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July 17, 2015

U.S. Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

I am writing in objection to the Orphan Works Act on behalf of myself and, I suspect, every working artist. Maintaing creative and legal control of my artwork has been a long and difficult battle throughout my career, and I have had to deal many times with thieves and insensitive parties who assume that the work I do is for "free".

Artists like myself build our entire careers on not only our work but our reputations as working professionals. Allowing undeserving parties free access to our work not only hurts the value of the art but the artist as well, since we are wrongly seen as just 'free producers of media who don't deserve to be paid.'

Going beyond a financial/business viewpoint, there is also the desire of the artists who simply love their creations. I am a comics-creator and have loved every moment of creating my own stories, characters, and fictional worlds. It may seem trite to those who don't appreciate such things, but it is something valuable and precious to every working artist.

Please don't jeopardize both our careers and our creations.

Thank you kindly,

Aidan Casserly