Copyright Office Officials,

I have read with alarm, that the Copyright Office is considering revamping copyright law in order to make it easier to use and profit from, artists' original work, without permission and without paying for it.

The human race makes progress SOLELY because of the hard work, talent, and dedication of creative innovators, a class which includes: inventors, artists, musicians, designers, composers, scientists, writers, engineers, choreographers, computer programmers, actors, directors, architects… A very high percentage of creative people barely make a living, while many people whose jobs consist solely of shuffling already existing things around grow extremely wealthy, for example: stock brokers, bond traders, bankers, real estate agents, energy traders.

There has never been, and never will be, in the history of the world, a culture that is remembered millennia later, for the high quality of its stock brokers, or bankers. Cultures are created by, and remembered for, their creative class. ***Ars longa, vita brevis.***

Artists are capable of creating value basically out of thin air. I defy any banker, stockbroker, or real estate agent to do that (legally, without cheating, and without lying). Do you really want to kill the geese that lay the golden eggs or force them to quit or to emigrate? It is generally illegal to steal in this country, but apparently you are attempting to make it easier to steal from artists, most of whom are already quite impoverished. Why not make it easier to steal from bond traders instead? They can afford it.

Sincerely and disgustedly,

Ellen Sandbeck
Duluth, Minnesota

Author/illustrator: *"Slug Bread & Beheaded Thistles,"* Broadway/Doubleday; *"Eat More Dirt,"* Broadway/Doubleday; *"Organic Housekeeping,"* Scribner; *"Green Barbarians,"* Scribner; *"Laverme's Handbook of Indoor Worm-Composting,"* De la Terre Press.

Inventor/developer, *Bravissimo Music Game* (copyright registered 2014)

Worm Farm Specialist, Federal Prison Camp, Duluth, Minnesota