

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

LUKASZ GOTTWALD p/k/a DR. LUKE; KASZ MONEY, INC.;
And PRESCRIPTION SONGS, LLC,
Plaintiffs,

Vs. Case No. 653118-2014

KESHA ROSE SEBERT p/k/a KESHA,
Defendant.

KESHA ROSE SEBERT p/k/a KESHA,
Counterclaim-Plaintiff,

Vs.

LUKASZ GOTTWALD p/k/a DR. LUKE; KASZ MONEY, INC.;
PRESCRIPTION SONGS, LLC; KEMOSABE ENTERTAINMENT,
LLC; KEMOSABE RECORDS, LLC; and SONY MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT,

Counterclaim-Defendants.

THE VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF KELLY CLARKSON
June 13, 2017

KATHERINE M. RICHMOND, RPR

<p>1 no -- the original song that was sent to me was 2 such a turd, I didn't -- it wasn't what you hear 3 now. And I had to work on it myself. And I just 4 didn't take credit because I don't want my name 5 near his. That's how much I dislike him. So I 6 don't know who the other writers are. I don't even 7 look at the songwriter credit. I kind of pretend 8 that didn't happen in my life. So...</p> <p>9 Q. And so during that production of "My Life 10 Would Suck Without You", do you recall having any 11 interaction with Dr. Luke?</p> <p>12 A. Yes. He walked up to me, and I was 13 standing with my manager Narville Blackstock, not 14 to be confused with my husband, who is also named 15 Narville, but he goes by Brandon. He is my 16 father-in-law, it's very incestual (sic). But he 17 was standing next to me, my manager, we were 18 talking. And Dr. Luke attempted to come up or he 19 didn't attempt. He came up and said, "hey, you 20 know, I don't know like what the problem is, you 21 know, between us." And I just cut him off and 22 said, "man, you know exactly what the problem is 23 between us. You know, like things that have gone 24 down behind the scenes." And, you know, via my 25 label, via people telling me at my label like</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 A. Yeah, I'm pretty sure my management made 2 that clear too like to be like, you know, we're 3 all -- she is going to be -- everybody was nice. 4 No one was rude, no one was -- you know, other than 5 being blunt when someone asked me what I thought of 6 him. I just mean like it was a fine situation at 7 that point.</p> <p>8 Q. But to be clear, did you ask your 9 management to make that message be conveyed that 10 you not have contact with Dr. Luke --</p> <p>11 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form.</p> <p>12 A. To be clear, my father-in-law knows me 13 well enough to where I don't have to ask that. He 14 knew that like I wanted a buffer. Most managers 15 know that.</p> <p>16 Q. Sure. Do you know whether he did convey 17 that to Dr. Luke and to Claude and to the rest of 18 them working on the song?</p> <p>19 MR. MULLINS: Objection.</p> <p>20 A. I have no idea like in words because he 21 was in the studio and I was in the actual recording 22 booth. But I'm sure he got the point across to 23 like, "hey, that's cool, let's get through this. 24 Let's make a successful song and we'll be done." 25 Q. And the result was one way or another, you</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p>
<p>1 things he said and just his way of like having 2 arguments with my fans and having like just his 3 person. Like I was like, "you know I don't like 4 you. And it's cool like I don't have to like you, 5 you don't have to like me. There's plenty of 6 people in the world like and, you know, I hope 7 you're successful in your ventures. I'm going to 8 be successful in mine. We don't have to work 9 together. You know why I'm here; I have to be." I 10 was like so there's no -- I'm like, "I'm not mad 11 about it, I'm not angry, I just don't want you in 12 my life." So...</p> <p>13 Q. How did he respond to that?</p> <p>14 A. He said, I mean, well, he was in 15 disbelief, which is pure Dr. Luke fashion when he 16 does something that isn't nice. And then is like 17 "what" like but and he just kind of chuckled and 18 laughed and walked off.</p> <p>19 Q. Did you have any --</p> <p>20 A. Without saying, okay, like, you know.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you have any interactions with Dr. 22 Luke after that?</p> <p>23 A. Not one.</p> <p>24 Q. So the rest of the time you worked with 25 Claude Kelly?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p>	<p>1 had no further interaction with Dr. Luke on that 2 song?</p> <p>3 MR. MULLINS: Objection to the form.</p> <p>4 A. No further interaction. I'm so sorry. No 5 further interaction. I'm very sorry.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you ever work with Dr. Luke after that 7 song?</p> <p>8 A. No, sir.</p> <p>9 Q. Have you ever talked to Dr. Luke after 10 that interaction?</p> <p>11 A. No, sir.</p> <p>12 Q. Just to be clear, that interaction in the 13 studio when you were recording "My Life Would Suck 14 Without You"?</p> <p>15 A. Yeah. And, well, to be perfectly clear, 16 it was right outside the studio but, yeah, they 17 were taking a break to like edit things but...</p> <p>18 Q. This would have been sometime in 2008 19 approximately that you talked to Dr. Luke and had 20 this conversation?</p> <p>21 A. I'm going to be honest with you, I was 22 supposed to Google it. And I forgot because I have 23 a lot going on.</p> <p>24 Q. No, understood.</p> <p>25 A. And I totally messed up and I can find</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p>

1 that information out for you.
 2 MR. RAMSEY: He can find it too.
 3 A. I'm so sorry. It was right before that
 4 song came out. It was the first song from All I
 5 Ever Wanted.
 6 Q. So the single was released in
 7 January 2009?
 8 A. Oh, then it was the previous year at the
 9 end of the year.
 10 Q. Sometime in the year of 2008?
 11 A. Thank you.
 12 Q. Is that fair?
 13 A. I'm sorry, I was supposed to Google that.
 14 That was my homework and I epically failed.
 15 Q. So since 2008, have you had any contact at
 16 all with Dr. Luke?
 17 A. No.
 18 Q. And to be clear, that means you have not
 19 ever e-mailed him or had a phone conversation or an
 20 in-person --
 21 A. I definitely have never called him or
 22 e-mailed him.
 23 Q. No personal conversations?
 24 A. No. We don't have each other's number.
 25 Q. You ever interact with him in award shows?
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1 A. I don't think we have ever had each
 2 other's number or e-mail.
 3 Q. Have you ever interacted with him in an
 4 award show or any other industry event?
 5 A. No, I don't go to industry things unless
 6 I'm performing.
 7 Q. Now, have you ever personally met Kesha
 8 Sebert?
 9 A. No. We have or I feel like I gave her a
 10 present. We were both staying in the same place
 11 like a three bedroom called El Trace. It's in
 12 Silver Lake in Los Angeles. And I found out she
 13 was staying there. So I, you know, to a lot of
 14 people like people in the industry like artists
 15 coming up, I will sometimes send things just to be
 16 encouraging or whatever because it can be a hard
 17 industry. And especially for women. So I sent
 18 her, I can't even remember what it was, but I got
 19 her this little gift while I was out shopping and
 20 said, you know, "you're killing it" kind of thing
 21 or something. I can't remember verbatim.
 22 Q. You recall whether you actually ever
 23 personally interacted with her --
 24 A. I don't feel like we have ever actually
 25 met, no.
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1 Q. And would you describe her as a friend,
 2 personal friend?
 3 A. Well, no. That would be weird; right?
 4 Yes. I'm the president of her fan club. That
 5 would be awesome.
 6 Q. But notwithstanding the fact that you have
 7 never met her personally, you know who she is;
 8 correct?
 9 A. Oh, absolutely.
 10 Q. You're aware of her work?
 11 A. Yes, and I know people that have worked
 12 with her.
 13 Q. And you're generally aware -- well, are
 14 you generally aware that she is in a lawsuit with
 15 Dr. Luke at the present time?
 16 A. Very aware.
 17 Q. Besides what you have read sort of in the
 18 papers or the press, do you have any independent
 19 knowledge of anything related to the lawsuit
 20 between Dr. Luke and Kesha whatsoever?
 21 A. No, sir.
 22 Q. Now, have you ever known Dr. Luke to use
 23 profanity in your presence?
 24 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form.
 25 A. I don't know if I could hear his over
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1 mine. So, I mean, that wouldn't really make me
 2 feel uncomfortable unfortunately.
 3 Q. I'm not asking whether it would make you
 4 feel uncomfortable. I'm just asking whether you
 5 have heard him cuss.
 6 A. I don't know. I'm being, I mean, he could
 7 or couldn't. I have no idea.
 8 Q. Have you ever seen Dr. Luke be upset with
 9 anyone?
 10 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form.
 11 A. In my personal experience, his upset is
 12 like, like in my personal experience, I have never
 13 seen him like explode on anyone. He is very like
 14 sneaky with it. Like he is very like, like I said,
 15 just kind of dismissive and belittling and, you
 16 know, throw out jabs like it's that kind of thing.
 17 It's not like, I have never seen him like blow up
 18 on anyone.
 19 Q. Have you ever heard anyone besides
 20 yourself complain about his working style?
 21 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form.
 22 A. Yes.
 23 Q. Other musicians?
 24 A. Yes, via my label.
 25 Q. More than five?
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<p>1 A. No, I have heard, I think it's P!nk and I 2 have heard like doesn't like working with him. I 3 have been told. I was not told this via P!nk. I 4 was told via my label because they're like, you 5 know, we're having a hard time with him working 6 with other people. And then they said, actually 7 almost every female at our label doesn't like 8 working with him. 9 Q. What label is this? 10 A. It was RCA. I'm now with Atlantic 11 Records. 12 Q. This is when the time you were with RCA -- 13 A. I was with RCA Records. Yeah. And P!nk 14 and I were on the same label. But I don't know for 15 certain. That's not from her mouth. So I just 16 heard via the label. 17 Q. I guess the question I'm asking about more 18 is sort of reputation within the industry of 19 working with someone whether you have heard about 20 Luke's reputation besides your personal 21 relationship with him and what that reputation is 22 as far as you know. 23 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form. 24 Q. Let me reask it. Do you know generally 25 Luke's reputation in the music industry?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 understand, I'm not sure if you're aware, but we're 2 presently in the middle of a defamation lawsuit. 3 And one of the issues of a defamation lawsuit is 4 whether someone's character is harmed by statements 5 that somebody makes. 6 A. Yeah. 7 Q. So the question is: If somebody already 8 has a bad reputation, it is more difficult to hurt 9 their character. So the questions I'm asking you 10 get to Luke's sort of present and past reputation 11 before anything that Kesha would have said. 12 MR. MULLINS: I'm going to object to 13 this questioning. It's obviously calling for a 14 legal conclusion and argument. But for the record, 15 I object to the form. 16 Q. So when you were at RCA, when did you 17 leave RCA? 18 A. Oh, gosh, I'm bad at time. I recently 19 signed with Atlantic. I'm so bad at time. This 20 was recent. 21 Q. The past two years? 22 A. Oh, yeah, yeah, like a year maybe. I was 23 in Rosemary Beach when I called them to say I 24 was -- that was for -- was it for anyone's 25 birthday? Yeah, it was River and Savannah. So it</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p>
<p>1 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form. 2 A. In general, I don't know anyone that likes 3 him. 4 Q. Does that include managers and artists? 5 A. And producers and songwriters, but I don't 6 know everybody, so... 7 Q. Sure. And from knowing that about his 8 reputation, let me rephrase that. As best as you 9 understand, why don't people like him in the 10 industry? 11 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form. 12 A. I mean, I guess we all have our own 13 stories and opinions, but I can only tell you mine. 14 I mean, I don't know why they don't like him. I 15 know why I don't like him, which is what I have 16 told you. 17 Q. Have you ever heard why anyone else 18 doesn't like Dr. Luke? 19 MR. MULLINS: Objection to form. 20 A. I mean, people just, you know, people have 21 said he is sleazy. People have said he is 22 belittling, the same kind of things that I say. He 23 has never been sleazy around me, but like he has 24 definitely been all the other things I said. 25 Q. And let me put this in context. You</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p>	<p>1 was a year ago. Oh, actually this month, yeah, 2 because my daughter's birthday was yesterday. 3 Q. You stopped at RCA a year ago? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. The statements you made about Luke's 6 reputation and your label describing to you that 7 nobody wanted to work with him, were those 8 statements made maybe five years ago, ten years ago 9 or more recently? 10 MR. MULLINS: Objection; misstates 11 the testimony and objection to form. 12 A. I mean, in the beginning when I worked 13 with him during the "Since U Been Gone" and "Hazel 14 Eyes" days, everybody wanted -- it wasn't really 15 Luke. It was the Max Martin effect because of all 16 of his previous hits. And Dr. Luke worked with 17 Max. So that's why, you know, everybody ended up 18 working with him. But, you know, after that, a lot 19 of people just worked with Max. I believe P!nk is 20 one of those people, I believe. I can't remember 21 the other artist that they mentioned because I 22 honestly -- it's not my world, but they did say at 23 some point because I said, hey, I will work with -- 24 I literally said, I will work with anyone, but I'm 25 not going to work with him. Like I already did</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p>

COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF TENNESSEE:

I, KATHERINE M. RICHMOND, Licensed
Reporter for the State of Tennessee, CERTIFY:

1. The foregoing deposition was
taken before me at the time and place stated in the
foregoing styled cause with the appearances as
noted;

2. Being a Court Reporter, I then
reported the deposition in Stenotype to the best of
my skill and ability, and the foregoing pages
contain a full, true and correct transcript of my
said Stenotype notes then and there taken;

3. I am not in the employ of and am
not related to any of the parties or their counsel,
and I have no interest in the matter involved.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this, the 15th
day of June, 2017.



KATHERINE M. RICHMOND, RPR
TN Licensed Court Reporter
LCR Number: 176
Expiration: 6/30/2018