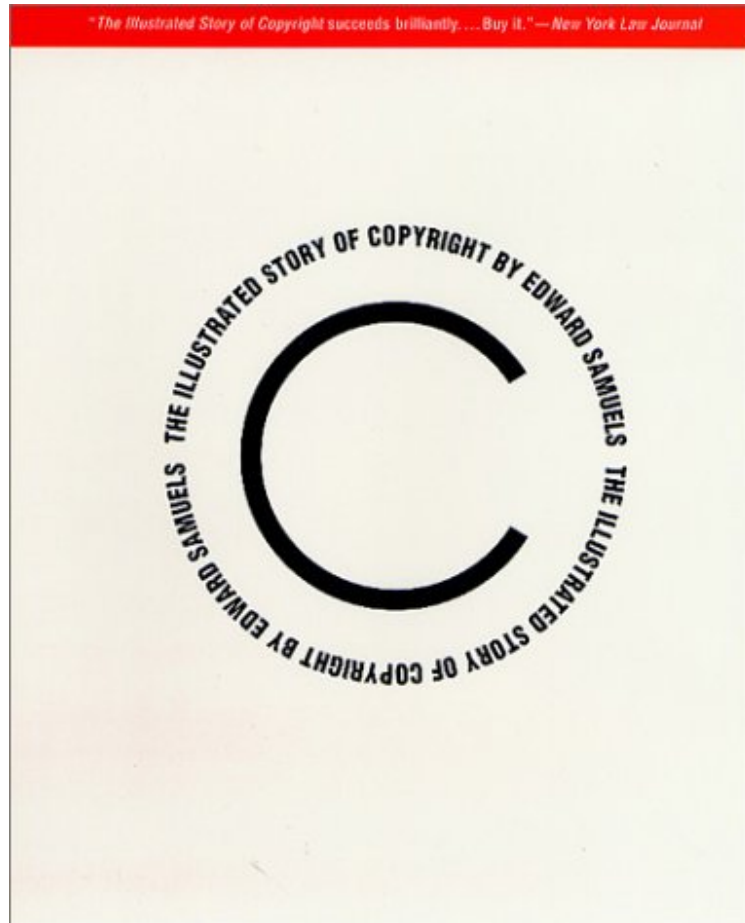



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The Illustrated Story of Copyright

Edward Samuels

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Edward Samuels : The Illustrated Story of Copyright before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Illustrated Story of Copyright:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. One of the more important books of our timeBy Rebekah Sue Carolla"The Illustrated Story of Copyright" may be the most important book I read this year. It traces history back to duplicating the printed word, and covers presses, copiers, the Internet, and computers. Also covered is Fair Use and Patents. The book is written so that non-professionals and non-students can understand it, yet I believe that it would be an asset to any attorney's office or to any law curriculum.Others who will enjoy this book are the Mac/Apple fans. "Mac people" are a clan of their own, and those I've met will collect anything with substantial Mac information. The condensed history of how Mac came to be is a worthy addition to a Macintosh library.Furthermore, "The Illustrated Story of Copyright" should be required reading for all musicians, all VCR owners, all computer owners, all freelancers... the list is endless. I'm glad I had the opportunity to read it, but wish I'd known about it sooner. I doubt that I'll recommend another book to as wide a range of people.(this book was recommended to me ... then purchased

from my .com wishlist.)0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great resource!By CShadeSamuals takes complicated code and peels back the layers in a way that is easy to understand.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A good introductory primerBy Newton OoiThis book gives a short history of copyright, the reasonings behind it, its manifestation, implementation, and enforcement throughout the last 500 years with emphasis on the English-speaking world; i.e. England and now the US. It is written in a style accessible to those without legal training, and serves as a good introduction to this aspect of intellectual property. The book provides many useful pieces of information such as:1. The differences between patents, copyrights, and trademarks.2. How someone can copyright something.3. How the extent of enforcibility of copyright laws change from nation to nation.4. A brief history of the laws and court cases that have impacted and defined the evolution of copyright laws within the US.5. How different industries and industry groups have dealt with and tried to change copyright laws.In all, this book is a good read. The text is somewhat dry, though not difficult to understand. The style is somewhere between a textbook, an editorial, a history book, and an opinion piece. The book also provides a lot of handy references.

The story of copyright is the history of the entertainment industry, including books, music, movies, television, computers, and the internet. Since its inception in America 210 years ago, copyright law has been the primary protector of the right of authors. Over the course of its history, however, myriad technology developments have produced constant pressure on the law, forcing copyright to adapt or expand to accommodate our creations.In *The Illustrated Story of Copyright*, Professor Edward Samuels explains in a straightforward and colorful style the history and intricacies of copyright. From the printing press to the photocopying machine, the phonograph to MP3, this comprehensive guide explains the basic principles of copyright law and brings to life the relevant copyright technologies.Samuels takes copyright, commonly perceived to be difficult subject, and gives it a fresh and engaging edge. *The Illustrated Story of Copyright* is an essential tool to navigate the complex partnership of creativity and property rights.

From BooklistStarting from the perspective of the future of technological innovations such as computers and software, Samuels looks into the past, placing those innovations in historical context and giving life to what is generally considered an esoteric subject. He notes that U.S. copyright laws have been sufficiently flexible and adaptive to accommodate new issues. He examines contemporary issues from the MP3 music-sharing litigation to restrictions on copying video- and audiotapes. The book reads, in part, like a popular commentary on how regular people may be breaking the law. Interestingly, before the U.S. became an exporter of intellectual property after World War II, it was a rogue nation, a pirate of copyrighted work from Europe, primarily Britain. As a leader in technology and commerce, however, the U.S. has been influenced by international copyright standards. Besides the technicalities of varying terms of copyrights--the current term is the life of the author plus 70 years--readers will enjoy learning how copyright applies to pop-cultural products, from movies to musicals to computer software. Vernon FordCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "[Professor Samuels] gives us a lively sampling of both copyright law and copyright lore . . . With its informal humor, its social history, its non-legal style, and its snappy illustrations, [*The Illustrated Story of Copyright*] will place the current controversies over digital technologies in their historic continuum . . . Absolutely absorbing from cover to cover."Ralph Oman, former Register to Copyrights"*The Illustrated Story of Copyright* succeeds brilliantly."New York Law Journal"A lively and informed introduction to copyright law, *The Illustrated Story of Copyright* is as timely as it is readable."Paul Goldstein, Stanford Law School, author of *Copyright's Highway*"Copyright is often seen as an impediment to personal enjoyment, or as the engine of corporate greed. In this hostile environment, Professor Edward Samuels's *The Illustrated Story of Copyright* . . . is a welcome corrective. Samuels brings to life the inventors, investors, authors, and users whose sometimes competing interests shaped the . . . contours of modern copyright law."Jane C. Ginsburg, Morton L. Janklow Professor of Literary and Artistic Property Law, Columbia University Law School "Not since Benjamin Kaplan's magisterial and prophetic *An Unhurried View of Copyright*, published in 1967, has anyone written so lucid and entertaining a book about this nearly dead but intrinsically fascinating subject . . . Samuels manages to convey in words and pictures all that any layman needs to know about . . . copyright, along with the latest in technology . . . His book should find a place on the desk of every publisher and also on those of songwriters, illustrators, art directors, and computer hackers."Atlantic Monthly"Readers will enjoy learning how copyright applies to pop-culture products, from movies to musicals to computer software."Booklist"Copyright expert Samuels succeeds admirably in his goal of providing an easy-to-understand review of copyright for the general public . . . [A] first-rate, accessible introduction to a hot topic."Library Journal