### Promoting Books Today

A personal view



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Venice

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## The Issues

· Retail outlets in decline

More than 800 bookshops have shut in the past five years, including almost 400 independent outlets \*

- Public libraries in decline
- Media proliferation dilutes market reach
  - Perception of books as 'uncool'

# Additional Complications



Retail prices falling in real terms

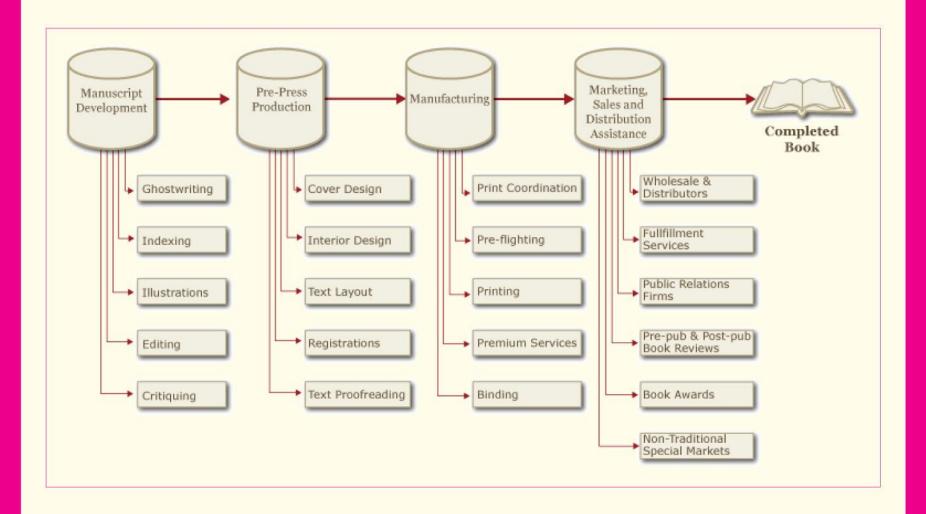


#### Digital cannibalisation of sales

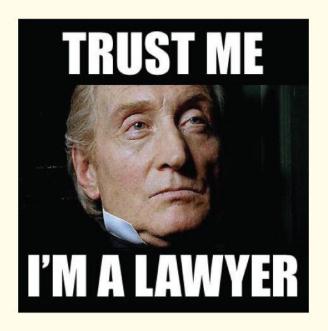
Volume sales down 7.2% to 209m \*



· Author costs very high



Complexity of total supply chain





Legal complexity and threats to IP



· 'Knowledge should be free' syndrome

• Low margins = low investment

### What to do



Communities of interest



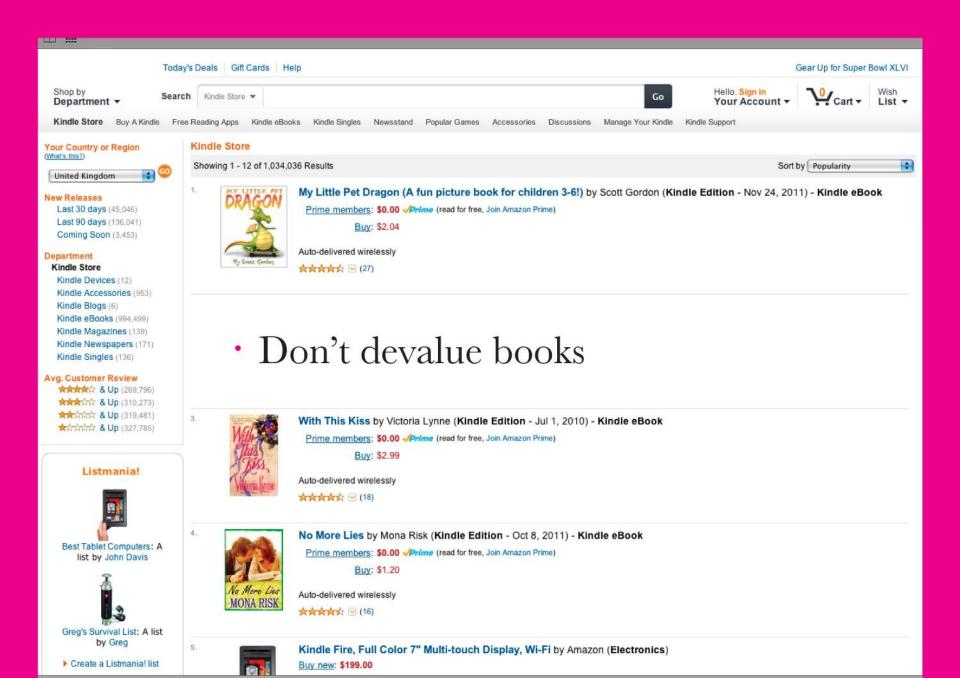
Measuring



Brand partnerships

## What not to do (maybe)

· Don't rely on any one intermediary



Don't undervalue authors



Don't stop believing

## Thank you