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Book Review: Every Writer's Guide to Copyright and Publishing Law 2d ed.

Ramon A. Klitzke

Marquette University Law School, ramon.klitzke@marquette.edu

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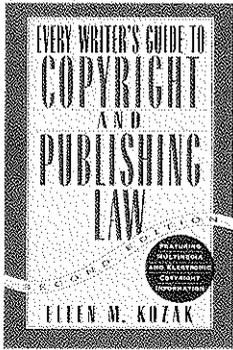
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BOOK REVIEWS



Every Writer's Guide to Copyright and Publishing Law, 2d ed.

By Ellen M. Kozak (New York, NY: Owl Books/Henry

Holt & Co., 1997). \$9.95. Paper. 142 pgs.

Reviewed by
Ramon A. Klitzke

Attorney Ellen Kozak offers a fine, handy guide to general principles of the U.S. copyright law as it relates to literary works. While not unduly lengthy, *Every Writer's Guide to Copyright and Publishing Law* touches upon every important aspect of copyright law of interest to authors and lawyers who need a convenient source of information.

When I reviewed the first edition of this guide (*see* 63 Wis. Law. 26 (Sept. 1990)), international electronic communications, as we know them today, were in their infancy. Now the Internet brings the world of cyberspace into our homes and offices. By 1999, 200 million people will use the Internet. Surfers can download copyrighted works from massive libraries of newspapers, periodicals and books. Justice Stevens said in *Reno v. American Civil Liberties Union*, the Web is "a vast platform from which to address and hear from a worldwide audience of millions of readers, viewers, researchers and buyers." 117 S. Ct. 2329, 2335 (1997). Clearly, authors and lawyers must understand copyright law protection.

This mega-outpouring of electronic copyrighted works prompted Kozak to add a new chapter, "The Global Village and the Information Superhighway," to

her second edition. Because most countries are signatory to the Berne Convention, have ratified GATT, or have bilateral treaties with the U.S., we are bound to respect rights of foreign copyright holders and they should respect our rights. However, many foreign copyright laws differ markedly from ours. Moreover, some countries pay only lip service to copyright protection, and enforcement against foreign piracy of U.S. works is nonexistent. It must be emphasized that *Every Writer's Guide* is primarily devoted to U.S. law. Only one chapter covers international copyright.

The book will lead writers, publishers and lawyers through complicated mazes of exploitation, infringement, notice, registration and copyright restoration, to mention only a few. A new chapter on author collaboration agreements has been added. Every important aspect of copyright and publishing law is covered. An excellent index allows the reader ready access to specific topics.

Kozak draws upon her extensive practical experience in advising and negotiating contracts for authors. She herself has published two novels, 250 articles and an important book, *From Pen to Print: The Secrets of Getting Published Success-*

fully. The *Guide* quite effectively supplements that book.

Ramon A. Klitzke, Indiana 1957, N.Y.U. 1958, is professor emeritus at Marquette University Law School, where he taught for 27 years. His subjects were intellectual property, antitrust law, unfair trade practices and administrative law.