

# Review Guidelines

Read to Lead aims to host some of the best book reviews anywhere. Our members are passionate, knowledgeable readers, and their contributions to the site are what make it such a vibrant and fun place. These guidelines are presented to help make sure Read to Leads' reviews remain the best and most authentic in the world.

## OUR REVIEW PHILOSOPHY

Read to Lead is for expressing your honest opinions about books. Don't be afraid to say what you think about the book! We welcome your passion, as it helps the millions of other readers on Read to Lead learn what a book is really about, and decide whether or not they want to read it.

We believe that Read to Lead members should see the best, most relevant, thought provoking reviews (positive and negative) when they visit a book page. Our job is to show members those reviews, and not show reviews that we deem to not be appropriate or a high enough level of quality.

However we value that members trust us with your thoughts and words and take our stewardship of storing your reviews seriously. We promise to always store your reviews on your profile and in your bookshelves and will never delete or modify them – except for certain extreme situations, which are described below. Your thoughts and your words are yours, and we promise you we will always respect that.

Here are some examples of what we allow in reviews:

- Creativity! Some of the best reviews on Read to Lead use the book as inspiration for a personal essay or other piece of creative writing. As long as they don't go against our guidelines in other ways, these reviews are welcome and encouraged!
- Images in reviews are fine (and sometimes hilarious) but please, no nudity or graphic violence.
- Pre-publication reviews. Many of our members receive advance copies of books to review, either through Read to Lead giveaways or another source. We have no way of knowing the exact date that review copies are available. As such, each book is eligible to be reviewed as soon as it appears on the site.
- Harsh critical statements that apply to the book or the writing in it, such as "This guy can't write a lick," or "This book is absolute trash." Again, honest opinions about books are always going to be welcome and encouraged on Read to Lead.

And here are some of the things that might cause your review to receive a lower priority in our internal ranking system, which may affect whether or not your review appears on the book page:

- Reviews of the author. Mentioning the author in the context of a review is always acceptable, but reviews that are predominantly about an author's behavior and not about the book may be deleted.

- Reviews with off-topic, irrelevant comments about the author's personal life will be deleted. For example, if the author owes you money, that is not appropriate information for a book review, and it will be deleted entirely.
- We will not tolerate abuse of our ratings system, such as rating the same work more than once for the purpose of inflating or deflating the book's average rating. Multiple ratings we determine to be abusive will be removed.
- Reviews that attack other reviewers will be deleted. Statements like "Other reviews have said this book is terrible, but I disagree" are fine, but if the primary purpose of your review is to mock or harass another Read to Lead member, we may give it a lower priority or delete it entirely.
- Reviews must be your own original content. Reviews that plagiarize from another source or use copyrighted material without permission will be deleted.
- Self-promotional reviews will be deleted. (i.e., "I'm an author writing about Rome. This book is terrible. For a real history of Rome, check out my new book.").
- Full reviews that link to a blog are acceptable, as long as the blog is not selling a competing book and using the review to denigrate the book being reviewed in favor of its own.
- Reviews that are harassing or threatening, or that contain hate speech or bigotry. These will be deleted outright and anyone posting them risks being removed from the site.
- Spam reviews. These will be deleted immediately.
- Commercial reviews are not allowed and will be deleted. If you received a free copy of the book, you are required to disclose that in your review.

And here are a couple of disclaimers:

- Read to Lead reserves the right to remove a review at any time for any reason. It is at our sole discretion and no one else's, that we decide when a review is against our guidelines.
- The reviews posted on Read to Lead are individual and subjective opinions. The opinions expressed in reviews are those of Read to Leads members and not of Read to Lead. We do not endorse any of the opinions expressed by reviewers.

# Terms of Use

Welcome to “Read to Lead”, the website and online service of Read to Lead (together with its affiliates, “Read to Lead” “we,” or “us”). This page explains the terms by which you may use our service. By accessing or using the Read to Lead website provided through or in connection with the service (“Service”), you signify that you have read, understood, and agree to be bound by this Terms of Use Agreement, the Read to Lead Privacy Policy, the [Amazon.com Conditions of Use](#), and the other applicable rules, policies and terms posted on the Read to Lead website or provided with the Service (collectively, this “Agreement”), whether or not you are a registered user of our Service.

We reserve the right to amend this Agreement at any time in our sole discretion by posting the revised Agreement on the Read to Lead website. Your continued use of the Service after any such changes constitutes your acceptance of the revised Agreement. This Agreement applies to all visitors, users, and others who access the Service (“Users”).

## 1. Use of Our Service

Read to Lead provides a place for you to discover, track, and talk about books with friends and our community.

You do not have to register in order to visit us. To access certain features of the Service, though, including creating book reviews, you will need to register with Read to Lead and create a “Member” account. Your account gives you access to the services and functionality that we may establish and maintain from time to time and in our sole discretion.

You may never use another Member’s account without permission. You are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of your account and password and for restricting access to your account, and you agree to accept responsibility for all activities that occur under your account or password. You agree to notify Read to Lead immediately of any breach of security or unauthorized use of your account.

All rights not expressly granted to you in this Agreement are reserved and retained by us or our licensors, suppliers, publishers, rightsholders, or other content providers. No part of the Service may be reproduced, duplicated, copied, sold, resold, visited, or otherwise exploited for any commercial purpose without our express written consent. You may not frame or utilize framing techniques to enclose any trademark, logo, or other proprietary information (including images, text, page layout, or form) of Read to Lead without our express written consent. You may not use any meta tags or any other “hidden text” utilizing our name or trademarks without our express written consent. You may not misuse the Service. You may use the Service only as permitted by law. The licenses granted by us terminate if you do not comply with this Agreement.

Read to Lead may permanently or temporarily terminate, suspend, or otherwise refuse to permit your access to the Service without notice and liability for any reason, including if in Read to Lead’s sole determination you violate any provision of this Agreement, or for no reason. Upon termination for any reason or no reason, you continue to be bound by this Agreement.

The Service is subject to scheduled and unscheduled service interruptions. All aspects of the Service are subject to change or elimination at Read to Lead’s sole discretion. You agree that Read to Lead will not be liable to you for any interruption of the Service, delay or failure to perform.

## 2. User Content

Some areas of the Service may allow Users to upload, publish, display, link to or otherwise make available (hereinafter, "post") reviews, comments, questions, highlights, and other information including Users' names, voices and likenesses ("User Content"). You are solely responsible for your User Content. You agree not to post User Content that is illegal, obscene, threatening, defamatory, invasive of privacy, infringing of intellectual property rights (including publicity rights), or otherwise injurious to third parties or objectionable, and does not consist of or contain software viruses, political campaigning, commercial solicitation, chain letters, mass mailings, or any form of "spam" or unsolicited commercial electronic messages. You may not use a false e-mail address, impersonate any person or entity, or otherwise mislead as to the origin of content. You hereby represent that you are the owner of all the copyright rights with respect to, or that you have the legal right to post, your User Content, and that you have the power to grant the license granted below. Read to Lead reserves the right to monitor, reject and/or remove any User Content at any time. For example, Read to Lead may, but is not obligated to, reject and/or remove any User Content that Read to Lead believes, in its sole discretion, violates these provisions.

Read to Lead takes no responsibility and assumes no liability for any User Content that you or any other Users or third parties post or send over the Service. You understand and agree that any loss or damage of any kind that occurs as a result of the use of any User Content that you post is solely your responsibility. Read to Lead is not responsible for any public display or misuse of your User Content. You understand and acknowledge that you may be exposed to User Content that is inaccurate, offensive, indecent, or objectionable, and you agree that Read to Lead shall not be liable for any damages you allege to incur as a result of such User Content. Read to Lead may provide support for you to remove some User Content, but does not guarantee that all or any User Content will be removable.

## 3. License Grant

By posting any User Content on the Service, you expressly grant to Read to Lead a nonexclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, and fully sublicensable right to use, reproduce, modify, adapt, publish, perform, translate, create derivative works from, distribute, and display such content throughout the world in any media. You represent and warrant that you own or otherwise control all of the rights to the content that you post; that the content is accurate; that use of the content you supply does not violate this policy and will not cause injury to any person or entity; and that you will indemnify Read to Lead for all claims resulting from content you supply.

## 4. Our Proprietary Rights

Except for your User Content, the Service and all materials therein or transferred thereby, including, without limitation, software, images, text, graphics, illustrations, logos, patents, trademarks, service marks, copyrights, photographs, audio, videos, music, and User Content (the "Read to Lead Content"), and all intellectual property Rights related thereto, are the exclusive property of Read to Lead. Except as explicitly provided herein, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to create a license in or under any such intellectual property Rights, and you agree not to sell, license, rent, modify, distribute, copy, reproduce, transmit, publicly display, publicly perform, publish, adapt, edit or create derivative works from any materials or content accessible on the Service. Use of the Read to Leads' Content or materials on the Service for any purpose not expressly permitted by this Agreement is strictly prohibited.

## 5. Eligibility

This Service is intended solely for Users who are thirteen (13) years of age or older, and any registration, use or access to the Service by anyone under 13 is unauthorized, unlicensed, and in violation of this Agreement. If you are under 18 years of age you may use the Service only if you either are an emancipated minor or possess legal parental or guardian consent, and are fully able and competent to enter into the terms, conditions, obligations, affirmations, representations, and warranties set forth in this Agreement, and to abide by and comply with this Agreement.

## 7. Copyright Complaints

If you believe that your copyrighted work has been copied in a way that constitutes copyright infringement and is accessible via the Service, please send us the following information:

1. An electronic or physical signature of a person authorized to act on behalf of the copyright owner;
2. A description of the copyrighted work that you claim has been infringed upon;
3. A description of the material that is claimed to be infringing and where it is located on the Service;
4. Your address, telephone number, and e-mail address;
5. A statement that you have a good faith belief that use of the material in the manner complained of is not authorized by the copyright owner, its agent, or law; and
6. A statement, made under penalty of perjury, that the above information is accurate, and that you are the copyright owner or are authorized to act on behalf of the owner.

Please note that this procedure is exclusively for notifying Read to Lead that your copyrighted material has been infringed.

## 8. Third-Party Websites, Advertisers or Services

Read to Lead may contain links to third-party websites, advertisers, or services that are not owned or controlled by Read to Lead. Read to Lead has no control over, and assumes no responsibility for, the content, privacy policies, or practices of any third party websites or services. If you access a third party website from Read to Lead, you do so at your own risk, and you understand that this Agreement and Read to Leads' Privacy Policy do not apply to your use of such sites. You expressly relieve Read to Lead from any and all liability arising from your use of any third-party website or services or third party owned content.

Additionally, your dealings with or participation in promotions of advertisers found on Read to Lead, including payment and delivery of goods, and any other terms (such as warranties) are solely between you and such advertisers. You agree that Read to Lead shall not be responsible for any loss or damage of any sort relating to your dealings with such advertisers.

We encourage you to be aware of when you leave the Service, and to read the terms and conditions and privacy policy of any third-party website or service that you visit.

## 9. Indemnity

You agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Read to Lead and other affiliated companies, and their employees, contractors, agents, officers and directors, from and against any and all claims, damages, obligations, losses, liabilities, costs or debt, and expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees) arising from: (i) your use of and access to the Service, including any data or content transmitted or received by you; (ii) your violation of any term of this Agreement,

including without limitation your breach of any of the representations and warranties above; (iii) your violation of any third-party right, including without limitation any right of privacy, publicity rights or intellectual property rights; (iv) your violation of any law, rule or regulation of the United Kingdom or any other country; (v) any claim or damages that arise as a result of any of your User Content or any that are submitted via your account; or (vi) any other party's access and use of the Service with your unique username, password or other appropriate security code.

## 10. Disclaimers of Warranties and Limitation of Liability

THE SERVICE AND ALL INFORMATION, CONTENT, MATERIALS, PRODUCTS (INCLUDING SOFTWARE) AND OTHER SERVICES INCLUDED ON OR OTHERWISE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH THE SERVICE ARE PROVIDED ON AN "AS IS" AND "AS AVAILABLE" BASIS, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN WRITING. READ TO LEAD MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AS TO THE OPERATION OF THE SERVICE, OR THE INFORMATION, CONTENT, MATERIALS, PRODUCTS (INCLUDING SOFTWARE) OR OTHER SERVICES INCLUDED ON OR OTHERWISE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH THE SERVICE, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN WRITING. YOU EXPRESSLY AGREE THAT YOUR USE OF THE SERVICE IS AT YOUR SOLE RISK.

TO THE FULL EXTENT PERMISSIBLE BY APPLICABLE LAW, READ TO LEAD DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. READ TO LEAD DOES NOT WARRANT THAT THE SERVICE, INFORMATION, CONTENT, MATERIALS, PRODUCTS (INCLUDING SOFTWARE) OR OTHER SERVICES INCLUDED ON OR OTHERWISE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH THE SERVICE, READ TO LEAD'S SERVERS OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SENT FROM READ TO LEAD ARE FREE OF VIRUSES OR OTHER HARMFUL COMPONENTS. READ TO LEAD WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES OF ANY KIND ARISING FROM THE USE OF THE SERVICE, OR FROM ANY INFORMATION, CONTENT, MATERIALS, PRODUCTS (INCLUDING SOFTWARE) OR OTHER SERVICES INCLUDED ON OR OTHERWISE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH THE SERVICE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN WRITING. CERTAIN STATE LAWS DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF CERTAIN DAMAGES. IF THESE LAWS APPLY TO YOU, SOME OR ALL OF THE ABOVE DISCLAIMERS, EXCLUSIONS, OR LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU, AND YOU MIGHT HAVE ADDITIONAL RIGHTS.

**Assignment.** This Agreement, and any rights and licenses granted hereunder, may not be transferred or assigned by you, but may be assigned by Read to Lead without restriction.

**Disputes/Binding Arbitration.** Any dispute or claim arising from or relating to this Agreement or a Kindle, any Reading Application, the Software, the Digital Content or the Service is subject to the binding arbitration, governing law, disclaimer of warranties, limitation of liability and all other terms in the [Amazon.com Conditions of Use](#). You agree to those terms by entering into this Agreement or using a Kindle, any Reading Application, or the Service.

**No Waiver.** No waiver of any term of this Agreement shall be deemed a further or continuing waiver of such term or any other term, and Read to Leads' failure to assert any right or provision under this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of such right or provision.