

Black-Garth-20050505153004

To: Julie L. Sigall  
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Date: 05/05/2005

From: Garth Black

Comment:

I find that our current system favors letting old works disappear even if there are parties interested in preserving the work. I would like to see the a solution that contains the following. After something like 50 years, they have to start paying to continue the copyright. The fee should not be large, but it should cost more everytime to renew. This would cover the big companies with popular old works that they don't want to fall into the public domain, rather than extending the copyright on all works of the era with one size fits all legislation. They could extend only their own works but allow others from that era to fall into the public domain. Also a copyright holder should have an incentive to publish in some form every 10 years, or an involuntary license kicks in kinda like sheet music. This would cover the case of old textbooks that will never be published in large quantities again, but allows interested parties to continue doing so. Maybe, even publish collections like in the software industry where after a few years they publish the entire games series together.