PAMAILALL

on behalf of

Cathi Alloway

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Macmillan publishing has announced a new restriction on library purchases of their e-books. Under the new model, a library may purchase **one** copy upon release of a new title in ebook format, **after which the publisher will impose an eight-week embargo on additional copies** of that title sold to libraries.

[http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2019/07/ala-denounces-new-macmillan-library-lending-model-urges-library-customers](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ala.org%2Fnews%2Fpress-releases%2F2019%2F07%2Fala-denounces-new-macmillan-library-lending-model-urges-library-customers&data=02%7C01%7Cbarowichc%40einetwork.net%7C30db48316dac4312b61c08d7113a1fdb%7C37ded2a5c343481abc297a4ff68f56a2%7C0%7C0%7C636996813688612317&sdata=dBoIPPy2bObfO%2BtFDoG42mYNJnqbvte2BMdNVpA7lWc%3D&reserved=0)

This summer, our library staff has been horrified at the new wave of e-book price hikes and licensing restrictions.  Please join ALA and those of us who are dismayed by these developments, which hurt authors, libraries, and citizens alike.   Below is my email of protest to Macmillan and hope the rest of you will write, too (see the link above for ALA's request for action).  "Happy Reading and Writing" (sarcastic tone!)

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*To John Sargent, CEO, Macmillan Publishers,**press.inquiries@macmillan.com*

I can't believe my eyes.  I have just read that Macmillan is implementing an eight-week embargo on sales of additional copies of new e-books to libraries.

For over forty years, I have been in the library business.  I can give you COUNTLESS stories of how LIBRARIES have **built the audiences** for authors and publishing houses.  People often "test" out writers by borrowing books at libraries.  When they like something, they then buy that writer's subsequent books...buy copies for friends and family...encourage their book club members to purchase the titles...and so on.  Libraries don't hurt book sales - they BUILD sales.

The current wave of restrictions and price gouging on library e-book purchasing is counter to the American tradition of public libraries and education open to all.  The discriminatory library pricing and licensing furthers income and education inequities in this country.   Publishers are now punishing citizens of limited means who come to libraries for education and entertainment that provides them with knowledge, skills, and personal strength.  Companies are also hurting writers by depriving them of the marketing power of libraries, who recommend and promote authors with great authority and influence in their communities.

Personally, as someone who is known for giving tens of books as holiday gifts, I assure you I will boycott new publications from your publishing house and lines until you reconsider this unfair scheme that will ultimately hurt writers and readers alike.  Our library book selectors are likely to do the same.

Shame on Macmillan. Margaret Mitchell, Hugh Walpole, Rudyard Kipling, Christina Rossetti and your entire esteemed historic roll of authors are surely turning in their graves.

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**Cathi Alloway**

**Director**

[Schlow Centre Region Library](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.schlowlibrary.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbarowichc%40einetwork.net%7C30db48316dac4312b61c08d7113a1fdb%7C37ded2a5c343481abc297a4ff68f56a2%7C0%7C0%7C636996813688622316&sdata=IGmUSpY81Rc2DwpqTFogwPZE5mgAfKMCwQ5CWr1NAPQ%3D&reserved=0)

[*Hours and Location*](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.schlowlibrary.org%2Fcontact%2Fhours-location&data=02%7C01%7Cbarowichc%40einetwork.net%7C30db48316dac4312b61c08d7113a1fdb%7C37ded2a5c343481abc297a4ff68f56a2%7C0%7C0%7C636996813688622316&sdata=cgdakz9y5BJRYwG7ZMbRo29aZe%2FUzP%2Fl6TECCx3CbJs%3D&reserved=0)

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