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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
NASHVILLE DIVISION**

ALEXANDER CARDINALE; MORGAN  
TAYLOR REID,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

JOSHUA RYAN OWEN p/k/a JAKE OWEN;  
BIG LOUD RECORDS, LLC; BENJY LASHAR  
DAVIS; MCCARTY & BLAKE, LLC d/b/a  
PLAID FLAG MUSIC; JOE DAVID  
HOOGERHYDE p/k/a JOEY HYDE; SONY  
MUSIC PUBLISHING (US) LLC d/b/a SONY  
ATV TREE PUBLISHING; NEIL ALLEN  
MEDLEY; HORIPRO ENTERTAINMENT  
GROUP, INC. d/b/a DIXIE STARS MUSIC and  
d/b/a SON OF A CARL MUSIC,

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT FOR COPYRIGHT  
INFRINGEMENT**

**JURY DEMAND**

**COMPLAINT**

**NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is an action for willful copyright infringement brought by Plaintiffs, Alexander Cardinale (“Cardinale”) and Morgan Taylor Reid (“Reid”) (collectively, “Plaintiffs”), who are the writers and copyright owners of the musical composition entitled “Made for You” (hereinafter

“Made for You (1)” or the “Original Work”), bearing U.S. Copyright Registration No. PA0002233661.

2. The Defendants in this Action are the credited writers, copyright claimants, performers, publishers, and owners of the musical composition and sound recordings *also* entitled “Made for You” (hereinafter, “Made for You (2)” or the “Infringing Works”), which, as set forth more fully herein, deliberately copied and infringed original elements from the Original Work – including, brazenly, the very title of the Original Work. Defendants copied the Original Work without license or consent and have exploited the subsequent Infringing Works to their collective benefit without regard to Plaintiffs’ rights and to Plaintiffs’ detriment. The Infringing Works directly misappropriate quantitatively and qualitatively important portions of Plaintiffs’ Original Work in a manner that is easily and instantly recognizable to the ordinary observer. The Infringing Works are substantially and strikingly similar to the Original Work as discussed fully below, and this obvious similarity satisfies both the extrinsic and intrinsic test for copyright infringement. All Defendants herein are practical partners of each other with regard to the infringement described herein. All Defendants herein are jointly and severally liable for willful copyright infringement, as all have benefitted from the copying of the Original Work as described herein, and all have violated one or more of Plaintiffs’ exclusive rights under Section 106 of the United States Copyright Act.

### **PARTIES**

3. Plaintiff Cardinale, an individual, is a singer/songwriter based in California. Cardinale is the co-author and co-claimant to the copyright of the Original Work bearing U.S. Copyright Registration No. PA0002233661. Cardinale is also the featured performer on the sound recording embodying the Original Work.

4. Plaintiff Reid, an individual, is a songwriter also based in California. Reid is the co-author and co-claimant to the copyright of the Original Work bearing U.S. Copyright Registration No. PA0002233661.

5. Plaintiffs have standing to bring this action for copyright infringement because they co-own the copyright to the Original Work involved in this action and have the exclusive rights under Section 106 of the United States Copyright Act.

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant Joshua Ryan Owen p/k/a Jake Owen (“Owen”), an individual, is a country music artist, and at all times relevant to this Complaint, was a resident of Nashville, TN. Owen is the credited performer of the sound recording of the Infringing Works which appears on his album *Greetings from... Jake*. Also, upon information and belief, Owen has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

7. Upon information and belief, Defendant Big Loud Records, LLC f/k/a Big Loud Mountain Records, Nashville, LLC (“Big Loud”), is a Tennessee limited liability company with principal place of business at 111 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue S., Suite 201, Nashville, TN 37212-2336. Also, upon further information and belief, Big Loud is Owen’s record label and copyright claimant to the sound recording of the Infringing Work. Upon information and belief, Big Loud has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

8. Upon information and belief, Defendant Benjy Lashar Davis (“Davis”), an individual, is one of the credited songwriters of the Infringing Work and co-claimant of the compositional copyright of the Infringing work. Upon further information and belief, Davis was a resident of Nashville, TN at all times relevant to this Complaint. Also, upon information and belief,

Davis has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

9. Upon information and belief, Defendant Joe David Hoogerhyde p/k/a Joey Hyde (“Hyde”), an individual, is one of the credited songwriters of the Infringing Work and co-claimant of the compositional copyright of the Infringing Works. Upon further information and belief, Hyde was a resident of Nashville, TN at all times relevant to this Complaint. Also, upon information and belief, Hyde has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

10. Upon information and belief, Defendant Neil Allen Medley (“Medley”), an individual, is one of the credited songwriters of the Infringing Work and co-claimant of the compositional copyright of the Infringing Works. Upon further information and belief, Medley was a resident of Nashville, TN at all times relevant to this Complaint. Also, upon information and belief, Medley has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

11. Upon information and belief, Defendant McCarty & Blake, LLC d/b/a Plaid Flag Music (“Plaid Flag”) is a Tennessee limited liability company with principal place of business at 2405B Elliot Avenue, Nashville, TN 37204-2701. Upon information and belief, Plaid Flag is one of the credited publishers of the Infringing Works and co-claimant of the compositional copyright of the Infringing Work. Also, upon information and belief, Plaid Flag has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

12. Upon information and belief, Defendant Sony Music Publishing (US) LLC f/k/a Sony/ATV Music Publishing and d/b/a Sony ATV Tree Publishing (“Sony/ATV”) is a Delaware

limited liability company with principal place of business at 25 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010-3685. Upon further information and belief, Sony/ATV maintains an office at 8 Music Square W., Nashville, TN 37203. Upon information and belief, Sony/ATV is one of the credited publishers of the Infringing Works and co-claimant of the compositional copyright of the Infringing Work. Also, upon information and belief, Sony/ATV has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

13. Upon information and belief, Defendant Horipro Entertainment Group, Inc. d/b/a Dixie Stars Music and d/b/a Son Of A Carl Music (collectively, “Horipro”) is a California corporation with principal place of business at 437 E Iris Drive, Nashville, TN 37204-3132. Upon information and belief, Horipro is one of the credited publishers of the Infringing Works and co-claimant of the compositional copyright of the Infringing Work. Also, upon information and belief, Horipro has generated substantial revenue from his authorization to unlawfully exploit, and direct exploitation of, the Infringing Work.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

14. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction with respect to Plaintiffs’ copyright infringement claim based upon 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a) in that the controversy arises under the Copyright Act and Copyright Revision Act of 1976 (17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*), which is within the exclusive jurisdiction of federal courts pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

15. This Court has general personal jurisdiction over Defendants because each Defendant has continuous and systematic contacts within the Middle District of Tennessee such that they can be found to be essentially “at home” within this Judicial District. Specifically:

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