From:

To:

FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty info@copyrightalliance.org

Subject: Copyright

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010 3:14:51 PM

Sirs and madams;

My name is Todd Lockwood, and I am a professional illustrator. I make my living from my artwork, both as a commercial illustrator painting covers for books and games, and selling prints of the artwork I own or have reserved rights to sell as prints. You can see my work and buy my prints on my website.

I am writing to urge you to protect the copyright of creators like myself from unscrupulous profiteers, acting under the guise of "copyright reform." Over the last several years I have been battling a bill known as the Orphaned Works bill that seeks to free up copyright restrictions on works of art for which the copyright ownership cannot be determined. The trouble with this bill is that it boots all responsibility to the creators to protect their work, while removing any due caution from those who would use artwork indiscriminately. It essentially removes all obstacles such as right to redress for the creators or substantial penalty for abuse, and forces creators to register every last scribble they make with expensive registries — registries which nonetheless offer no protection from misuse.

Copyright protection must remain the default position, not something achieved only after extreme labor and expense. It is insane to create this system merely so that Google can copy any book it wants to to the web. There are always persons waiting in the wings to defile a system for profit. I already deal with internet image theft on a nearly daily basis, don't enable image theft and damage my livelihood.

Best regards

Todd Lockwood Graphic Traffic

Bonney Lake, WA 98391
