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My name is [REDACTED] and I am the multi-award winning author of over 20 books (published nationally and internationally) and Publisher at Large for [REDACTED]

I am one of the many writers who has had to work full-time while producing cultural product, to ensure our literary landscape has a richness that includes First Nations stories and representations. I am also one of the many Australian authors who has had their work (17 books of mine in total), stolen to train large language models for AI, which is a threat to any future work.

I am often asked to donate the meagre fees paid by writer's festivals, or to trade off income for promotion of my work on various platforms. Publicity does not pay bills.

I am grateful for the initiatives introduced in *Revive* to assist with the sustainability of author and illustrator careers. However, since the introduction of *Revive*, authors have been facing increasingly precarious conditions. Without immediate support, we risk the viability of the book industry in Australia.

In support of the Australian Society Authors (ASA) – of which I am a member submission, I am calling for:

- **Direct investment in authors and illustrators** via:
 - Multi-year fellowships supporting mid-career authors by providing them with time to write.
 - Seed money for emerging writers.
 - A top up to the Lending Rights budget.
 - A basic income pilot, involving 300 authors.
- **Investment in First Nations-led writing and publishing.**
- **Solutions to the unprecedented theft of Australian authors' work by multinational tech companies** operating within Australia. For instance:
 - Transparency on copyright inputs for, and outputs from, generative AI models.
 - Research into the impact of generative AI on creative careers and Australian cultural output.

