I'm the author of over thirty fiction books and as time goes on I am increasingly exhausted by the constant threat to my livelihood. Copyright protections for content creators have steadily eroded with little help from the government, despite our frequent pleas for protection. Copyright seems to mean less and less these days, as evidenced by the current debate of "First Sale" as it applies to e-books.

Librarians and e-book consumers argue that the copyright ruling that prevents duplication, publication and distribution of copyrighted content interferes with their lending practices. In fact, they have limited rights already in that area. They can loan a loaded e-reader out. Or ebooks purchased by an individual can be shared with a limited number of devices.

Unlimited loaning/sharing on e-books would actually be granting them far more loaning rights than they currently have with hard copy books. Postage and normal wear and tear on a hard copy is a natural limitation with the physical book. A hardback/paperback book wears out, and a new copy must be purchased to continue to lend it. Ebooks require more protection because of the virtual infinite lending it would enable. The only ones who stand profit under limitless lending practices are mammoth companies such as Amazon and libraries. Authors and publishers would suffer financially.

If libraries have unlimited loaning privileges, there would be no longterm financial incentive for authors and publishers to sell ebooks to them at all. Libraries can track whether a book hasn't been returned. They have no way of knowing if an ebook has been pirated by a reader and shared widely. Making multiple unauthorized copies of a digital work in the course of transmitting it to a party who didn't pay for the license shouldn't be legal. If it does become legal, watch for the rise in the cost of ebooks to rise sharply, as the potential for abuse drives up the financial risk for the author and publisher. What began as a convenience (ebooks) will become a huge publishing risk, and consumers would bear the cost.

This country has to begin getting serious about protecting its creative content. We are creating a culture of people who believe just because copying and piracy is easy and anonymous that it is somehow their right. This attitude casts a pall over the creative community and works as a disincentive to innovation and creativity.

Respectfully,
Kim Bahnsen
http://www.kyliebrant.com
And as the books pile up, so does your guilt. Guilt at not reading all of the books you buy. Guilt at not finishing the books you start. Interviews are engaging, and the interviewer does the work for you, asking the author the most pertinent and compelling questions they’ve gleaned from reading the book. When an author is forced to whittle down a 200-page book into a 20-minute talk, they share their biggest idea and best story. The first and last chapters of a book often contain the most valuable content in it (this obviously doesn’t work if you’re hoping to get lost in a novel). In addition, the first and last paragraphs of each chapter contain the big ideas of each chapter. This time next year I’ll have been teaching. My parents made me have piano lessons as a child. My parents forced me to have piano lessons as a child. Can you please put all your stuff away? It’s so messy in here. a) on b) away c) down. b) away. Jenny is the soul of the party. She’s such fun to have around. Life is prone to losing. I’d hazard a guess. Peter’s already thirty. You read that article about the latest crime figures? When the flooding river raced down the valley, it destroyed everything in its path. Just as soon as the rice is done, we can eat. But let me say goodbye now because I won’t see you in the morning. I’ll have already left by the time you get up. Right now we ARE HAVING a heat wave. The temperature HAS BEEN in the upper 90s (upper 30s Celsius) for the last six days. Last night I WENT to a party. When I GOT there, the room was full of people. Some of them WERE DANCING and others WERE TALKING. One young woman WAS STANDING by herself. I’m going to sell my shop to a young man who wants to be a hairdresser. The shop is being paid for by the young man’s father. Mathew was very sad to hear this, because he enjoyed talking to the old man, and he was also worried that his hair would not be cut as well by the new young man as it had been for so many years by his old friend. He went to the shop again the next month, and the new man was there. He cut Mathew’s hair, but he did it very badly. The next month, Mathew went into the shop again. Mathew asked. “That’s how you cut it last time.” “But, sir,” he said, “I can’t cut your hair like that!” He cut Mathew’s hair, but he did it very badly. His hair was white, and he stooped in his walk, as if he were exhausted. He understood my amazement and told me the story of his life. A terrible event had broken him down. I want you to go to my château and get some papers I urgently need. They are in the writing-desk of my room, of our room.