July 21, 2015

US Copyright Office
Orphan Works

Ms. Pallante & Copyright Office Staff:

RE: The Next Great Copyright Act

I am writing as an artist/illustrator, for over thirty years, and a graduate in Fine Arts from The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. I wish to express my opinion about the above matter -- specifically, I am AGAINST it for the following reasons:

As artists, our copyrights ARE the products we license.

—– This means that infringing our work is no different than stealing our money.

—– It’s important to our businesses that we remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom our work is used.

—– My work does NOT lose its value upon publication.

—– Instead, everything I create becomes part of my business inventory.

—– In the digital era, inventory is more valuable to artists than ever before.

Please be diligent in protecting these precious rights of artists against large companies infringing upon them. Copyright law is NOT an abstract legal issue, but the basis on which my business rests. It does NOT lose its value upon publication, but rather increases its value. Everything I create becomes part of my business inventory.

It's important to me as to how and by whom my work is used. I would not welcome someone else monetizing my work for their own profit without my knowledge or consent.

Please protect our rights as artists!

Sincerely,

Ev Wesson

Blue Heron Art Studio

411 Stanley Drive

Henrico, NC 278742