

JCP Publishing Partnership

The book business is a partnership between writers, publishers and bookshops. What starts as an idea is turned into a book for sale. All parties wish to make money from the process whilst minimising the commercial risk.

Having your book published by a reputable publisher is fundamental to the success of your book. That way it can be sold into all bookshops nationally and given a proper marketing platform.

Access to bookshops is keenly sought and yet rarely granted. Most bookshops are major companies and have strong and exclusive relationships with a few key suppliers. They want maximum volume from the least number of suppliers so they can streamline inventory and cash flow.

Below is a brief overview of the publishing process and an outline of how Jane Curry Publishing works with authors.

1) The Major Publishers

Once you have written your manuscripts you can try to submit it to one of major publishers in Australia:

Random House. North Sydney.
Penguin Books. Melbourne.
Harper Collins. Sydney.

Macmillan. Sydney
Hachette Livre. Sydney.
Allen and Unwin. Sydney.

If a book is signed up by one of these houses, they will offer you a publishing contract securing world rights in all editions and forms and pay you a 10% royalty of the retail price. You would hold copyright but they hold all other rights.

However, the major publishers run essentially as a closed shop. They do not accept unsolicited manuscripts and prefer to publish established and known authors.

Without any influence, it would be very difficult to even speak to a publisher at one of these houses. (I was publisher at Macmillan for five years).

This is not a reflection on your work it is a function of the enormous volume of first time manuscripts. There are thousands of unsolicited manuscripts submitted to Australian publishers every year.

An unpublished author would need a media profile or some sort of “hook” to entice them to see merit in the work.

In general, large publishers rely on literary agents to select the good manuscripts for them. A manuscript is taken more seriously if presented through an agent as they have to believe in the work to take it on.

2) Literary Agents

To get your work read by one of the majors, you can use an agent to represent you to publishers. They will read your work and if successful they will opt to represent you.

An agent will charge you upwards of 10% of all your earnings from the project. Royalties are paid to them, held in trust for you and you are paid the net figure.

But again, agents like to represent authors with a publishing contract, who are already published or who have a profile.

You can contact the Australian Society of Authors for a list of agents.

3) Partnership with Jane Curry Publishing

Jane Curry Publishing can publish your work to the same standard as a major publishing house and offers national trade distribution through Macmillan Distribution Services.

We do so by entering a **Partnership/Royalty agreement** which requires a financial commitment from the author in return for royalties paid to you on sales made in the book trade.

In broad terms, **Jane Curry Publishing** publishes your book and you are contracted to:

- a) **Purchase stock. These books are yours to sell at the launch/speakers events/ your website etc.**
- b) **A publishing fee based in the type of book.**

In return, **Jane Curry Publishing** publishes the work and pays you a royalty based on sales made in the booktrade.

Please contact **Jane Curry Publishing** for further information.