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BOURNE CO.,

Plaintiff,

- against -

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION, FOX BROADCASTING COMPANY, TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX TELEVISION, INC., TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX HOME ENTERTAINMENT, INC., FUZZY DOOR PRODUCTIONS, INC., THE CARTOON NETWORK, INC., SETH MACFARLANE, WALTER MURPHY,

Defendants.

Plaintiff, Bourne Co. ("Bourne"), for its Complaint against Defendants Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation ("Fox Film"), Fox Broadcasting Company ("Fox Broadcasting"), Twentieth Century Fox Television, Inc. ("Fox Television"), Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment, LLC ("Fox Home Entertainment") (collectively, the "Fox Defendants"), Fuzzy Door Productions, Inc. ("Fuzzy Door"), The Cartoon Network, Inc. ("Cartoon Network"), Seth MacFarlane ("MacFarlane") and Walter Murphy

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JUDGE BATTS

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COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

("Murphy"), by its counsel Moses & Singer LLP, alleges upon information and belief as to facts concerning others and upon personal knowledge as to facts concerning Bourne, as follows:

#### **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

- 1. This action arises from Defendants' willful infringement of Plaintiff's copyright interests in the famous and iconic song, "When You Wish Upon a Star."
- 2. "When You Wish Upon a Star" is one of the most famous songs of all time. The song was originally written for the classic Walt Disney film, *Pinocchio*. Since then, the song has been recorded by over 100 performing artists and has become a cultural treasure, epitomizing the wonders of childhood and the powers of love, hope and belief. Bourne is the sole copyright owner of "When You Wish Upon a Star."
- 3. Some time in 2000, MacFarlane, Murphy, Fuzzy Door and certain of the Fox Defendants created an episode of their television show, The Family Guy, titled "When You Wish Upon a Weinstein." This episode centers around the main character's inability to manage his family's finances and his bigoted belief that he needs to hire a Jewish person to take care of his money. The centerpiece of this frequently anti-Semitic story is a song, sung by the main character, titled "I Need a Jew" (the "Infringing Song"). This song consists of a thinly-veiled copy of the music from "When You Wish Upon a Star," coupled with new anti-Semitic lyrics. The creation of the Infringing Song, a derivative work based upon "When You Wish Upon a Star," was done without the authorization of Bourne.
- 4. Although the Fox Defendants initially withheld "When You Wish Upon a Weinstein" from distribution in recognition of how offensive the episode is (even by the

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standards of a show that prides itself on offensive content), the episode was eventually broadcast in syndication and re-runs, including by Defendants Cartoon Network and Fox Broadcasting. The episode, including the Infringing Song, was also eventually distributed to the public in various home video formats by Fox Home Entertainment. Defendants have distributed well over one million copies of the episode with the Infringing Song. Defendants have earned significant sums of money from these acts of infringement.

- 5. Defendants' infringing activities have also caused substantial and irreparable harm to Bourne, and have harmed the value and reputation of "When You Wish Upon a Star" by associating the famous song with a vile and outrageous anti-Semitic message. Bourne has attempted to negotiate a resolution to this dispute with the Fox Defendants, but was rebuffed in those efforts.
- 6. Defendants' steadfast refusal to cease their willful infringement, even when presented with the harm that such infringement is causing Bourne, leaves Bourne with no choice but to bring this action for copyright infringement, seeking injunctive relief to prevent Defendants' further dissemination of the Infringing Song, and also damages to compensate Bourne for Defendants' willful and wanton behavior.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. Bourne brings this action for willful copyright infringement in violation of the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. §101, et seq.
- 8. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a).

- 9. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Fox Defendants and Cartoon Network because each of them maintains a continuous business presence within the State of New York and is doing business in New York. This Court has personal jurisdiction over all Defendants because their infringing activities have taken place within the State of New York and have harmed Bourne within the State of New York.
- 10. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a) with respect to Defendants because each of them, or their agents, reside or may be found within this District, including by virtue of the fact that copies of the Infringing Song have been distributed within this District.

#### **PARTIES**

- 11. Plaintiff Bourne, founded in 1919, is one of the world's largest international music publishing companies. Bourne owns and licenses a catalogue of songs covering the entire spectrum of musical genres, including hits by some of America's greatest songwriters, such as Charles Chaplin, Bob Wills, James Van Heusen, Harold Arlen, Jester Hairston, Johnny Burke, Jimmy Durante, Langston Hughes, Peter Green and Lou Handman. Bourne has its principal place of business in New York, New York.
- 12. Defendant Fox Film is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California. Fox Film has registered to do business in the State of New York and has a business presence in New York, New York.
- 13. Defendant Fox Broadcasting is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in Los

Angeles, California. Fox Broadcasting has registered to do business in the State of New York and has a business presence in New York, New York.

- 14. Defendant Fox Television is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California. Fox Television has registered to do business in the State of New York and has a business presence in New York, New York.
- 15. Defendant Fox Home Entertainment is a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California. Fox Home Entertainment has registered to do business in the State of New York and has a business presence in the State of New York.
- 16. Defendant Fuzzy Door is corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, with its principal place of business in Los Angeles, California. Fuzzy Door is a co-producer of The Family Guy.
- 17. Defendant Cartoon Network is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, with principal places of business in New York, New York and Atlanta, Georgia.
- 18. Defendant MacFarlane is an individual residing in Los Angeles, California. MacFarlane is the creator, producer and writer of The Family Guy. MacFarlane is an owner and principal of Fuzzy Door, and co-created the original elements of the Infringing Song.

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19. Defendant Murphy is an individual residing in Los Angeles, California.

Murphy is a composer for The Family Guy and co-created the original elements of the Infringing Song.

### BOURNE'S OWNERSHIP OF "WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR"

20. The song "When You Wish Upon a Star" was written by Ned Washington and Leigh Harline. The song was first introduced to the public through the 1940 Walt Disney motion picture *Pinocchio*, in which it was sung by Cliff Edwards as the voice of the character Jiminy Cricket. The song became a massive hit and won the Academy Award in 1940 for Best Original Song. The American Film Institute recently ranked it seventh in the AFI's 100 Greatest Songs in Film History. The beautiful and heartfelt lyrics are known the world over:

When you wish upon a star
Makes no difference who you are
Anything your heart desires
Will come to you

If your heart is in your dream No request is too extreme When you wish upon a star As dreamers do

Fate is kind
She brings to those who love
The sweet fulfillment of
Their secret longing

Like a bolt out of the blue Fate steps in and sees you through When you wish upon a star Your dream comes true

21. "When You Wish Upon a Star" has only grown in popularity since it was introduced in 1940. It has been recorded by over 100 different artists and orchestras and

has been used extensively in commercials, television and film. With its theme of wholesome hopefulness, the song has gained worldwide status as a classic.

22. Bourne is the sole United States copyright owner of "When You Wish Upon a Star." Bourne's predecessor in interest, Irving Berlin, Inc., duly registered the copyright in 1940 and Bourne renewed its registration in 1967. Bourne has complied with all requisite formalities pursuant to the Copyright Act. A copy of Bourne's registration and renewal of copyright are annexed hereto as Exhibit A.

#### **DEFNDANTS'S INFRINGING ACTIVITIES**

- 23. Defendants MacFarlane, Fuzzy Door, Fox Film and Fox Television have created and produced an animated television series titled The Family Guy. The Family Guy series, often considered an inferior knock-off of the popular animated series The Simpsons, centers around the Griffin family, headed by bumbling father Peter Griffin. The Family Guy frequently relies upon outrageous and offensive content to attract its viewership.
- 24. During the second season of The Family Guy, in 2000, Defendants MacFarlane, Murphy, Fuzzy Door, Fox Film and Fox Television produced an episode titled "When You Wish Upon a Weinstein." In this episode, the Peter character is tricked into giving away his wife's savings. The consequences of this blunder lead Peter to decide that he needs help with his personal finances, and in particular he needs help from a Jewish person based on his belief in the stereotype that all Jews are good with financial matters.
- 25. The centerpiece of the episode is the Infringing Song, written by MacFarlane and Murphy, titled "I Need a Jew," which Peter sings out the window of his

house to the starry nighttime sky. The Infringing Song takes the music from "When You Wish Upon a Star" with minor modifications to the melody, and replaces that song's well known lyrics with the following:

Nothing else has worked so far So I'll wish upon a star Wondrous shining speck of light I need a Jew

Lois makes me take the rap Cause our checkbook looks like crap Since I can't give her a slap I need a Jew

Where to find A Baum or Steen or Stein To teach me how to whine And do my taxes

Though by many they're abhorred Hebrew people I've adored Even though they killed my Lord I need a Jew

- 26. Although "When You Wish Upon a Weinstein" was originally intended to air as part of the second season of The Family Guy, one or more of the Fox Defendants decided not to broadcast the episode in recognition of the offensive and anti-Semitic nature of the episode and the Infringing Song in particular.
- 27. The episode was eventually released to syndication and was first aired by Cartoon Network on or about November 10, 2003. The episode has subsequently been aired by Fox Broadcasting and others and continues to be aired in syndication in the United States and throughout the world.
- 28. "When You Wish Upon a Weinstein," including the Infringing Song, was first distributed on home video by Fox Home Entertainment on or about September 9,

2003 as part of the Family Guy Season Three DVD set, which has been continuously sold since that time. The episode and Infringing Song were again distributed on home video by Fox Home Entertainment on or about December 14, 2004 on the Family Guy – The Freakin' Sweet Collection DVD, which also has been continuously sold since that time. The Infringing Song has also been distributed in other media and formats, including PSP.

- 29. Defendants did not seek or receive Bourne's authorization for their various uses of "When You Wish Upon a Star" in the creation and exploitation of the Infringing Song. Such unauthorized uses of Bourne's copyrighted work constitute willful copyright infringement.
- 30. Defendants' infringing activities have caused and will continue to cause Bourne great and irreparable harm. By associating Bourne's song with such offensive lyrics and other content in the episode, Defendants are harming the value of the song. Unless restrained and enjoined by this Court, Defendants will persist in their unlawful activities, thereby causing further damage and irreparable harm to Bourne.
  - 31. Due to this irreparable harm, Bourne has no adequate remedy at law.

#### **Count I: Copyright Infringement**

- 32. Bourne hereby realleges and incorporates herein the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 31 of this Complaint.
- 33. This claim is brought pursuant to the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101, et seq., seeking injunctive and monetary relief.
- 34. Under Section 106 of the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 106, Bourne has the exclusive rights to 1) reproduce "When You Wish Upon a Star" in copies or

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phonorecords; 2) prepare derivative works based upon its song; 3) distribute copies or phonorecords of the song to the public; and 4) perform the song publicly, among other exclusive rights. The aforesaid acts of Defendants constitute willful infringement of Bourne's exclusive rights.

35. The aforesaid acts of Defendants have caused, and are continuing to cause, great and irreparable harm to Bourne, which cannot be adequately compensated by monetary damages. Unless permanently restrained by this Court, such irreparable harm will continue.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Bourne requests judgment against Defendants, jointly and severally, as follows:

- 1. That Defendants, and each of their officers, directors, agents, servants, employees and representative, and those persons in active concert or participation with them or any of them, be preliminarily and permanently enjoined and restrained from any copying, performance, distribution or any other use or exploitation of the Infringing Song or any other work substantially similar to "When You Wish Upon a Star."
- 2. That Defendants be ordered to destroy all copies of the Infringing Song within their possession, custody or control, including all copies residing on digital media or computer hardware.
- 3. That Defendants be directed to file with this Court and to serve upon Bourne within thirty (30) days after service upon Defendants of this Court's order or injunction issued in this action, a written report by Defendants, signed under oath, setting

forth in detail the manner in which Defendants have complied with the injunction and order of destruction.

4. That Bourne be awarded its actual damages and Defendants' profits from the infringement in an amount to be proven at trial, or, at Bourne's election, statutory damages of not less than \$150,000, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504.

5. That Bourne be awarded its costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, pursuant to 17 U.S.C § 505.

6. That the Court award Bourne any and all further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

Plaintiff Bourne hereby demands trial by jury, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38(b), for all issues so triable.

Dated: October 3, 2007 New York, New York

MOSES & SINGER LLP

y: \_\_\_\_

Ross Charap (RC-2584) Paul M. Fakler (PF-0249)

Julie Stark (JS-8925)

Amanda J. Schaffer (AS-2004)

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Attorneys for Plaintiff, Bourne Co.

# EXHIBIT A

Title of music; Ishen Your Wish Tipon a Stay.

Teatured in picture Pinochia. Signic Sur
Med Washington! Musicely Seigh Harling.

Of United States:

Date of publication Jan. 5, 1940. Copies received Jan. 8, 1940.

Entry: Class E, pub. No. 8 2 / 2 / 6

[SEAT.]

Register of Commissions.

U. C. GOVERNACHT PRINTING OFFICE: 1939

EPUB.

# THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COPYRIGHT OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WASHINGTON

### CERTIFICATE OF COPYRIGHT REGISTRATION

This is to certify, in conformity with section 55 of the Act to Amend and Consolidate the Acts respecting Copyright approved March 4, 1909, as amended by the Act approved March 2, 1913, that Two copies of the MUSICAL COMPOSITION named herein have been deposited in this Office under the provisions of the Act of 1909, and that registration of a claim to copyright for the first term of 28 years from the date of publication of said composition has been duly made in the name of

[OVERE]

Page 3

## Certificate of Registration of a Claim to Renewal Copyright

This is To Certify that the statements set forth on this certificate have been made a part of the records of the Copyright Office. In witness whereof the seal of the Copyright Office is hereto affixed.

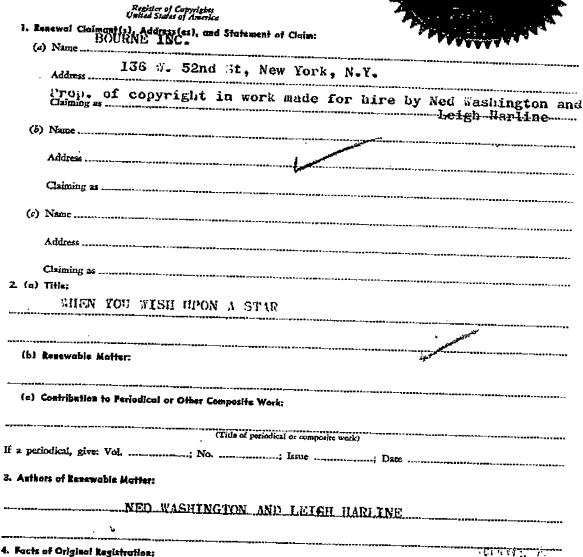
Straham h. Kaminston

Original registration number: Class \_\_\_\_\_\_ FD \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ 82126

If registered as published, give date of publication \_\_\_\_\_\_Jan\_\_5\_1940.

If registered as unpublished, give date of registration .....

Original copyright claimant



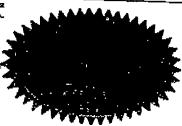
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FORM R

REGISTRATION NO. R 406100

EXAMINER

DO NOT WRITE HERE



FOR COPYRIGHT OFFICE USE ONLY		
Application received	•	
MAR 20 1967		
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Fee received		
	*Amended by Copyright whice (CML)	
U.S. COVERNIADAL DELIVERY OF LIGHT OF LIGHT CO. 1965—O-791—852	(Dat. 1965—50,090)	Page .