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July 13, 2015

U.S. Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

May I share that I am an Artist and Illustrator for 20 plus years. I went to the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, studied abroad in Scotland, and received my BFA in Illustration.

My entire business depends on Copyright and the protection it gives to my hard work. I earn a living through my business, helping my husband support our home and daughter. Infringement on my work is the same as stealing my money.

Copyrights are what I license out. It's HOW I make my income. I also sell original works, custom requests, and write How To books, all bought using Copyright.

A large part of an illustration's value is inherent in the Copyright.

My art is licensed on products and in books. Copyrights allow me to certify it is my work, deal with those who steal it, get them to stop profiting from it as pirates, and keep it off of products and sites that are inappropriate and damaging to what my work stands for.

All that I create goes into my portfolio as inventory for these products in licensing and authoring. With the new digital age approaching fast, these Copyrights are ever more important, and have become even MORE important to the artist.

Licensing and publishing can significantly increase it's value. If manufacture A is successful with one or more of my works, manufacture B will be eager to get on board. Publishing increases its value, my income, and the economy.

I do not approve of people pirating or monetizing my work for their gain without my approval. It strips my works value, and my value as a professional artist. How would you feel if you're told your work has no value?

Sincerely Yours,

Sara Burrier