



October 26, 2019

Carroll County Public Library  
1100 Green Valley Road  
New Windsor, MD 21776

**Dear Library Supporters, Customers, and Friends,**

As the popularity of digital content continues to grow, publishers and libraries have struggled to find an agreeable solution to balance sales and loaning of eBooks. Studies show that borrowing eBooks and eAudiobooks actually leads to increased consumer sales for publishers, as customers discover a new favorite author at their library.

Publishers, however, have restricted access to eContent through the use of multiple techniques including charging libraries higher prices for eContent titles, “renting” to libraries for a limited time, meaning libraries must buy the same title over and over again to meet demand, or slightly delaying the availability of the newest titles to libraries in hopes that the public would rather buy copies of the electronic versions rather than wait for them.

In spite of these challenges, libraries continue to do everything possible to provide eContent for our community, in as many formats as possible. One publisher has recently gone too far. Macmillan Publishing has proposed a new policy, beginning on November 1, 2019, which will restrict access to eBooks for communities across the country by limiting the purchase of eBooks by libraries to one (1) copy for the first 8 weeks.

The American Library Association, Maryland Library Association, Public Library Association, Urban Libraries Council, and other organizations across the country are speaking out. At Carroll County Public Library, we are adding our voice to this growing movement to say, “Enough is enough!” We believe this change in policy challenges the foundational mission of the library, to provide equal access to information for everyone.

We urge you to contact Macmillan to express your concerns about this purchasing policy decision, which will limit access to eContent for you, your family and friends, and for all public library customers across our state.

**Contact:** Macmillan Publishers  
Mr. John Sargent, CEO  
120 Broadway St.  
NY NY 10271 (800)221-7945

**For more information:**

American Library Association petition - <https://p2a.co/fgcQkzV>

Urban Libraries Council Statement - <https://www.urbanlibraries.org/newsroom/ulc-issues-a-statement-in-response-to-e-book-publishers-changes-to-licensing-models-for-libraries>

Sincerely,

Andrea Berstler  
Executive Director  
Carroll County Public Library