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July 20, 2015

U.S. Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

As a freelance illustrator, I need to maintain revenue streams in order to make a living for my family. The resale of my past images is part of my day to day way of doing business.
The Orphan Works act will take away my main source of income and therefore the ability to support my family.

It will also hurt so many artists like myself who NEED their work to be THIERS in order to survive.

I would like to give an example so you know how dire this situation is for us: If you had a child (or have a child) and you were walking with them on the street one day, and a stranger decides that HE wants your child instead. The stranger grabs your child and runs off. You try to get them back but the stranger claims that *your* child is now *their* child. There is nothing you can do about it because your child belongs to another family now. How would this affect you? It would not be very nice would it?

This is what the Orphan Works Act will do to artists everywhere. Our work will not be ours, and there would be nothing we could do about it. Our art is our children, our labor of love, and our life blood.

Please do not take that away from us.

Sincerely yours,

Alysa Avery