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U.S. Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

I am writing this letter because for me and artists like me, copyright law is not an abstract issue. I am currently in college earning a degree in Illustration, so this directly affects me.

Copyright will be the basis on which I will do business in the future. Infringing on any artist's work is unacceptable because it is the same as stealing money from the artist. Copyrights ARE the products that we artists license.

EVERYTHING I create becomes part of my business inventory. In the digital era, inventory is more valuable to artists than ever before.

I hope to one day be able to have my art licensed on products. Copyrights will allow me to confirm that it is my work, deal with people who steal it, get them to stop profiting from it, and keep it off of products and sites that I think are inappropriate and damage my reputation.

Publishing can significantly increase its value. If one manufacturer is successful with an illustration I created, another manufacturer will be eager to use my illustrations. Publishing increases its value and my income.

Like any other job, I do not want someone else making money off of my work without my consent.

Sincerely,

Paige Warren