Dear Orphan Works,

I am opposed to your proposal, simply because the creator of a product or artwork has thought of it, put it together, and it came from his or her mind.

I can understand the frustration of trying to locate something for research or study, but it doesn't make sense to claim it as your own if it did not originally come from you. It isn't honest. It causes a loss of integrity in the moral sense to the person who steals it even if it isn't copyrighted. What do they gain? Maybe new knowledge, or monetary gain, but their conscience is seared. If we do not allow children to steal from a drugstore or a neighbor or even a parent, why should we allow people to steal an idea that is on paper or in a computer?

Trust is broken when work is stolen or copied so that you can profit from it.

How would you feel if someone took your original invention that you spent years developing and put their name on it and made money from it? Artists have bent over their easels for years digging out the features of a mountain or a face with a brush, or building a sculpture with sweat and tears or writing a book making certain each word and each page are meaningful.

Thank you for listening.
Thank you for reconsidering.
Thank you for being honest.

Reveille Kennedy