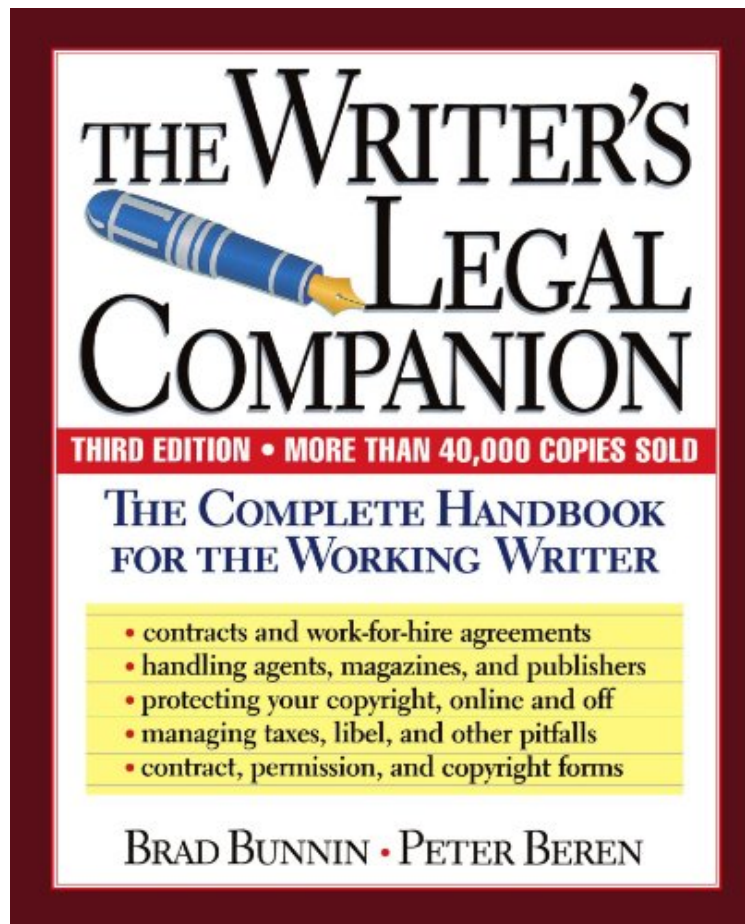


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The Writer's Legal Companion: The Complete Handbook For The Working Writer, Third Edition

Brad Bunnin, Peter Beren

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Writer's Legal CompanionBy Kay SampsonThe Writer's Legal Companion proved to be a great aide to me as I was involved in writing my first book. Since I was a total novice in this arena I appreciated the input that was vital to me as I searched for a reliable publisher. I was able to study about copyright issues and things to be aware of prior to signing a contract. I actually spent several months trying to

determine which publisher or agent to work with. I finally chose Strategic Book Publishers. I have since completed my book "The Twilight Zone of The Huntress" which is a collection of short stories detailing my adventures with my big game hunter husband beginning at the age of 54. We travelled around the world and experienced many thrilling adventures, some were life threatening. My book is currently available for sale through .com0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Basic ToolBy Alex EyeBought it to replace the earlier version I "inherited" from my father, a published attorney. Also, Helen Sedgwick, a published attorney, recommends it in her book Self-Publisher's Legal Handbook, which I have reviewed.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The back of the book is the most importantBy Shirley Harris-SlaughterI didn't have time to read this book from cover to cover so I went to the resource section and boy, did I get a wealth of information. As a soon-to-be author at the time I needed to know more about the publisher that had solicited me for my manuscript. Ironically this publisher recommended "The Writers Legal Companion" and I found some legal people who could tell me if I was signing up with a reputable company (free-of-charge). After they reviewed the contract (which I faxed to them) they told me not to go with this publisher as they were considered a vanity press which is bad news for new authors. So I cancelled my relationship with them and saved myself thousands of dollars and a world of headaches. So I recommend this book to any first-time author or writer. You can find all kinds of help just going to the back of the book. Fantastic!

For most writers, negotiating the legal maze of publishing is as challenging as getting their words in print. This comprehensive guide offers writers solid advice on all aspects of publishing law. Candid and readable, it covers everything from copyrights and taxes to libel laws, subsidiary rights, and the obscure clauses in publisher's contracts. As important resource for editors, agents, or anyone in print or electronic publishing, this updated third edition of The Writer's Legal Companion features essential, irreplaceable information on: publishing contracts, good and bad clauses libel, slander, and invasion of privacy issues electronic rights conditions the business of publishing, including marketing and selling books magazine publishing collaboration and agents' agreements federal income tax considerations for freelance writers copyright legalities Whether you write an occasional magazine article or publish a new book every year, The Writers Legal Companion will save you time, and reduce you anxiety over the business of publishing.

.com This is a fantastic reference for writers interested--and all should be--in legal issues concerning contracts, collaboration, agents, defamation, copyright, taxes, and high-tech publishing. Authors Brad Bunnin and Peter Beren have written this guide with such style and clarity that you might find yourself reading it, rather than just consulting it. But that's okay: you can't help but feel empowered by having read such a thorough and, when appropriate, opinionated text. Consider, for instance, the book's first chapter, "The Publishing Contract." Contrary to what publishers tell you, Bunnin writes (Beren contributed the chapter on "The Author and the Business of Publishing"), there is no such thing as a standard book contract. In fact, he says, "virtually without exception, publishers willingly change contracts at the author's request." Bunnin proceeds to lead his readers, line by line over 63 pages, through every single element of a publishing contract, including the grants-of-rights clause; warranties and indemnities; royalties, revisions, and remainders; and "all that incomprehensible, apparently unimportant stuff at the back of the contract." Whether or not you've retained a literary lawyer to work on your behalf, you'll want a book such as this on your shelves, to refer to when you need advice on avoiding defamatory statements, protecting yourself against copyright infringement, or even knowing which home-office expenditures you may deduct come tax time. --Jane SteinbergFrom Library JournalThe aim of these two volumes is the same to inform certain groups of their legal rights and responsibilities. Both are excellent resources, clearly written for lay users. The Artist's Friendly Legal Guide, by four members of the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, covers copyright, the evolving area of moral rights, contracts for artwork, and tax concerns. Questions and answers are included after each section to cover minor points of law; sample legal forms are also given. Intended for professionals in the fine arts, this guide is recommended for legal and art collections. The Writer's Legal Companion covers some of the same areas but naturally focuses on writers' concerns and gives particular emphasis to copyright and defamation. Sample forms are included here as well. Because the intended audienceany persons in the writing or publishing fieldsis larger than those in art specifically, this book is recommended. Sally G. Waters, Stetson Law Lib., St. Petersburg, Fla.Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.About the AuthorBrad Bunnin was a literary lawyer for two decades, and is now publishing consultant in Berkeley, California.Peter Beren is an agent and publishing consultant in Oakland, and former publisher of Sierra Club Books.