July 22, 2015

U.S. copyright
Orphan works

Dear U.S. copyright office,

I'm an Illustrator and have Undergraduate and Post Graduate degree in Design and Illustration.

Selling and Licensing my Illustrations is how I make a living. As an independent illustrator I have to work hard to get my illustrations seen and bought by customers. And a part of getting seen is to put my Illustrations on Pinterest, Blogger, Instagram etc.

And once the images are out in the digital world there is no way to make sure that every image can be traced back to me the creator. I make it a point to attach metadata to my electronic image files - that metadata is many times erased by websites the image appears on. I discreetly watermark my images but
there are tutorials out there instructing users how to erase watermarks.

Essentially there is nothing I can do to prevent my work from being 'orphaned'.

How can anyone in good conscience profit from my work without my consent? This does not sound right.

Sincerely,
Pragya