

# PUBLISHING'S TOP-EARNING AUTHORS OF 2011

ADVERTISEMENT

Fri, 08/10/2012 - 2:38pm — admin

Forbes.com has just posted the 15 top earning authors for 2011. Here is the list:

James Patterson: \$94 million

Stephen King: \$39 million

Janet Evanovich: \$33 million

John Grisham: \$26 million

Jeff Kinney, \$25 million

Bill O'Reilly: \$24 million

Nora Roberts: \$23 million

Danielle Steel: \$23 million

Suzanne Collins: \$20 million

Dean Koontz: \$19 million

JK Rowling: \$17 million

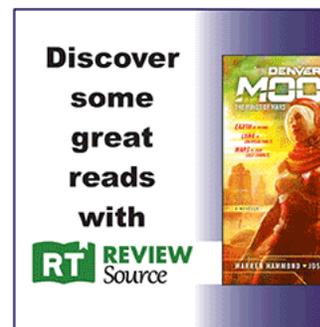
George RR Martin: \$15 million

Stephenie Meyer: \$14 million

Ken Follett: \$14 million

Rick Riordan: \$13 million

The usual suspects top this year's list of best-paid authors. Holding onto the number one spot is [James Patterson](#) who earned a cool \$94 million (over double the amount of the next top earner). Patterson's success stems from the incredibly large contracts that he commands as well as the amazing number of works the author publishes — 14 books in 2011.



## RECENT BOOK REVIEWS



[BREATHLESS](#) by Celeste Bradley Donovan



[THE PRINCESS](#) by Elizabeth Elli



[FIND YOU IN THE DARK](#) by Na



[THE PRIVILEGE OF PEACE](#) by T

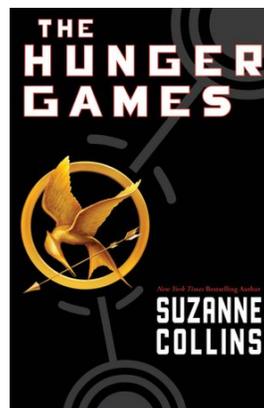


[CRIME AND PUNCTUATION](#) by Dunnett

[More](#)

Next on the list, raking in an amazing \$39 million, is the ever-present and prolific [Stephen King](#). [Janet Evanovich](#), author of the best-selling Stephanie Plum series, which just hit the big screen in 2012, isn't too far behind at \$33 million.

[Suzanne Collins](#) clocks in at \$20 million, but with the success of her Hunger Games trilogy, and with two movies still in the works, she should see a higher return by 2013. And the Hunger Games can't be mentioned without giving a nod to the other trilogy whose neck it's breathing down (and biting?), [Stephenie Meyer's](#) Twilight series. Meyer's earned a not-to-be scoffed at \$14 million, and her final film, *Breaking Dawn: Part 2*, should give her much to be grateful for when it opens around this Thanksgiving holiday season. Although it's yet to be seen whether or not the personal lives - and very public breakup — of its stars, Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson, will discourage fans from seeing the film series through to the end.



And, speaking of Twilight, there's one name that just may break the list next year: [E.L. James](#) with her erotic — and adult — fanfic, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, which was based off the romance of Meyers' hot-'n-not-so-heavy abstaining teens. To the surprise of almost everyone, the Fifty Shades phenomenon exploded on the scene and made it onto the must-read lists of harried — and voracious — moms. With a movie already in the works, James is set to earn many a pretty penny. And, with a sudden glut of erotic novels following in its wake, this steamy genre may be one to keep eyes on (but watch those hands!) for new breakout stars.

**We want to know: Of the top 15 earners, which author are you most likely to reach for when in the bookstore or shopping online? Tell us in the comments section. For more publishing industry news click [here](#).**

**TAGS:** [Publishing Industry News](#)

#### RELATED POSTS

[April's Seal Of Excellence Winner Author Carol McCleary Top 5 Historical Figures Who Deserve Their Own Novels - With Giveaway!](#)

[RT Booklovers Convention 2011: Agents Talk About The Publishing Industry And Answer Authors' Questions](#)



[How Authors Can Use Wattpad To Sell Books And Earn Money](#)

#### COMMENTS

Comments for this thread are now closed.



0 Comments RT Book Reviews

Login

Recommend Share

Sort by Best

This discussion has been closed.

ALSO ON RT BOOK REVIEWS

Cover Breakdown: Nalini Singh's ARCHANGEL'S PROPHECY

1 comment • 16 days ago

Elizabeth H. — I absolutely cannot WAIT for October! Raphael and Elena are my favorite paranormal couple! I hope we get more page time with Elena's ...

Hump Day: Katee Robert's THE LAST KING

11 comments • 2 months ago

MichelleCat — Business and love are ying and yang, but it's up to the people involved. Is it possible? Of course, almost anything is possible.

Joanna Shupe Reveals the World of Gilded Age New York

1 comment • a month ago

Carol Opalinski — Looking forward to this book! And that is so cool about a female designing Hearst Castle. My son's girlfriend is an architect.

Cover Reveal: Jeffe Kennedy's THE ARROWS OF THE HEART

1 comment • 2 months ago

Minerva Spencer — Beautiful!!!!

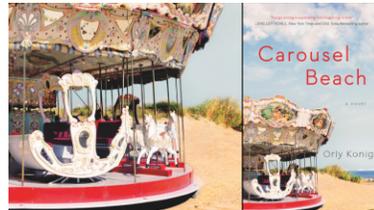
Subscribe Add Disqus to your site Add Disqus Add Privacy

ROMANCE

MAINSTREAM

PARANORMAL

YOUNG ADULT



AudioFile Picks: Audiobook Reviews 5/11/18

It's no secret that we at RT love reading romance! And if you happen to see us with headphones on, but no book in hand, it's likely that we...

Hump Day: Helena Hunting's I Flipping Love You

AudioFile Picks: Audiobook Reviews 5/4/18

Cover Reveal: Paige Tyler's WOLF RISING

Hump Day: Erin McCarthy's THE HOOKUP

Royal Wedding Fever: Harry and Meghan Paper Dolls and Coloring

Orly Konig's Carousel Beach Sends Readers on a Magical Journey

While many of us are still feeling the

FIRST CHAPTER: Then She Was Gone by Lisa Jewell

Blind Date With a Book REVEALED: Mainstream Reviewers' Choice Award Nominee

EXCERPT: Love and Other Words by Christina Lauren

Tiffany Reisz On Her New Gothic Novel, The Lucky Ones

2017 RT Reviewers' Choice Award Nominees — Inspirational, Mainstream and Young Adult

RT18 Costume Post: Badass, Kickass, Feehan Party

The RT Booklovers Convention is next week! We can't believe it either!

Cover Breakdown: Nalini Singh's ARCHANGEL'S PROPHECY

Cover Reveal + Giveaway: Chloe Neill's SLAYING IT

Cover Reveal: Jeffe Kennedy's THE ARROWS OF THE HEART

MONDAY GIVEAWAY: Alpha Unleashed by Kathy Lyons

QUIZ: 14 Questions About Christine Feehan's GhostWalker Series!

More Paranormal »

Debut Author Spotlight: Adrienne Young

We at RT love discovering authors, and Adrienne Young's fantasy debut, Sky in the Dark

Cover Trend: Millennial Pir

Emergency Contact Giveaway & a Backpack!

Jenn Bennett on Romancin

Advance Copy Giveaway: V Kristin Cast's LOST!

Seal of Excellence: Februar

More Y

[Books](#)

[More Mainstream »](#)

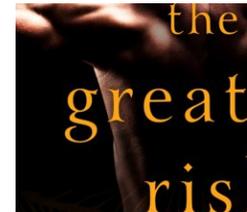
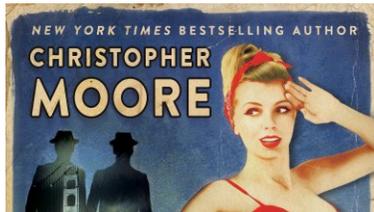
[More Romance »](#)

INSPIRATIONAL

MYSTERY

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

EROTICA



**MONDAY GIVEAWAY:** Return to Whispering Pines by Scarlett Dunn

We have a huge s

Blind Date With a Book: Inspirational Romance Reviewers' Choice Award Nominee

EXCERPT: A Borrowed Dream by Amanda Cabot

2017 RT Reviewers' Choice Award Nominees — Inspirational, Mainstream and Young Adult

Cover Breakdown: Beth Wiseman's AMISH CELEBRATIONS

Krista Phillips on THE ENGAGEMENT PLOT, THE BACHELOR and Keeping the Faith

[More Inspirational »](#)

**Christopher Moore Goes Noir**

Christopher Moore has written about vampires and death, taken on King Lear, Van Gogh — even Jesus.

**Seal of Excellence: March 2018**

**Lisa Scottoline On What Happens After Anna**

**Debut Author Spotlight: Clarissa Goenawan**

**Take a Trip to the Jersey Shore with Tina Kashian in Hummus and Homicide**

**This New Story From Simone St. James Will Haunt Your Nightmares In The Best Way**

[More Mystery »](#)

**R.F. Kuang Stuns With Her Debut Fantasy Novel, The Poppy War**

Fantasy fans looking for a refreshing and exciting story can find their newest obsession with military fantasy The Poppy War by R.F. Kuang.

2017 RT Reviewers' Choice Award Nominees — Science Fiction & Fantasy

Rati Mehrotra Dishes on her Debut Fantasy, Markswoman

Go Down The Rabbit Hole With A Brand New Alice-Inspired Anthology

Us and Them: Alysia Constantine on Circus Freaks and "Normal" Folks

A Story Worth Telling: Ginn Hale on LGBTQ+ Characters in Sci-Fi and Fantasy

[More Science Fiction »](#)

**Hump Day: Kristen Asplund's GREATEST RISK**

Rebecca Grace Allen on the Importance of Positive Rep of Kink in Romance

Hump Day: Lynda Aicher's TRUST

Cover Breakdown: J. Kenne WITH ME

Hump Day: Tamsen Parker BRINK OF PASSION

Hump Day: Sara Brookes's UP

[Advertising](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [RT Review Source](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

RT Book Reviews © 2009 - 2018. All rights reserved.