



Book Cover Art

A REFERENCE GUIDE TO COPYRIGHT OWNERSHIP

COVER CREATOR	ASSETS	COPYRIGHT OWNER
Author	Original assets created by Author	Author
Author	Created by Author using licensed assets	Author controls copyright subject to terms of the asset license
Cover Designer hired by Author	Original assets created by Designer	Designer
Cover Designer hired by Author	Designer uses licensed assets	Designer controls copyright subject to terms of the asset license
Cover Designer employed by Publisher	Original assets created by Designer or owned by Publisher	Publisher
Cover Designer employed by Publisher	Designer uses licensed assets	Publisher controls copyright subject to terms of the asset license
Independent Cover Designer commissioned by Publisher	Original assets created by Designer	Designer
Independent Cover Designer commissioned by Publisher	Designer uses licensed assets	Designer controls copyright subject to terms of the asset license

Creative assets are the pieces that make up the visual representation of the cover design and include the layout, color scheme, fonts, images, graphics, and copy.

In order for an author to control the copyright of cover art created by someone else, a written contract transferring or licensing the art to the author must be signed by the copyright owner.



Kathryn Goldman
Attorney & Editor-in-Chief
creativelawcenter.com

Where creative professionals come to learn about the law so they can create with confidence.