

Avila-Rebecca-20050228123005

To: Julie L. Sigall
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 02/28/2005

From: Rebecca Avila

Comment:
To the Copyright Office,

I am an avid scrapbooker and a collector of older children's books. I have found the current copyright system to be generally unworkable. There is no easy way for me to be sure whether any works after 1923 are copyright free or not. There is often no way to discover who might hold the copyright without extensive trouble and/or expense.

I am certain that I would not be tracked down and punished for using copyrighted images on my personal scrapbook pages, but I want to do the right thing. Therefore, I am unable to use many images that may be in the public domain, unless I were to cut up the original book, which I have no desire to do.

The current system needs some reform to make it more "user friendly". There is also great danger of many lovely works being forgotten forever, since it is so difficult to find out if they can be used or reprinted.

Thanks for your attention,

Rebecca Avila