July 22, 2015

To The U.S. Copyright Office:

I strongly urge Congress to vote down proposed changes in U.S. Copyright law, which would include a return of Orphan Works. This new law would make free-lance illustration a very expensive proposition indeed. Most illustrators are starting out with very little, and having to pay to register their works is an undue hardship. Believe me, illustrators have very few rights and very little protection anyway. Already, we've seen famous fine artists appropriating the work of book illustrators who were paid very little. Book illustrators already have to be on the lookout for print pirating overseas and are competing with workers overseas with the new digital worldwide economy. This new law would benefit anyone, anywhere who wants to use someone else's illustration for free.

I have been an illustrator for twenty years and am employed by the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. I am a member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators.

Sincerely,

Julia Morgan Scott

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