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To Whom It May Concern;

My first novel, *Cows* was accepted for publication by James Williamson/Creation Books in an agreement dated 1st October 1996. The book was published in hardback in 1998 and in paperback in 1999.

By 2002 royalty statements from Creation regarding sales of *Cows* had become erratic and, by my calculations, did not properly account for sales of the book. At one point over 500 copies of the paperback were unaccounted for - a situation that Creation eventually tried to explain with the excuse that they were "pulped." Creation, however, refused to provide any proof of this pulping.

The inconsistencies in the royalty statements led me, after prolonged fax and email communication with James Williamson, to inform them that Creation Books had breached contract by not properly accounting for sales of *Cows*. Despite this breach, Creation continued to sell the book and refused to return the rights.

On 8th March 2000 (before the above mentioned breach), Creation Books sold the Spanish rights to *Cows* to a Spanish publisher called Editorial La Mascara. This deal was set up so that all royalty statements and payments from La Mascara would, supposedly, be channelled through Creation Books and then forwarded to me. Although a small advance was paid upon signing of the agreement, Creation Books did not supply me with a single royalty statement or royalty payment over the entire 5 year lifespan of the contract - a situation which persists to this day.

In 2005 I discovered by browsing the internet that a Russian edition of *Cows* was being sold by a Russian company called Astral AST. Communication with Creation Books revealed that they had sold the Russian rights to this company. By the terms of my initial contract with Creation Books, James Williamson was obliged to obtain my permission in writing before any foreign sales could be entered into - he had not obtained this permission for the Russian deal. Communication with James Williamson requesting my share of the proceeds from this deal proved fruitless and resulted in a threat from James to "knock me unconscious and rip my head off..."

At this point I engaged a lawyer ([REDACTED]
[REDACTED]) who informed James Williamson he was in breach of contract due to the fact that he had failed to account for sales of the English

language edition of *Cows*, had illegally sold the Russian rights and had failed to account for the proceeds or pay royalties for sales of the Spanish edition of *Cows*.

After this action I approached a number of distributors used by Creation and requested that, due to the breach of contract, they cease distributing copies of *Cows*. Most of them agreed to do so. However, a distribution company called Turnaround, based in London, United Kingdom (Creation's largest distributor at that point), allowed James Williamson to collect all the copies of *Cows* that they had in their warehouse. Where these copies went is partly a matter of conjecture, but a portion, if not all, were sold by James to a company called Delectus books. I was paid nothing from the proceeds of this sale. Delectus books, run by a friend of James Williamson, then began selling the books - needless to say, I received no royalties from these sales. Delectus continues to offer the book as "new"
(http://www.biblio.com/search.php?author=stokoe&title=&keyisbn=&format=&dealer_id=77222)

Other original and basically brand new copies are being sold through a company called Artboox who, I believe are somehow connected to James Williamson/Creation Books. When I contacted this company (trading via Amazon.com) I was responded to by satsumiphillip@futurefiction.co.uk. Future Fiction (<http://www.futurefiction.co.uk/>) is an imprint of Creation Books.

To sum up:

- James Williamson failed to provide adequate royalty statements or royalty payments for the English edition of *Cows*.
- James Williamson failed to provide any royalty statements or royalty payments whatsoever for the Spanish edition of *Cows*.
- James Williamson illegally sold the Russian rights to *Cows*.
- James Williamson continues, apparently, to profit from sales of *Cows* through certain channels, despite a number of breaches of contract and despite being informed of these breaches by myself in 2002 and by my lawyer in 2005.

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