

## PUBLIC DOMAIN AND FAIR USE STATEMENT

According to the Copyright Act of 1976, works registered for copyright or published with a copyright notice were protected for a maximum of 75 years of copyright protection, assuming the copyrights on the works were renewed. Public Law 105-298 enacted in October 1998 increased the maximum to 95 years. Before 1998 the longest amount of time a work could be protected was 75 years, so works before 1923 were no longer protected. When the law changed, the 1923 date was ‘frozen’ and will remain so until 2018. Starting in 2018 the date that works are no longer protected will again change yearly, being calculated as the current year minus 95 years. Therefore, works published before 1923 for which a copyright has not been renewed (if it ever existed) are considered to be in the public domain.

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