July 20, 2015

Dear Copyright Office:

My name is Aeron Griffin. I'm an aspiring artist. I'm currently enrolling at an art college, in the hopes that I can refine what I hope will become my trade later in life. I could make money for myself creating works of art. My story is no different than many. Those of us with an affinity for creating just want to feed ourselves and prosper, doing what we're good at doing.

Now enter the monstrosity that is this new Copyright Act, that will make the already grueling task of building oneself up as an artist a practically crippling affair.

Why do big-business companies have this insatiable need to limit and constrain every aspect of the working class? If I create, will my works be in danger of being snatched up and plastered with company logos and slogans? How am I supposed to make money when corporation would be essentially taking potential revenue I could have used to pay bills? Do they really need the extra money?

The mere idea of it all leaves me reeling. How am I supposed to compete with million-dollar corporations? Having my work, past present and future exploited by rich and cheap companies is a murky prospect at best. The effort used to create my artworks is thrown out of the window if supermarkets can copy-paste it on their website for their own use without even giving me the courtesy of well-deserved credit.

This can't end well for would-be artists. Something like this would force any of us to shift the very concept of our work in such a way that the chain restaurant down the street would flinch away from it in pure scandalous shock. I love making art, and I and many of those like me wouldn't want to resort to creating artworks offensive enough to deter art-nappers prowling for free work.

Please let us keep our livelihood, and let them keep their 1984-esque daydreams to themselves.

Thanks,
Aeron Griffin