

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 12:48 PM  
**To:** FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty  
**Subject:** Intellectual property

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Dear Ms Espinoza:

The Copyright Alliance has informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

As an aspiring novelist who has been in the arts all of my life, I know from the experience the many hours of work, the immense concentration, the dedication and teamwork it takes to produce art that is worthy of the name. I also the financial hurdles that must be constantly jumped to stay alive while pulling together a body of work that is necessary to launch a career -----years of living below the poverty line. Frequently the artist must trade money for exposure, especially in the beginning, and make the least amount of income in the chain of bringing work before an audience.

The arts might be the only field in which you HAVE to become famous just to earn a living. To have your work undermined by pirates and websavvy teenagers who think everything should be free is death knell for artists, especially in the USA that, unlike European nations, does not support the arts.

I really feel for visual artists who often have to sell their work for practically nothing who then see the purchaser of the piece sell it at auction for an enormous sum that they never get royalties on. This should be addressed as well.

I am glad this law is coming into being.  
I hope my comments help.  
Sincerely

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Aline deWinter

Come to my Facebook Fan Page for news about my upcoming dark fantasy, The Golden Stairs

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