

How Music Got FREE

How Music Got Free: The End of an Industry, the Turn of the Century, and the Patient Zero of Piracy (Also published as ***How Music Got Free: What Happens When an Entire Generation Commits the Same Crime?***, ***How Music Got Free: The Inventor, The Mogul and the Thief***, and ***How Music Got Free: A Story of Obsession and Invention***) is a [non-fiction](#) book by journalist Stephen Witt. The book chronicles the invention of the [MP3](#) format for audio information, detailing the efforts by researchers such as [Karlheinz Brandenburg](#), [Bernhard Grill](#) and [Harald Popp](#) to analyze [human hearing](#) and successfully [compress songs](#) in a form that can be easily transmitted. Witt also documents the rise of the [warez scene](#) and spread of [copyright-infringing efforts](#) online while detailing the campaigns by [music industry](#) executives such as [Doug Morris](#) to adapt to changing technology.^[1]