

The piracy crusade: How the music industry's war on sharing destroys markets and erodes civil liberties.

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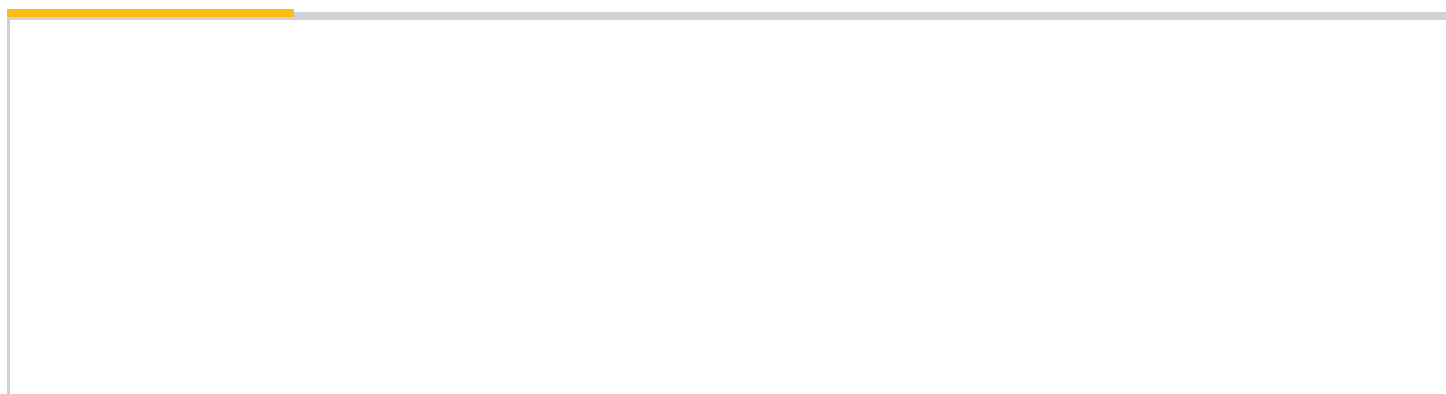


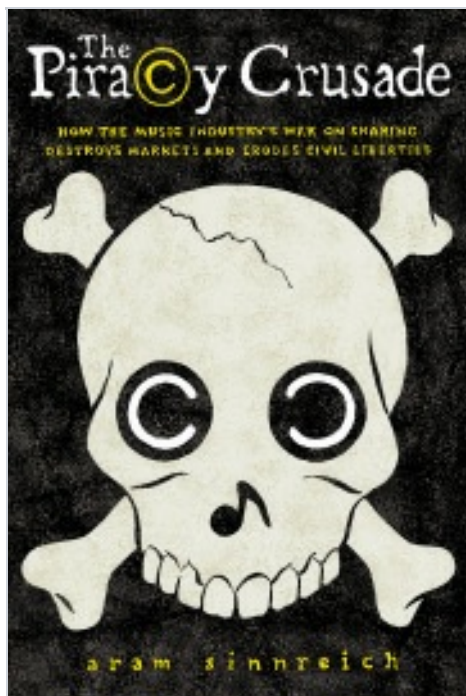
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The Piracy Crusade: How
the Music Industry's War
on Sharing Destroys
Markets and Erodes Civil
Liberties

In this Book





The Piracy Crusade: How the Music Industry's War on Sharing Destroys Markets and Erodes Civil Liberties

Aram Sinnreich

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SUMMARY

In the decade and a half since Napster first emerged, forever changing the face of digital culture, the claim that “internet pirates killed the music industry” has become so ubiquitous that it is treated as common knowledge. Piracy is a scourge on legitimate businesses and hard-working artists, we are told, a “cybercrime” similar to identity fraud or even terrorism. In *The Piracy Crusade*, Aram Sinnreich critiques the notion of “piracy” as a myth perpetuated by today’s cultural cartels—the handful of companies that dominate the film, software, and especially music industries. As digital networks have permeated our social environment, they have offered vast numbers of people the opportunity to experiment with innovative cultural and entrepreneurial ideas predicated on the belief that information should be shared widely. This has left the media cartels, whose power has historically resided in their ability to



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