July 20, 2015

Library of Congress
U.S. Copyright Office
Docket #2015-01

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Brantly McCord, and I am one of the many concerned artists questioning the in-development Copyright Act, following suit of the Orphan Act in previous years. For a moment of your time, I'd like to relate my experiences as an American artist to a more relatable scenario:

> Imagine your friendly neighborhood carpenter, born with hands for made for working. His callouses are a sign of his humble craft, and his work-worn palms show loyalty to his fellow Americans, building and crafting for so many years. As his children have their own children, he loves nothing more than taking his trusty knife to the cedar and cutting handmade toys for his grandkids out on the porch. They watch in awe as he carves away at a new creation, wondering what amazing thing he'll make next.
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> But what if he lost the namesake to his hobby? Imagine if grandpa had to go out of his way to justify that his loving gifts are certified and claimed by him, lest they be up for grabs by just any stranger in the state. Imagine the inconvenience, the anxiety, the dread of clinging to all he has left to share with his world, his family.

Artists have this very concern with the Copyright Act's elimination of exclusivity and the harmfulness of Orphan works. Professionals and hobbyists, youth and elderly across the United States dearly love art: we can't afford to spend our time in constant defense of our artwork, registering each piece under our name, holding it off from those who'd rather not accommodate us. By abandoning current copyright law, we are threatening artists to hole up and bunker down in restless defense.

Without artists, companies cannot print, comics are stagnant, rooms are empty, and websites are blank. For the sake of keeping artistry secure, for the best of our country, for the intention of not walking onto the slippery slope, we artists of the United States plea that you reconsider the copyright acts in progress.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brantly McCord