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U.S. Copyright

Orphan Works

Dear U.S Copyright Office,

I am going to be honest and try to make this letter compact. I am an Artist, and I have been doing artwork since I was 3 years old, and I have taken 2D Design and Graphic Design in college, but have taken many art classes in high school. Ever since I have been doing my own artwork and been selling my works to those who commissioned me.

Copyright is the foundation on which I do business. Violating my work is no different than stealing the money I have earned through my work that I love.

I have had my artwork duplicated, traced, and even had someone say they did the artwork, when I was the one who really did all the work. Copyright allows me to verify it is my work, deal with those who plagiarize it, make them stop their benefits from my work, and avert my work off products and even sites that I may think are unsuitable and could damage my reputation as an Artist.

So in a way, everything I create becomes part of my business listing. I may be a traditional artist, but if I decided to digitalize my work more often, inventory would be more valuable to artists.

Publishing can also increase its value. For example, if one manufacturer is successful with one or more of my work, then another will surely be keen to get on board. Publishing increases not only value, but my income.

I honestly do not welcome anyone who would fabricate my work without my knowledge or consent. If you were put in my position, would you feel the same?

Sincerely yours,

Alyssa Erickson