July 22, 2015

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

Dear Ms. Pallante & U.S. Copyright Office Staff:

As a lifelong artist, who lives by common rules of society, i.e. work hard, pay taxes, etc., it has NOT been easy making a living as an artist. As it is, the cards are stacked against artists from the beginning. While people continually tell us "I can't draw a stick figure", they proceed to balk at what it costs to have a talented professional actually do the work of drawing, painting, designing, and illustrating their art for them. The copyright is a huge protection artists and professionals in the artistic fields have as a means of getting paid for what they have spent hours, college years, and careers creating.

To discount our contribution to society, and our rights to our INTELLECTUAL property is not only a mistake, but tantamount to killing bees in order to have better crops. It is naive, and ignorant. To cut back, cut out, or shift our rights to others is not only a mistake, but will effectively take away our leverage in earning a living in a competitive, capitalistic society.

I wholeheartedly disagree with the proposed changes to our current copyrights. My voice falls down squarely on the side of the artist.

Sincerely,

Shelley Overton
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