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**Brilliant
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**BEST
BOOKS**

**SEPT
2022**

[CAROL ROMEO]



Contents

Editorial Board	2	Ashley Oliver	11
Carol Romeo	3	Snips from Publishers Weekly September 19, 2022 issue	12
Miami Book Fair	5	Marianna W. Albritton	14
Press Release	6	Snips from Publishers Weekly September 19, 2022 issue	15
Judy Prescott	7	Anita Kraal-Zuidema	16
Dale Peralez	8	Taylor Gase	17
Delores Dee Ray	9	Movie Treatment	18
In Depth Review	10	Bookstore Returnability Program	19

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Carol Romeo

Carol Romeo is an author, speaker, and a well-known experienced marriage and family therapist. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology and her master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Azusa Pacific University. Carol has a master's degree in Practical Ministry from Wagner Leadership Institute.

She is passionate about her goal to bring emotional, psychological, and spiritual healing to individuals, couples, and families.



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“While thinking about how I want to present myself and my works to you, I was reminded by the Lord that the contents of my books are really a journey. First of all, they are my journey. Each book describes my struggles during that part of my life and how the Lord healed, delivered me and ushered me into a new me. This is a process whose stages are dictated by Christ and Him alone. It is a process designed for each of us individually because He alone knows our needs and what we need from Him to transform us into the new whole persons we were meant to be.”

- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*

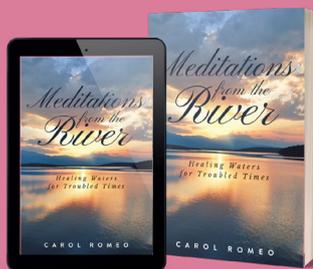
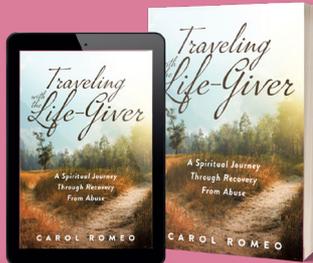
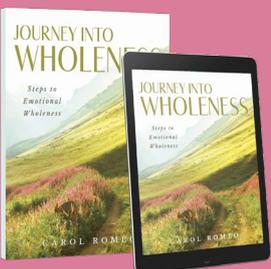
Advice to a writer working on first book: When you are beginning to write your first draft, don't pay attention to your spelling or grammar. It will only slow up or hinder your story-line. Pay attention to your audience. Write as though you are speaking directly to them and that will pull you out of your performance mode.

- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*

I have written five books. It is difficult to say which book I like the best because I pour myself into each book and become attached to my reader and what I am bringing to them. That process always brings me excitement. If I had to choose the book I like the best, it would be "Expect the Miraculous" because I love speaking about the wonders that God imparts to us.

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

What inspired the ideas for my books. I am inspired by God. He is always my Master Planner. Sometimes He gives me a prayer burden for a particular population and the issues they may be struggling with. Sometimes the inspiration comes directly from my life, my experiences, and the way in my experience impacted my life.



Miami Book Fair



Miami Book Fair began as a two-day event in November 1984, when a small group of determined individuals – including educators from Miami Dade College, independent booksellers, and librarians – founded Miami Book Fair International. In the nearly 40 years since, MBF has grown into one of the most significant cultural events in the region, the most comprehensively programmed book fair in the nation, and an internationally recognized model of excellence.

In 2020 MBF quickly reimagined and transitioned all programming online through an innovative new platform, MiamiBookFairOnline.com, built in record time to address pandemic-era shutdowns. That forever changed the way we Book Fair, and we now offer in-person and virtual programs as a hybrid entity. Today MBF is both an annual eight-day festival – typically featuring more than 500 authors, 200,000 attendees, 200+ national and international book exhibitors, and a robust schedule of literary, cultural, and educational events, supported by 1,000+ community volunteers – and a provider of a diverse slate of literary-centric programming year-round.

We are especially proud to have presented thousands of award-winning authors and thought leaders over the years, including Madeleine Albright, Isabel Allende, Dorothy Allison, Carol Anderson, James Baldwin, Russell Banks, David Brooks, President George W. Bush, Sandra Cisneros, Rita Dove, Jorge Edwards, Will Eisner, John Hope Franklin, Jonathan Safran Foer, Joy Harjo, Ibram X. Kendi, Jeff Kinney, Min Jin Lee, Frank McCourt, Toni

Morrison, President Barack Obama, Michael Ondaatje, Jason Reynolds, Esmeralda Santiago, Art Spiegelman, Amy Tan, Helen Thomas, Calvin Trillin, Zoé Valdés, Cornel West, Elie Wiesel, and George Will, among others.

Through our work and collaboration with like-minded community partners and stakeholders, MBF continues to recognize and support the critical value of the cultural arts as a tool for education, community development, establishing genuine connection and understanding, and enriching lives. We consistently strive to provide access to engaging and educational programs that foster lifelong positive impacts for children, adults, and communities, with a special emphasis on reaching those who are underserved and lacking in resources.

For eight days every November, Miami Book Fair presents a literary wonderland in person downtown as well as online, hosting hundreds of diverse, critically acclaimed authors; facilitating conversations about politics, pop culture, and all manner of impactful prose; lighting the fire of curiosity and creativity within children; and welcoming tens of thousands of fairgoers to embrace it all. In-person and virtual festival programs and events include, but are not limited to Author Conversations; IberoAmerican and ReadCaribbean author programs; our Generation Genius program encompassing GGA, the National Book Foundation Teen Press Conference, and Children's Alley; and Street Fair, where fairgoers can enjoy Off the Shelf and the MBF Marketplace.

Press Release

Why Press Releases are more important than ever:

Social media has quickly become an indispensable tool for authors. While many have figured out what it takes to drive a successful branding platform and social media campaign, an important component are press releases.

Social media has changed how people communicate around the globe. It's led political revolutions and even created pop culture phenomena. As businesses scramble to figure out how to harness the power of social media to reach new audiences, a familiar marketing tool—the press release—has now gained fresh purpose. Press releases have become a vital tool and more important than ever in successfully promoting your book. Find out how you can leverage press releases and specific content to help traditional publishers, film companies & Literary Agents learn more about your book.

The New Face of Public Relations

For most authors, public relations and social media marketing provide a solid foundation and baseline for brand awareness and general marketing campaigns. Before the advent of social media, authors had to go through a long and arduous process of contacting journalists who acted as gatekeepers.





Judy Prescott

I am a 65-year-old widow of 3 years, with two adult children and 5 grandsons, ranging from 15 years of age to 7 months old. I have lived in South Wales for 33 years now, but am originally from Bristol.

I first started writing in 2011, after contracting breast cancer and began tracing my family tree to occupy my mind. The discoveries of my grandparents (my grandfather' particularly) history, and surprises to my immediate family, started my writing of *Finding Harry - A True Love Story*. This was my first book.

Other books were to follow, namely

1. *Living for a Reason - A True Cancer Journey*
2. *Dolly Daydreamer*
3. *First Thoughts: Final Outcome*

The Other Suitcase, my 5th book, is due to be published on the 31st of August 2022. There are 3 others awaiting publication in the near hopeful future.

I enjoy traveling, when able to, and helping to take care of my grandsons.



- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*

I have written eight books, and currently I'm working on two others, slowly though I admit. My first book *Finding Harry - A True Love Story* has to be my favourite, closely followed by *It's Now or Never* (still in the process of publication) and *The Other Suitcase* (out now to purchase).

Finding Harry is about my grandparents' lives, and a unique story, so titled after finding my grandfather's roots and childhood history whilst recovering from breast cancer surgery. The discoveries of Harry's

past completely changed my outlook about the man himself, my grandfather.

A truly loveable character, Harry had no personal possessions at the end of his life journey, but his smile remained radiant and he was happy in his own world. Inspirational and compelling to read, a history lesson in the making, I felt Harry's story needed to be told.

Writing about Harry's death, on a park bench near the churchyard where Ada and his young daughter were buried, was heartfelt and emotional. It had tears streaming down my face as I typed the words. Maybe my grandfather was with me, telling me what to write!

The book is about my grandparents' lives-my grandfather, particularly. He was born in the workhouse and brought up by his grandparents after his mother married, when he was four years old. He joined the Army at twenty, shortly before meeting Ada, his wife. They were together for less than a month before he was posted to India and China, and he was away for six years. Ada died at thirty-eight. He lost his children to family members-all separated-and was left alone. He became a gentleman of the road and died at seventy-three on a park bench near the cemetery, where his wife and young daughter were buried.





Dale Peralez, a retired U.S. Navy SeaBee, has completed his new book “The Adventures of Santa Claus”: a gripping and potent original Christmas story about the escapades Santa goes through to prepare for Christmas. He was born and raised in Clovis, New Mexico . Graduated in 1980 and joined the Military and served for over 20 years. He is now retired and wrote his first children’s book.

- *What advice would you give to a writer, working on his first book?*

Write down notes and ideas for your story and save them. When you put them together, proof read each day you start again. You want to change the way the story sounds to you. When you are done, proof read it all again and make the changes you feel need to be made. Then you will be ready to find a publishing company to help make your book come to life.

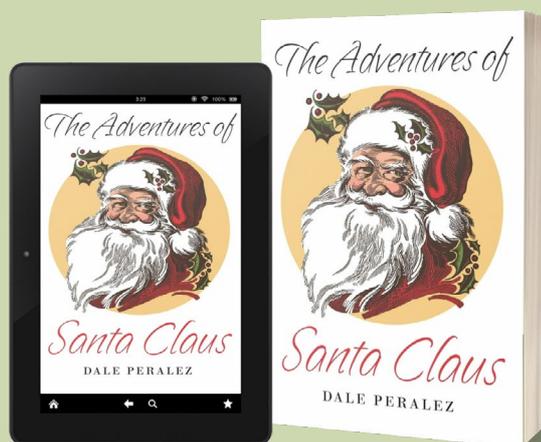
- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

My idea started with wanting to write about Christmas and what goes on during that time. Having it about Santa Claus and how he handles things in, around his village and also around the world. The different characters and animals, helped to bring the story to life. Santa not only had his elves and Mrs. Claus to help him in the village, but a few others around the world.

Many people are familiar with the origins of Santa Claus, including how he was based on a variety of characters and given several titles. A lot isn’t revealed, though, about his humble beginnings as a man who gives Christmas gifts to everyone in the world on a sleigh driven by his flying reindeer.

“The Adventures of Santa Claus” introduced readers to this unknown chapter of Santa Claus’ legend. This fiction children’s book told a new heartwarming story about Christmas’s most beloved icon and his journey to spreading holiday cheer.

“I decided to try my hand at writing a story for the holidays, not like all the rest,” said Peralez about his inspiration for writing “The Adventures of Santa Claus”. Santa, as most people know, has been around for years, but how did he start his journey as we know it today? I hope this helps with how you see Santa today.”



Delores Dee Ray



My father, Andy, to whom this book is dedicated, used to read us bedtime stories. When I had a granddaughter, Nicole, I did the same thing, except that I made the stories up. I also made up stories for my niece, Amanda. One day, I decided to write these stories down so that I could share them with other children. Delores (Dee) Ray was raised in a small resort town in Northern Wisconsin with 4 sisters and 2 brothers. She has one son, Lonnie, and one granddaughter, Nicole, and a 3 month old great granddaughter, Farrah. When she was young, she realized not all children have an easy childhood and this inspired some of her children's stories. She loves writing stories for them to

give them faith and encouragement. She currently is a Financial Advisor in downtown Minneapolis. She likes this profession as she keeps up to date on world events. Also she enjoys people and gets to work with people from all walks of life. This keeps the business fascinating and enjoyable. There is always something new to learn in this profession.

DeeDee Rayburn has herself been dating for nearly fifty years, if you include her two marriages! It was her recent escorts who convinced her there's a real need for this book. As DeeDee explains it, Old men need this book as much as the young ones—and THEY ought to know better



- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*

First I would say write from the ♥ heart. Be authentic, people can sense if you are not sincere. Write about something you know well and believe in, and if it requires a lot of research put the time in to do a good job and make sure the facts are correct even if it requires more work. If criticism comes proceed with faith in yourself and do the very best you can. Don't tell anyone you think will try to discourage you. Be prepared, as this will happen. It may surprise you who they are as can be close friends and even relatives!, One friend even said to me "why did you have to do this." Keep it to yourself if you have to. If it helps you, make a list of chapters you wish to write or a general outline for the book. Be sure and try to write every day. When you are finished, have a professional editor look at it for errors and suggestions!

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

When I was in high school our English teacher taught writing, and I enjoyed it and it was great fun. So I always enjoyed writing and she always said be authentic whatever you do. She also taught history and that in America if you believe in yourself you "you can be do and have anything you want" - but people will try and discourage you which I found out when I wrote the children's book! Then when I was young I had the misfortune of becoming a widow. By this time I had a granddaughter. I babysat a lot on weekends and when she turned 5 I began making up stories for her

at bedtime. Because they had no books she had to use her imagination which can be fun for children. After a long time of doing this, I thought maybe I should record them in case I would ever want to publish them. Someone told me "there is always a lesson in your books somewhere". They were mostly about kindness as children need to learn this at a very young age. Children can be mean if they don't learn this. Also there were some fantasies to let them use their imaginations! This is important to stimulate their creativity!

That is how the children's book came about!!

- *How many books have you written and what is your favorite?*

I have written 3 books on totally different subjects. The first was a book on finance for women. The firm I worked for let me promote it. I am at a different firm now and because of stricter laws now for brokerage firms I can no longer promote it. The second one was a children's book teaching lessons - Mostly on kindness. I wrote this for my granddaughter and was a fun one. The third one is about how to treat women! Because I was such a young widow I had lots of different dating experiences. I soon learned that what my husband said was true ♥ "men needed training on how to treat a lady"! That was fun to write as some of the things I experienced were unbelievable. It is a toss up with that and the children's book as which one was the most fun to write. Mostly as they are so different and on completely different subjects.

In Depth Review



In-Depth Review is one of several services designed to help you get your book turned into a film. It is a way to assess the potential of a book or script to become a film.

The Book to Film Review discusses the potential of the project to become a film and how to best present and pitch it. The review begins with a summary of the book and a short overview describing the basic story line. Then, it focuses on how well the book is suited to being adapted into a film and how this might best be done.

For example, if the book has many characters or multiple plot lines, the review might suggest how to reduce the number of characters and focus on the most important plot elements to make a more effective film with a budget that makes filming possible.

The review can also suggest what you might need to sell the project, such as pitching film rights or creating

a treatment or script to increase the potential for selling your story.

In short, the review is like a map that can guide you on the path to turning your book into a film, and it can help you decide whether to take that journey.

DELIVERY

- Your manuscript will be forwarded to our screenwriter for the In-Depth Review.
- The screenwriter will read the manuscript from cover to cover to fulfill the said details above.
- The In-Depth review will be completed 1-2 weeks from the date that we receive the manuscript.
- Once completed, author's consultant will send the document



Ashley Oliver

Facebook: Ashley Oliver

Instagram: baby_its_ao

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Ashley Oliver has been guiding, advocating, mentoring, and counseling children of all ages from kindergarten to high school. She has worked in facilities such as schools, psychiatric facilities, and nonprofit organizations. Her desire to help build up a child for success has always been a passion of hers, and they say if you find something you love to do, you will never work a day in your life. Ashley Oliver has earned her bachelor's degree in psychology, and shortly after that, she went to go and obtain her master's degree in school counseling to accompany her years of experience working with the youth. As you embark on her books, you will discover that they are geared toward building up the young minds through the sector of social emotional education and guidance. With the interactive and engaging story line, there is a lesson to be learned. Through her Character Counts book series, you will find informative and fun ways to help guide and define character building with the support of lesson plans found in the back of each book.

- *What is the ultimate goal for your book?*

My ultimate goal for my book is for it to be utilized in the school setting as a social emotional learning resource tool. My book is not only great for teachers but also social workers, school counselors, to help with the character building for the young minds.

- *2. What risks have you taken with your writing that have paid off.*

The number one risk that was taken with writing my book is not allowing fear to keep me from achieving my goal. With this being my first book I struggled with the lack of confidence that I thought it took with stepping outside of ones comfort zone. I'm so glad I took the risk.

- *3. How much reseaech did you need to do for your book.*

I utlized my own expertise in the field of child development and also real world experience. I have over 15 years experience in the educational realm.



James is a good student in school, but he often finds himself struggling to face the consequences of his actions. James's choices resulted in one of his friends getting hurt. He decides to leave behind behaviors that aren't appropriate and learns to take accountability for them. He realizes that good things come to those who take responsibility for their actions. Will James decide to do what's right instead of doing what he wants?

Snips from Publishers Weekly

September 19, 2022 issue

News

Big Publishers Hit a Rough Patch

After posting record results in 2021, the major houses are facing tough year-over-year comparisons in 2022

When profits and sales soared in the first half of 2021, the heads of the major publishing companies knew they would face some difficult comparisons in 2022, and that's largely been the case. As had been anticipated, demand for books slowed this year, and the combination of softer sales, high inflation, and ongoing supply chain issues put a serious dent in earnings at three of the big four trade publishers in the first six months of 2022. Those same factors have kept publishers' expectations for the remainder of the year guarded.

Penguin Random House parent company Bertelsmann cited high inflation and supply chain challenges as the primary reasons earnings at the world's largest trade publisher fell 20.7% in the first half of 2022. EBIT (earnings before interest and taxes) fell to €257 million, from €324 million in the same period last year. Revenue rose 6.2%, to €1.92 billion, but excluding the favorable impact of currency exchange, sales declined from 2021.

Bright spots in the first half of 2022 included strong backlist and audiobook sales, and PRH global CEO Markus Dohle declared, "Our ever-expanding global audio business has become a strong growth pillar of our publishing efforts."

Looking at trends, Dohle told PRH employees, "The long-term shift to online sales has resulted in strong backlist growth and a technology- and data-driven transformation of our sales, marketing, and publicity instruments and tools. We will continue to invest in this transformation and develop new competitive advantages to maximize the positioning, visibility, and sales of both our new publications and our rich catalogs on a global scale."

But Dohle is not expecting a quick bounce back in profits. "Worldwide, significant cost increases, from paper and production to distribution and freight, among others, won't disappear in the foreseeable future," he wrote. "Therefore, we all need to approach our business with a lean, efficient, and productive execution mindset while maximizing value for our authors and their works."

Sales at HarperCollins rose 4.5% in the six months ended June 30, to \$1.03 billion, but profits dropped 10.9% compared to the same period in 2021. HC operates on a fiscal year ending on June 30, and for the fiscal year profits were up 1% on a 10.4% rise in sales—results that included a

Operating Performance, First Six Months, 2021-2022 (\$ and € in millions)			
HarperCollins			
	2021	2022	Change
Total Sales	\$983.0	\$1,028.0	4.5%
EBITDA	\$128.0	\$114.0	-10.9%
Margin	13.0%	11.1%	-
Lagardère Publishing			
	2021	2022	Change
Total Sales	€1,130.0	€1,216.0	7.7%
EBIT	€110.0	€81.0	-27.3%
Margin	9.7%	6.6%	-
Penguin Random House			
	2021	2022	Change
Total Sales	€1,804.0	€1,916.0	6.2%
EBIT	€324.0	€257.0	-20.7%
Margin	18.0%	13.4%	-
Simon & Schuster			
	2021	2022	Change
Total Sales	\$404.0	\$510.0	26.2%
Operating Income	\$79.0	\$130.0	64.5%
Margin	19.5%	25.5%	-

SOURCE: COMPANY REPORTS, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

\$149 million contribution from the purchase of the trade division of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Though he's happy with the fiscal year results, CEO Brian Murray told *PW* that since early spring, the higher costs of freight and fuel have had a noticeable impact on the company's bottom line and were major reasons for the decline in profits in the first half of calendar 2022. In the quarter ended June 30, for example, profits fell 2%, while sales were up 1%.

As a new fiscal year begins at HC, all costs—particularly the cost of four-color printing in China—remain high, Murray said, and while container ship costs have come down, they're still much higher than they were before the pandemic. He doesn't see any real easing of costs before the beginning of 2023 at the earliest. While gas prices in the U.S. have declined, he added, the cost of diesel fuel that truckers rely on shows no signs of dropping, and fuel costs in Europe will likely remain very high because of the war in Ukraine. He was reluctant to discussing pricing, only saying that in order to make new books successful, higher costs need to be taken into account.

News

Murray is pleased that despite supply chain issues last year, the majority of books “got to where they needed to be” in time for the holidays, but he noted that effort was expensive. There continue to be supply chain bottlenecks this year, particularly in China. His biggest concern about the coming holidays, however, is whether consumer spending will hold up. Book sales were strong during the pandemic, and while reading still appears to be above prepandemic levels, high inflation and more entertainment and travel options could dampen spending on books, he explained.

Revenue for Lagardère Publishing rose 7.7% in the first half of 2022 over 2021, to €1.22 billion. Earnings, however, fell 27.3%, to €81 million, which the company attributed to “inflationary pressures on production, transport, and labor costs.” The sales increase reflected a €59 million gain from the September 2021 acquisition of Workman Publishing and purchase of Paperblanks, a notebook and stationery publisher, as well as a €39 million positive impact from currency fluctuations.

In the U.S., sales at Hachette Book Group, which is owned by Lagardère, were up slightly in the first half of the year thanks to the Workman purchase; excluding Workman, sales would have fallen 1.9% compared to the first half of 2021. HBG CEO Michael Pietsch said sales of trade paperbacks and digital audio rose in the period, backlist sales remained solid, and sales to independent bookstores were strong. In addition, sales in Canada were good, and HBG’s distribution business posted a sales gain.

Profits in the period remained strong, Pietsch said, but were below “2021’s extraordinary results due to sharply rising costs in paper, manufacturing, and shipping.”

Lagardère’s forecasts for full-year results are unchanged from the beginning of 2022, calling for sales to be about flat with 2021 and profits to fall because of higher costs.

Simon & Schuster was the only publisher of the big four to report increases in sales and earnings in the first half of 2022, with sales jumping 26.2%, to \$510 million, and operating income rising 64.5%, to \$130 million. CEO Jonathan Karp said S&S had “defied gravity” in the first quarter when results skyrocketed, and while the profit gains were not as large in the second period, he noted that all of S&S’s divisions had double-digit revenue growth then, led by two key drivers: Tik Tok and Colleen Hoover books. Given the good first six months of 2022, Karp was optimistic about the rest of the year. —Jim Milliot

The Weekly Scorecard

Print Sales Dipped 1.6% in Early September

Unit sales of print books declined 1.6% in the week ended Sept. 10, 2022, from the comparable week in 2021, at outlets that report to NPD BookScan. Adult fiction was the only category to have an increase in the week, with sales jumping 16.1%. Several new titles helped drive the gain, led by Stephen King’s *Fairy Tale*, which sold more than 128,000 copies in its first week. *A Court of Silver Flames* by Sarah Maas sold nearly 42,000 copies, placing it at #4 on the category chart, while J.D. Robb’s *Desperation in Death* sold almost 26,000 copies, landing it in the ninth spot on the adult fiction list. Unit sales of adult nonfiction fell 7.1% from last year. Jennette McCurdy’s *I’m Glad My Mom Died* stayed #1, selling just under 30,000 copies. Jonathan Cahn’s *The Return of the Gods* was in second place, selling more than 24,000 copies. Other big new books included *Danielle Walker’s Healthy in a Hurry* (about 16,000 copies sold); *Dinner in One* by Melissa Clark (more than 11,000 copies sold); and *The Crisis of Command* by Stuart Scheller (more than 8,000 copies sold). Juvenile fiction sales fell 4.4% despite strong showings by a number of new releases. *The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster* by Mo Willems was the category’s top title, selling more than 26,000 copies, while *Jessi’s Secret Language (The Baby-Sitter’s Club Graphic Novel #12)* by Ann M. Martin was in second place, selling nearly 17,000 copies. Tracey West’s *Guarding the Invisible Dragons* sold more than 13,000 copies, landing it in fifth place on the category bestseller list.

TOTAL SALES OF PRINT BOOKS (IN THOUSANDS)

	SEPT. 11, 2021	SEPT. 10, 2022	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Total	13,882	13,656	-1.6%	-5.2%

UNIT SALES OF PRINT BOOKS BY CATEGORY (IN THOUSANDS)

	SEPT. 11, 2021	SEPT. 10, 2022	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Adult Nonfiction	5,382	4,999	-7.1%	-9.6%
Adult Fiction	3,158	3,666	16.1%	8.0%
Juvenile Nonfiction	1,188	1,000	-15.8%	-10.8%
Juvenile Fiction	3,320	3,174	-4.4%	-7.4%
Young Adult Fiction	578	565	-2.2%	-0.2%
Young Adult Nonfiction	66	66	0%	-2.1%

UNIT SALES OF PRINT BOOKS BY FORMAT (IN THOUSANDS)

	SEPT. 11, 2021	SEPT. 10, 2022	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Hardcover	3,679	3,557	-3.3%	-9.7%
Trade Paperback	8,210	8,192	-0.2%	-2.0%
Mass Market Paperback	680	565	-16.9%	-19.3%
Board Books	891	889	-0.2%	-3.5%



SOURCE: NPD BOOKSCAN AND PUBLISHERS WEEKLY. NPD’S U.S. CONSUMER MARKET PANEL COVERS APPROXIMATELY 80% OF THE PRINT BOOK MARKET AND CONTINUES TO GROW.



Marianna W. Albritton

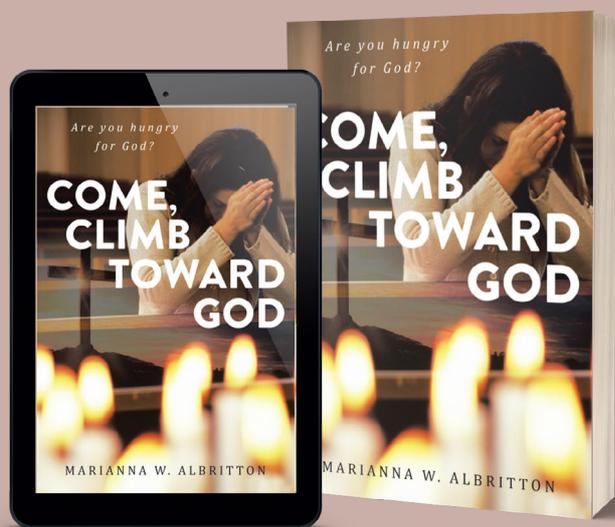
"If that baby lives, I'll eat my hat." Dr. Holder told his nurse, Doris, after I was born premature. Doris happened to be a close friend to my parents so she told my Daddy what the doctor said. My parents lost their first child at birth, so Doris wanted them to be prepared in case they lost me. God's sovereignty and His purpose is not cancelled by circumstances nor what the usual outcome is. God intervened by several measures and I am alive today to still be serving Him.

Beginning with my receiving Jesus as Savior at the age of twelve, I've had a compulsion to study the Bible. I love to get a dictionary, a concordance and my Bible to sit down and study a subject which interests me. Studying the Bible has been the one constant in my life. Teaching and writing experiences have been very enjoyable.

One Sunday morning the Sunday School Superintendent asked me to fill in, to teach for the Junior High Teacher who was absent. Who, me? Was my reaction. Since I am naturally shy, this was definitely out of my comfort zone. However, I took a deep breath and said "yes". So, I taught the class and discovered I really liked teaching the Bible. From that time, I've taught classes from Junior High through Senior Adults. From teaching Sunday School, I went on to teach Ladies' Bible Classes. I've even had the opportunity to write Sunday School Lesson for the Baptist Sunday School Board. I never imaged such opportunities.

All the Bible study lessons I have taught, I studied out and wrote for the individual classes. Suddenly over 50 years of teaching and writing have gone by and I hope to teach and write for more years to come.

Would you like to have a personal relationship with Jesus? Would you like to know God as a real person in your life? Then this book is for you. I teach to the "one". The "one" who has a hunger to know that God is real. Saying "yes" to God in getting to know Him is the first step to an amazing journey of personal spiritual growth.



Snips from Publishers Weekly

September 19, 2022 issue

Adult Bestsellers | **SEPT. 4-10, 2022**

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Hardcover Frontlist Fiction

RANK	LW	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	UNITS
1	-	Fairy Tale	Stephen King	Scribner	9781668002179	128,365
2	-	Desperation in Death	J.D. Robb	St. Martin's	9781250278234	25,918
3	-	Clive Cussler's Hellburner	Mike Maden	Putnam	9780593540640	13,605
4	1	Carrie Soto Is Back	Taylor Jenkins Reid	Ballantine	9780593158685	12,698
5	4	All Good People Here	Ashley Flowers	Bantam	9780593496473	12,027
6	-	The Marriage Portrait	Maggie O'Farrell	Knopf	9780593320624	10,510
7	-	Hell and Back	Craig Johnson	Viking	9780593297285	10,095
8	5	The 6:20 Man	David Baldacci	Grand Central	9781538719848	7,919
9	2	The Ink Black Heart	Robert Galbraith	Mulholland	9780316413039	6,875
10	-	Ruination	Anthony Reynolds	Orbit	9780316469050	6,557
11	7	Overkill	Sandra Brown	Grand Central	9781538752012	5,755
12	6	The Challenge	Danielle Steel	Delacorte	9781984821614	5,557
13	13	Lessons in Chemistry	Bonnie Garmus	Doubleday	9780385547345	5,546
14	8	Girl, Forgotten	Karin Slaughter	Morrow	9780062858115	5,378
15	-	The Rising Tide	Ann Cleeves	Minotaur	9781250204530	5,219
16	-	Fantastic Four	Alex Ross	Abrams ComicArts	9781419761676	4,948
17	9	The Hotel Nantucket	Elin Hilderbrand	Little, Brown	9780316258678	4,842
18	3	Other Birds	Sarah Addison Allen	St. Martin's	9781250019868	4,841
19	11	Shattered	Patterson/Born	Little, Brown	9780316499484	4,607
20	-	A Song of Comfortable Chairs	Alexander McCall Smith	Pantheon	9780593316979	4,520

Hardcover Frontlist Nonfiction

RANK	LW	TITLE	AUTHOR	IMPRINT	ISBN	UNITS
1	1	I'm Glad My Mom Died	Jennette McCurdy	Simon & Schuster	9781982185824	29,882
2	-	The Return of the Gods	Jonathan Cahn	Frontline	9781636411422	24,676
3	-	Danielle Walker's Healthy in a Hurry	Danielle Walker	Ten Speed	9781984857668	15,849
4	3	Breaking History	Jared Kushner	Broadside	9780063221482	11,774
5	-	Dinner in One	Melissa Clark	Clarkson Potter	9780593233252	11,603
6	-	Crisis of Command	Stuart Scheller	Knox	9781637585443	8,365
7	13	The Return	Dick Morris	Humanix	9781630062071	7,602
8	2	The Great Reset	Alex Jones	Skyhorse	9781510774049	6,726
9	-	Solito	Javier Zamora	Hogarth	9780593498064	6,094
10	-	The Resurrected Jesus	Limbaugh/Bloom	Regnery	9781621579892	5,798
11	-	You're the Leader, Now What?	Richard Winters	Mayo Clinic	9781893005709	4,950
12	6	Diana, William, and Harry	James Patterson	Little, Brown	9780759554221	4,761
13	9	Atlas of the Heart	Brené Brown	Random House	9780399592553	4,239
14	24	Battle for the American Mind	Pete Hegseth	Broadside	9780063215047	4,105
15	27	The Psychology of Totalitarianism	Mattias Desmet	Chelsea Green	9781645021728	3,897
16	-	Slouching Towards Utopia	J. Bradford DeLong	Basic	9780465019595	3,583
17	28	Half Baked Harvest Every Day	Tieghan Gerard	Clarkson Potter	9780593232552	2,640
18	17	Finding Me	Viola Davis	HarperOne	9780063037328	2,571
19	36	The Storyteller	Dave Grohl	Dey Street	9780063076099	2,557
20	37	The Unofficial Hocus Pocus Cookbook	Bridget Thoreson	Ulysses	9781646042418	2,554

LW: rank last week

Anita Kraal-Zuidema

Anita Kraal-Zuidema was born and raised in Holland, Michigan. She earned her BA and M.Ed. at Calvin College (now University) in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Anita is grateful and blessed to have celebrated fifty-plus years of marriage to Allan Zuidema. They live in Byron Center, Michigan, close by their two daughters and their families, including seven wonderful grandchildren and a very special great-grandson.

Anita's mission is to leave a written legacy of spiritual journeying, in short essay and memoir style, expressing her love of family and friends and of God and His people.

She encourages writers and new friends to accept her personal invitation to look inside, drink deeply from the well of fresh insight, and join the crowd of witnesses who journey on together, toward God's Endless Light.



- *How many books have you written?*

I've written two books in the last five years and another is being readied to publish in a few months. The first is titled, **She Walks in Beauty and Endless Light**. It celebrates virtuous women from my past and others who live in my world today. A second, complementary book is titled **Toward Endless Light, A Christian Writer's Spiritual Journey through Memoir**. All of my writing is drawn from personal experiences and family life. Welcome along! I'm glad you've found me.

- *What is a significant way your books change from the first draft?*

From the first draft to final copy, I work to add character interest and to freshen up a sentence or theme in order to challenge and hold the reader's attention. Usually, I've spent considerable time with my thesaurus to find "the best word," or with my Bible to uncover the very best Scripture reference, and I'm always happy to locate a memorable quote from a notable author when it spices up a piece. I'm looking for personal application when I give my readers "Something to Ponder" at the end of each essay.

- *What is the ultimate goal for your books?*

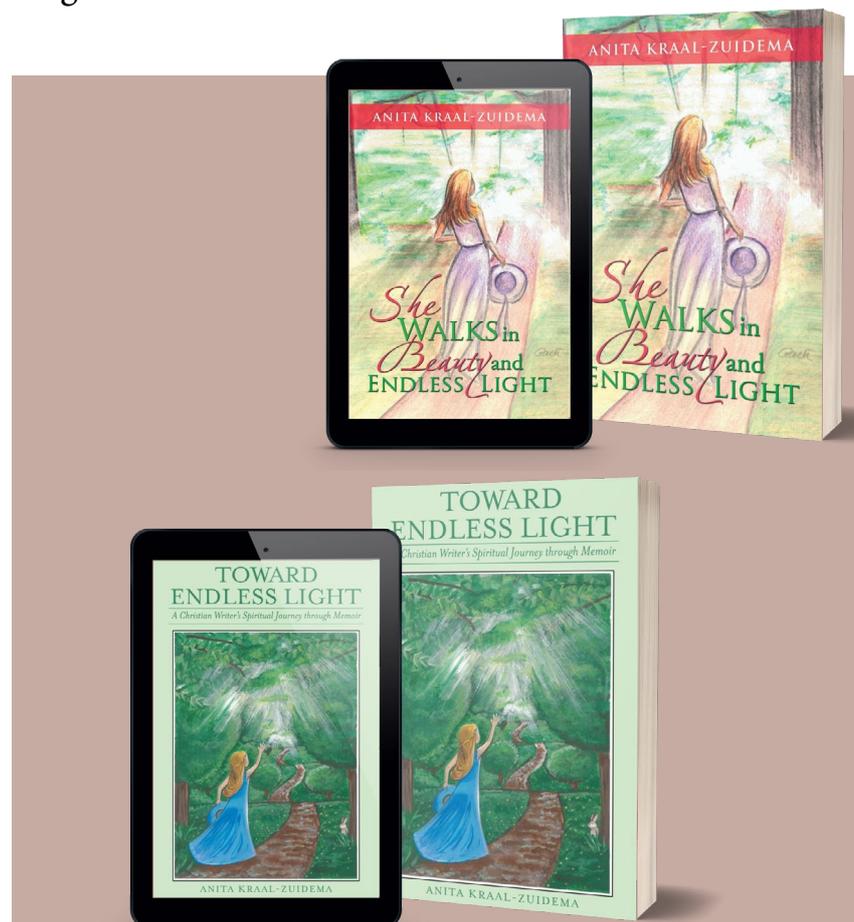
I prayerfully hope my grands and great-grandchildren will want to read what their Grandma wrote--always with them in my heart and on my mind. I pray that the faith of their grandparents will be projected to and through them as they share the Light of God's Love with their own children. God is at the center of my life and I want that same passion and security for them, living in this troubled world.

A second goal I have for my books is for them to be sold and found across the globe, passed along from seeker to soul-mate, through every possible venue.

- *How will you use social media as an author?*

Until now, I've pushed social media aside for personal reasons, but I understand the success of books being read across the world is determined by activating all channels possible. I'm thankful for the staff at Brilliant Books who have created a beautiful website for me and promise to represent my books to the world, from my own doorstep.

I'm thankful for the friendship and diligence of my literary agent, Clint Saunders. He has worked consistently and tirelessly with Jay Williams, my Book Development Manager, to make things happen and get things done, efficiently and without pressure. Together, they've made a big dream possible and I'm grateful.



Taylor Gase

I was raised in a small town in Ohio and graduated high school with a small class of 70 students. My experience of living in that kind of environment had taught me to appreciate the little things in life. Being able to know all my classmates, and seeing them every day had allowed me to form strong bonds with my friends.

As I was growing up, I would come up with these fun stories in my head to entertain myself in long car rides, boring waiting rooms or doing mundane chores. When I out grew playing with toys, I transitioned my stories from acting them out with figures, to writing them down in books. This was how writing became a hobby of mine, and a way to expand my creativity. The years of writing long and short story were always for my personal enjoyment. But when my dad published his book, it inspired me to share my story to the publishers for the world to read.

So far I've published two books, the first one was: *The Hang Out Group: And the Creatures of the Garden*. And the second book was the sequel called: *The Hang Out Group and the Broken Balance*. I do have more Hang Out Group stories that I want to write and publish in the future. The response I've been receiving from the fans of the first two books has been wonderful, and makes me happy that I chose to start publishing my stories.



Back in high school, my friends and I called ourselves the Hang Out Group. I went by the nickname Juice, and still to this day many call me that. I have many memories of us sitting by the fire having a good time together. I thought that our group could take on the world. We might not have won, but we would have managed to burn down a few things along the way.

So I designed a Hang Out Group within a world of fiction. Some of the members in the group were loosely based on a few of my friends, and I wanted to keep the nickname Juice in it. I have been working on the group's adventures for a long time now, and I'm very excited to be releasing this story. I hope you enjoy reading about the group, and the story that they're in as much as I did writing it.



- *What comes first for you — the plot or the characters — and why? (this was a fun question to think about.)*

The protagonists in my books were all loosely based off my friends I had in school. Back then we called ourselves the Hang Out Group or Hogs for short. I saw us as this fun group who all brought something different to the hangouts. I always wondered how we would react in a situation that would be from the world of fiction. What if we had to fight big foot? How would we handle that battle? So I came up with a story about a group of kids who call them selves Hogs, and gave them a fantasy driven story.

But the plot was the most important part when making the story. I had a list of events that I wanted the Hogs to face, but I needed the back story where all the enemies came from. As I was working on that, I started to make these new characters, and I enjoyed them so much that they took over the first part of the story to a point that I waited a long time to introduce the Hogs.

So the answer to the question is both.

- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*

I would love the readers to be able to relate to the hang out group in a positive way. Maybe someone within the group is familiar to a good friend of you have. I want the book to inspire people to go out and find good friends. I hope for the older audience to read this and wish to reconnect with their old friends who they may not have spoken to in years. I want kids to go out and find their own hangout group and make friends that will last a life time.

Movie Treatment

Why Do You Need A Film Treatment?

Most screenwriters create film treatments for one of two purposes:

- Working out a complex idea: Writing a film treatment allows you to structure the story and find issues with the plot. It can also help with world-building and developing compelling characters.
- Marketing a screenplay: Before deciding to produce or invest in a movie, studio executives often read film treatments. A great film treatment can get producers interested in your screenplay.

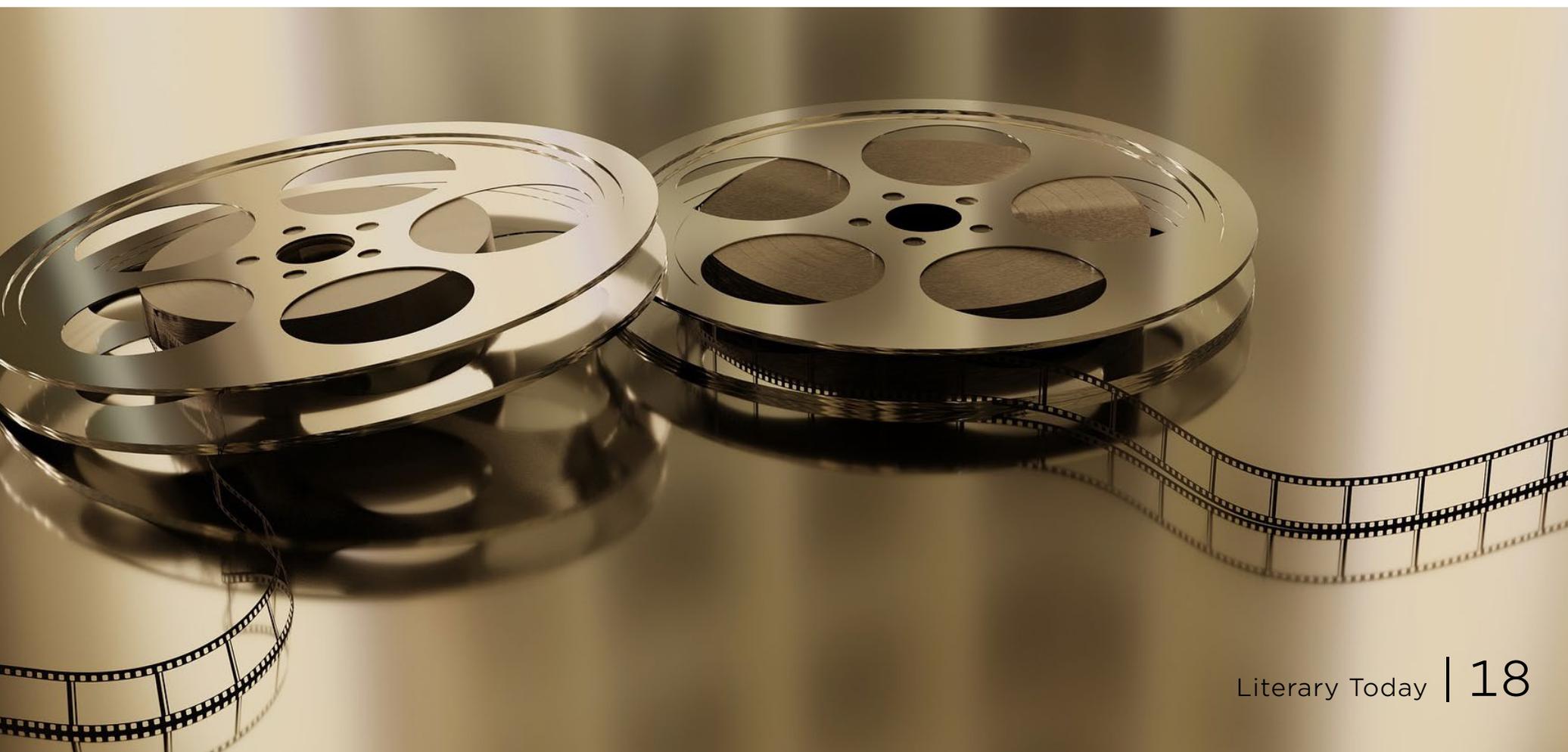
A film treatment is a written document that describes the story that your screenplay will tell. Most film treatments follow a narrative format and include key information about the characters and the plot while guiding the reader through the story arc and the acts of the film.

Screenwriters generally develop film treatments before writing the screenplay. That's because film treatments are ideal for working out ideas and narratives before investing time and energy in the screenplay.

Treatments can help you find your film's story, while simultaneously helping to raise money. The research for both treatment and film involves gathering the same facts, talking to the same individuals, and shaping the same story. By figuring out how to communicate your passion, knowledge, and vision on the page, you reach a deeper understanding of how your story needs to be told on the screen.

A script treatment comes earlier in the writing process, before any actual scriptwriting, which allows you to sort out the necessary story elements you need. The point of writing a film treatment is to:

1. Set up the world you want the reader to envision.
2. Lay out the structure of your whole story.
3. Help you identify plot holes, or parts of the film you're missing.
4. Flesh-out characters and figure out the importance of each role.
5. Serve as a road map that makes the journey of your film easier to navigate.



Bookstore Returnability Program

Bookstores like to carry books whose publishers offer full returnability. In laymen's terms, returnability means a retail bookstore can return books that they do not sell to the publisher. The books are shipped back to the publisher, the publisher absorbs the cost, and the store owner is not left with a stockroom full of unsold books. Bookstores tend to over-order, so they return a substantial percentage of books. Why not? Over-ordering entails no liability for them.

The ability to return unsold print books is a standard publishing business practice that has remained since the Great Depression. Since that time, brick-and-mortar booksellers have been able to mitigate their own financial risk by relying on publishers to credit returned books.

Often, booksellers will hesitate to order and stock books when they aren't "Returnable." This means if getting your title stocked on bookstore shelves is part of your marketing plan, Bookstore Returnability is an essential element to earning shelf space and/or in-store book signings.

When you purchase Bookstore Returnability:

- Your book will be designated as "Returnable" in Ingram's ipage ordering system for retailers and libraries. (Ingram is the world's largest wholesaler and distributor of books.)
- Your book will be designated as "Returnable" in Baker & Taylor's ordering system for libraries. (Baker & Taylor is a leading distributor of books, with 180 years in the business.)*
- You will not be charged back for royalties earned on the sales to the store if your books are returned.