

To The Commissioners,

The parallel importation of books is a direct threat to the Australian book industry and therefore the Australian culture itself. Australian writing cannot be seen purely as an industry – it is also an art form. For this reason, the financial benefits that Australia stands to gain through parallel importation must be weighed very carefully against the cultural detriment that would result from a crippled national book industry. What price can be put on a contribution to the creation of a culture that is quintessentially Australian? Australia needs Australian stories – and Australian commentaries on Australian society. Overseas writers cannot provide this.

Sincerely,

Julie Neal