

Office for the Arts
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
GPO Box 594 | CANBERRA ACT 2601

[REDACTED]

[22/05/2026]

I am an Author and Freelance Illustrator. I am thirty years old and currently querying my debut, but I have been working as an artist for years. I am disabled, and it's been difficult to approach publishing while also working as a multimedia mentor. A lot of grants and opportunities for writers are predicated on travelling to events, networking in person, and the ability to apply for residencies, but due to my health I am often unable to do so.

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.

I am calling for:

Investment in emerging writers, with a focus on accessibility and flexibility. A firm stance against AI-generated works, and culpability for the companies responsible for mass copyright theft. Initiatives towards assisted self-publishing, and avenues for Australian authors to pursue self-publishing or hybrid publishing without needing to rely on multinational conglomerates like Amazon. In particular I would like to see an effort made to push back against the aggressive practices and market monopoly that companies like Amazon have over the online book trade.

I am a member of the Australian Society of Authors (ASA) and in support of its submission.

Yours sincerely,

Lysander