I have worked as a professional illustrator, fine artist and art instructor for 39 years- since my graduation from Rhode Island School of Design in 1976 with a BFA in Illustration. I have free-lanced for major publishing companies, illustrating books, magazines and advertising. I have won awards for some of the books I have illustrated, such as “Sweet Memories Still” published by Cobble Hill Books, and for magazine illustrations created for Dell Magazines. I have had several requests to re-publish works I had done for the Cricket Magazine Group, and others, for which I received an additional fee. I have also sold my illustrations to the authors or fans of the stories, including all the illustrations I produced for the book “Feminist Fairy Tales” published by Harper Collins, and many of the Science Fiction and mystery stories I illustrated for Isaac Asimov Magazine, Analog, Ellery Queen, Science Fiction & Fantasy Magazine, etc. These sales of already published works have supplemented my income.

I anticipate further income from the works I have already generated for various publishers, but if you allow the copy right laws to be changed in favor of the corporations & digitalized libraries, you will be stealing my income, and crippling my ability to earn a decent living. It is already hard enough to support ones’ self as an artist or illustrator, please do not further limit our ability to earn money from works of art which we have created and which should be considered our property. Our artwork, and the sale & rights to such, is our means of living- it should not be “orphaned” or be put up for grabs. Please reconsider the proposed changes to the copy rights laws. Despite prior rulings, corporations are not individuals, and as an agency of the government you should be protecting the rights of your citizens.