

## AuthorHouse Self-Publishing UK – a deceptive and unreliable publishing house

By Dr. Mohsen El-Guindy

I am a doctor in genetics. I worked for forty years in the field of agricultural research in the Agricultural Research Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture – Egypt. I supervised dozens of MScs and PhDs and published over one hundred scientific papers in local and international scientific journals. By introducing myself as a scientific man I wish to show that I am a sincere man who devoted 40 years of his life doing research, supervising PhDs and introducing to the world a new generation of scientists.

In addition to science I have also the hobby of writing novels in English and publishing them abroad. I didn't know where to publish my books, so I searched the internet for self-publishing houses, and I found one I thought it was suitable for my books. The name of such publishing house was "AuthorHouse". I was attracted by what they wrote in their website: "AuthorHouse is the leading provider of supported self-publishing services for authors around the globe, with over 97,000 titles released. With our wide range of packages and services, we provide the tools and expertise you need to realize your publishing dreams. Distribute your book to a worldwide

audience in classic black & white, vibrant full-color, paperback, hardback, plus all digital formats. It's time to share your story with the world..." bla bla bla.

So, throughout the years, I published 4 novels via AuthorHouse under the titles: "Man from the East", "Downfall", "Brothers Khan" and "What are you looking at bitch". The publishing costs were high and so were those of marketing. The minute the book is published, they push on you their very expensive marketing plans for promoting the book. I was anxious to see my books in the market, so I joined such marketing programs, and this cost me a fortune. I still remember that one of these marketing plans cost me 8000 pounds sterling.

They didn't make any endeavor to put the books in the market, on the contrary they priced them very high and put all the profits in their pocket. They gave free samples of my books to the publishing outlets like Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and so forth, and when my books were sold, AuthorHouse print them on demand. When I asked about my royalties from my books, they lied saying the book are not selling! When I asked about the movement of my books in the publishing outlets, they don't give you a clue. They put you under the impression that your books are not selling, and you deserve no royalties. But I deciphered their lies and theft when I watched the movement of my

books in Amazon, Barnes and Nobel, Alibris...etc. These book outlets were nicely selling my books since they write when the books were sold the words “finished” or “available after few days.” This showed clearly that my books had a high demand from the readers and the book outlets sold all what they have and asked AuthorHouse to print more books to feed their hungry stores.

I wonder what AuthorHouse is exactly doing to promote a book if the author is unable to pay the costs of the marketing plans, they offer him. Nothing at all.

I was quite annoyed by their attitude, but I didn't care much at first because I was busy writing other novels until after 5 years from publishing 4 novels with them, they sent me an email saying that I deserve a 22.3 dollars royalty. I said 22.3 dollar from four books published over five years?!!

They didn't stop at that, they added that I must pay an American tax they call the IRS and if not, they were going to deduce from my royalty 80% of its value! And above that they said that because I am not a resident of England or America, they will reduce from my royalty another 16%!! This I considered utter racism, a glaring theft, ugly injustice and apparent defraud.

I replied why you didn't tell in the first place before signing the contracts that your intention was not to pay royalties to the authors? I signed with you four contracts saying that the author is entitled to royalties!

I became furious. These guys exploit their authors to the maximum, lying to them, squeezing them to death: the author pay all the costs and wait for a return which never happens. They don't properly introduce the book to the market. They strive to benefit from every book without doing any real effort to publicize it. They are parasites parasitizing on our money, sweat and the juice of our brain and in the end, you get nothing from publishing with them except disrespect, lies, and ugly exploitation.

I sent them two emails telling them in the first one: "I don't want the 22.3 dollars. Swallow them down your ugly throats or give them to the homeless people in your country".

In the second email I demanded the cancellation of my contracts with them. And that I did already. This means that they will not be able to print on demand when the publishing outlets like Amazon or Barnes and Nobel etc. ask for more of my books. But I don't trust them, I am sure that they still print my books behind my back and put all the money in their dirty pockets. After the cancellation

of my contracts it is supposed that the publishing outlets will be empty of my books but if you visit these publishing outlets now, you will find that after one month from cancellation my contracts with them, my books are still there, meaning Authorhouse is still printing them behind my back. And this is another glaring theft.

Do they think they will get away with their crime? The illegitimate money they stole from me and others will shred them into pieces and soon they will face bankruptcy.

In this respect I would like to warn all the authors who are willing to publish their books not to deal with AuthorHouse because the authors will be robbed and would certainly lose all their rights.

Time will come when I will take these thieves to court and make them pay the price of their crimes.

