11170 Negley Avenue
San Diego, California
MaraMattiaArt@gmail.com
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Dear Copyright Office, Members of Congress, and all persons concerned in the preservation of US copyright:

Concerning the concepts of Orphan Works and Mass Digitalization currently being considered for adoption into US law.

Think about the picture books you read to your children.

I make my living as a freelance illustrator. Licensing my works for publication is how I earn my livelihood. Clients pay me for the right to use my work and my works do not lose their value upon first publication. Over time my works can be licensed in a variety of ways. Works I created years ago continue to generate income from royalties and licensing contracts. Licensing my works and the copyright protection of my own work is very important.

Current copyright law protects my ownership and control of my own works. The idea that the law might be changed to endanger my ownership of my own work is troubling. I strongly object to the idea of someone else using my work for monetary gain without my knowledge or consent. It's like stealing.

If I could no longer benefit from my own labor and I would not be able to make a living as an artist. This seems contrary to the ideas and ideals of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Mara Mattia
Illustrator Mara Mattia Art
MaraMattiaArt@gmail.com