Preface

Are Neanderthal genes patentable? May a fan write *Harry Potter 8*? Could Amazon.com shut down Amazon Books, a women’s bookstore? Is there copyright in a student’s class paper? Why does so much copyrighted stuff stay up on YouTube? Can a video game company own its employees’ ideas?

This friendly introduction to intellectual property gives the lay of the land. Not meant to be a book for lawyers or law students, it skips fine distinctions, like “primarily geographically nondeceptively misdescriptive trademarks.” You can follow up, starting with the stuff in the “Sources” appendix.