Comment:
My brother's thesis was on the subject of how the writings of a particular author were viewed. He examined all reviews and commentary written about the author. The idea was to discuss the perception of the author's work.

Once it was completed, a publisher took the thesis and published it as a book. Given the opportunity, my brother wanted to illustrate the book with some photos of the book cover of the author's works. This is because the cover of a book often also colors the perception of the works and the author.

My brother spent much time and energy attempting to locate the copyright holders for the long long out of print book covers. He was unable to locate or in some cases even determine the copyright holders.

Therefore, he had to leave the illustrations out of his book and the book suffers for it.