

(12.27.17) <https://www.billboard.com/biz/articles/8085002/brett-young-tops-country-airplay-kelsea-ballerini-thomas-rhett-reach-top-10>

## **Brett Young Tops Country Airplay, Kelsea Ballerini & Thomas Rhett Reach Top 10**

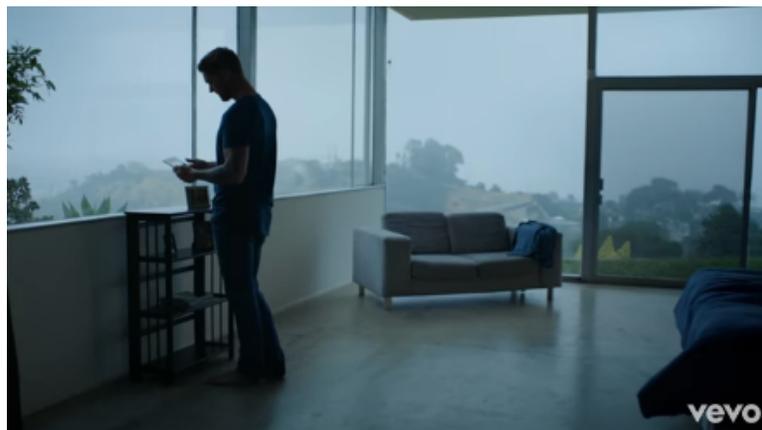


### **"Like I Loved You" follows Young's "In Case You Didn't Know" to No. 1.**

Brett Young earns his second No. 1 on Billboard's Country Airplay chart, as "Like I Loved You" rises 2-1 in its 23rd week, increasing 3 percent to 41.5 million audience impressions in the week ending Dec. 24, according to Nielsen Music.

(Young tops the tally dated Jan. 3, marking a rare Wednesday-dated chart, instead of the usual Saturday, as Billboard is adjusting how it dates its charts and magazine issues.)

"Loved," co-written by Young with Jesse Lee, marks Young's second total and consecutive Country Airplay leader. After his first single, "Sleep Without You," peaked at No. 2 on Country Airplay (dated Dec. 10, 2016), his second, "In Case You Didn't Know," led the list for two weeks beginning June 10, notching the 36-year-old native Californian his first Country Airplay No. 1.



On the Hot Country Songs chart, which blends airplay, sales and streaming data, "Loved" lifts 4-3, hitting a new high. Bebe Rexha and Florida Georgia Line's "Meant to Be" rules Hot Country Songs for a fourth week, adding the top gain in airplay, as it pushes 37-36 on Country Airplay (3.7 million, up 14 percent).

**RHETT SAYS 'I DO' TO 10th TOP 10:** Also on Hot Country Songs, Thomas Rhett banks his 10th top 10 as "Marry Me" soars 16-5 following the Dec. 17 premiere of its official video. The track claims top streaming and digital sales gainer honors, surging by 74 percent to 7.5 million U.S. streams and 71 percent to 20,000 downloads sold in the week ending Dec. 21. On Country Airplay, the song rises 24-21, up 11 percent to 11.8 million impressions.

**BALLERINI'S 5th TOP 10:** Kelsea Ballerini's "Legends," the first single from her sophomore LP, Unapologetically, enters the Country Airplay top 10, hiking 7 percent to 22.9 million in audience and climbing 11-9. The set started at a career-best No. 3 on Top Country Albums in November.

"Legends," co-written by Ballerini, is her fifth Country Airplay top 10 in as many appearances. Her first single, "Love Me Like You Mean It," topped the chart dated July 4, 2015, breaking a nine-year dry spell for debut No. 1s by solo women, as it became the first since Carrie Underwood's six-week leader "Jesus, Take the Wheel" in 2006.

Ballerini's second and third singles also crowned Country Airplay: "Dibs" (March 5, 2016) and "Peter Pan" (Sept. 24, 2016). Fourth single "Yeah Boy" peaked at No. 3 this May.