November 1, 2019

Dear Overdrive:

In July, you notified libraries of Macmillan Publishing’s plan to limit library eBook purchases to a single copy for the first eight weeks after release.

This letter is to inform you that in response, beginning Nov. 1, 2019, the libraries signing below will boycott Macmillan eBooks and eAudiobooks through 2020 or until Macmillan drops its embargo, whichever comes first . We have been contacting other libraries in our state and across the country, asking them to join this action, too.

We know that you have spent several months adjusting your eLending technology to support Macmillan’s new terms of sale, and that you collected feedback from libraries about how these adjustments might be implemented in order to minimize pain for library staff and patrons. We appreciate this. However, as you know, the time you spent on those adjustments was time you were not able to spend on improvements that would have benefitted all libraries and all publishers, and it has added to the dampening effect that embargoes have on the vibrant culture of reading we all support. We hope you will now be able to prioritize features supporting libraries, especially those that will enable us to manage increasing costs due to all kinds of metered access.

Thank you for your consideration.

Washington Digital Library Consortium in Washington State, representing:

* Anacortes Public Library
* Asotin County Library
* Bellingham Public Library
* Burlington Public Library
* Camas Public Library
* Carpenter Memorial (Cle Elum) Library
* Castle Rock Public Library
* Blanche Bradley Cathlamet Public Library
* Central Skagit Library
* Columbia County Rural Library District
* Davenport Public Library
* Denny Ashby (Pomeroy) Library
* East Adams Library District (Ritzville)
* Ellensburg Public Library
* Gilmour Memorial (Kittitas) Public Library
* Grandview Library
* Guemes Island Library
* Harrington Public Library
* Hesseltine (Wilbur) Public Library
* Jefferson County Library
* Kalama Public Library
* Kelso Public Library
* La Conner Regional Library District
* Liberty Lake Municipal Library
* Longview Public Library
* Lopez Island Library District
* Mount Vernon City Library
* Neill Public Library
* North Olympic Library System
* Ocean Shores Public Library
* Odessa Public Library
* Orcas Island Public Library
* Port Townsend Public Library
* Puyallup Public Library
* Reardan Memorial Library
* Richland Public Library
* Roslyn Public Library
* San Juan Island Library
* Sprague Public Library
* Upper Skagit Library
* Walla Walla County Rural Library District
* Walla Walla Public Library
* Weller (Waitsburg) Public Library
* Whatcom County Library System
* Whitman County Rural Library District