

CORY DOCTOROW



Cory Doctorow is a science fiction writer, activist, blogger, and journalist. Based in the U.S.

craphound.com and **boingboing.net**

Revenue model: charging for physical copies (book sales), pay-what-you-want, selling translation rights to books

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Profile written by Sarah Hinchliff Pearson

Cory Doctorow hates the term “business model,” and he is adamant that he is not a brand. “To me, branding is the idea that you can take a thing that has certain qualities, remove the qualities, and go on selling it,” he said. “I’m not out there trying to figure out how to be a brand. I’m doing this thing that animates me to work crazy insane hours because it’s the most important thing I know how to do.”

Cory calls himself an entrepreneur. He likes to say his success came from making stuff people happened to like and then getting out of the way of them sharing it.

He is a science fiction writer, activist, blogger, and journalist. Beginning with his first novel, *Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom*, in 2003, his work has been published under a Creative Commons license. Cory is coeditor of the popular CC-licensed site *Boing Boing*, where he

writes about technology, politics, and intellectual property. He has also written several nonfiction books, including the most recent *Information Doesn’t Want to Be Free*, about the ways in which creators can make a living in the Internet age.

Cory primarily makes money by selling physical books, but he also takes on paid speaking gigs and is experimenting with pay-what-you-want models for his work.

While Cory’s extensive body of fiction work has a large following, he is just as well known for his activism. He is an outspoken opponent of restrictive copyright and digital-rights-management (DRM) technology used to lock up content because he thinks both undermine creators and the public interest. He is currently a special adviser at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, where he is involved in a lawsuit