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To: Julie L. Sigall
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From: Ryan Henrie

Comment:

I believe a lot of these issues were created as a consequence of the long copyright length which we now have.

The founding fathers started the copyright length at 14 years with a chance and fee to renew in the last year to double it to 28 years.

In their times, anything abandoned, neglected, ignored, or forgotten soon after being created and published would be in the public domain no longer than 14 years after creation. That gave the creators time to change their minds, but keeping it a specific length so that doubt, confusion, and potential abuse could be minimized.

I believe that the compromise the founders created--between a creator's distribution monopoly for a limited time and corresponding public's claim to the work after that specific time--balanced the scales well to avoid most of the issues we face today.

With copyright length now up to 150 years, the scales have been tipped to the creators away from the public. This has created many conflicts, confusion, and loopholes that were not even considered or existed with the original length.

Please consider restoring the original 14/28 year copyright length to prevent these issues at their source, instead of trying to treat symptoms of the illness..

Ryan