embargo on sales of new ebook titles to libraries across all of its imprints. Under the new terms,



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DPLA Agreement Makes Amazon Publishing Ebooks and Audiobooks Available to Libraries

by Matt Enis May 25, 2021 | Filed in News

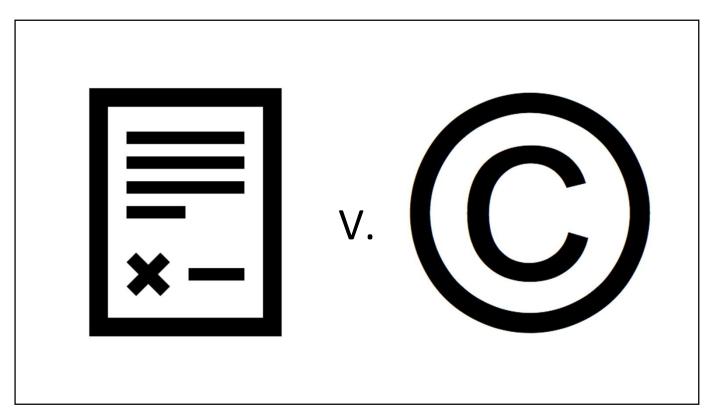


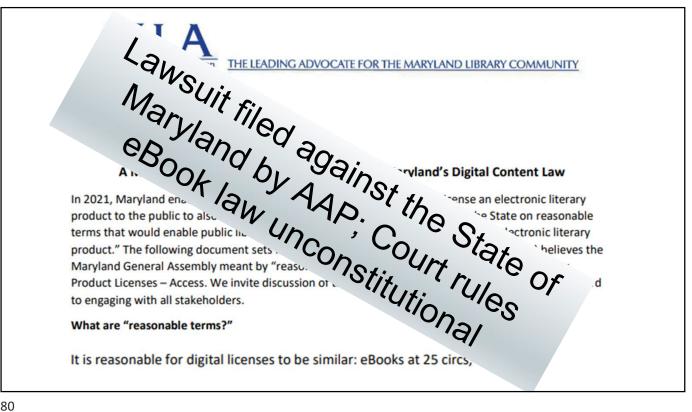
On May 18, Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) signed an <u>agreement with Amazon Publishing</u> that will make all of the latter's 10,000 ebooks and audiobooks available to libraries via the DPLA Exchange content marketplace. Like all content licensed through the DPLA Exchange, patrons will be able to access Amazon Publishing titles through the library-developed SimplyE e-reader app. This is the first time that ebooks and audiobooks from Amazon Publishing have been made available to libraries.

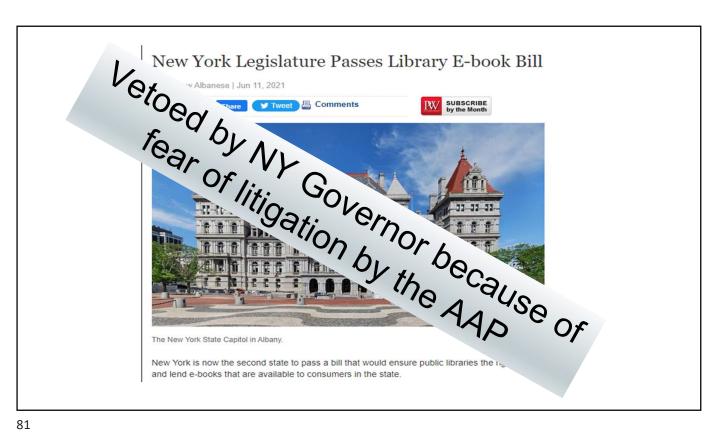


Beginning this summer, Amazon Publishing titles will be available through four licensing models, according to a DPLA announcement:

- · Unlimited, one user at a time access, two-year license
- Bundles of 40 lends, available with a maximum of 10 simultaneously, with no time limit on use
- · Bundles of five lends, available simultaneously, with no time limit on use
- 26 lends, one user at a time access, for the lesser of two years or 26 lends







Library Futures Ebook Bills are on the Move



Library Futures Releases
Policy Statement and Draft
eBook Legislative Language:
Mitigating the Library eBook
Conundrum Through
Legislative Action in the
States



Librarians and Lawmakers Push for Greater Access to E-Books

STATELINE ARTICLE September 6, 2022 By: Caitlin Dewey Read time: 6 min

If we don't act, end result? Libraries turn into Netflix.

Rent/lease eBook materials; we don't own them; we can't keep them.

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How can libraires prevent "swapping out the library card for a credit card?"



Copyright and Access in the Remote Digital Era

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