

Who Has Copyright Over A Published Work?

This is a quick, simple and easy answer. You.

You will always retain the copyright over your published work. That will always be the case.

What does it mean to have copyright over a published work? It means that it will always and forever be your work. AGP will never take over credit for a written work that we did not write. When we publish an author, they always retain copyright of their work and whether you sell 10 copies or 10 million, the copyright over the existing work remains yours.

I remember the first time I got asked this question (and I remember the first time I asked it of my own then-publisher), it was a really important question for me and I was waiting excitedly, somewhat impatiently and nervously to see what their response would be. The reason I had asked the question to my then-publisher and the reason I suspect other authors ask it as well is because you want to know if your writing rights will be protected. And that is completely fair! The fact is: of course your writing rights will be protected and it is a great question. In fact, if you ever come across a publisher who does not directly and explicitly let you keep your copyright, best to walk away.

So rest easy knowing that you will always retain the copyright of your book. You can also check out this article from the Author's Guild of Canada that talks about this: <https://authorsguild.org/legal-services/copyright-advice/>