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# When Does a Beat Make You a Co-Writer?

## SPEAKERS

[Christopher C. "Rusty" Close, Jr.](#) | [Austin Padgett](#)

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In this episode of *No Infringement Intended*, Austin Padgett and Rusty Close wind up in Auckland and on TikTok, tracing how a teenage producer's "Laxed (Siren Beat)" became Jason Derulo's global hit "Savage Love." Along the way, they break down when contributing a beat (or a chorus fragment) makes you a songwriter rather than just a producer, how "toplining" works in modern pop, and why crediting someone after the fact is very different from clearing rights before a track blows up. Instead of treating viral success as a free-for-all, Austin and Rusty show how thinking like an IP attorney at the creation stage can keep collaborations profitable, creditable, and conflict-free.

*No Infringement Intended*, hosted by Rusty Close and Austin Padgett, is your go-to podcast for exploring the fascinating intersection of intellectual property and pop culture.

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