

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Copyright alliance
Date: Friday, March 19, 2010 2:15:35 PM

Dear Ms. Espinal:

The Copyright Alliance has informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

*I write novels, and I care deeply about copyright infringement of the works I create. Imagine having a friend tell you they read your novel **before it came out . . . before you'd even seen it in print . . .** .by buying an illegally obtained "copy" on eBay. Imagine speaking at a book club meeting and offering to autograph everyone's book, only to notice that one of the books has a cover that's a slightly different design, and a different typeface inside. When you ask the person where they bought it, they turn red, and say they don't remember.*

Fellow writers try to educate people that these acts and others are taking money away from writers, not corporations . . . but in the era of "free", our voices don't seem to be enough. It would be great to see a public service campaign about intellectual property theft, and how it affects so many artists.

Thank you,

*Kelly Simmons, Simon & Schuster Author
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania*