



# BLACK SUMMER

Flea, John Frusciante, Anthony Kiedis, Chad Smith

RED HOT CHILLI PEPPERS

2022

Warner Records

The lead single from the album **Unlimited Love**. Chart: #78 (#1 Alternativve). Time - 3:56. Released in U.S.A. Feb. 8, 2022.

Recorded at Shangri-La studio, Malibu, California, USA. Produced by **Rick Rubin**.

This is the first release with John Frusciante on guitar since he returned to the band in 2019. He had left in 2009 for a solo career, not any conflict with the band. Frusciante brought with him the basics to this song, later finished by the band. It was a black summer, a second year of the pandemic that wasn't ended with the vaccines as quickly as was expected. Frusciante also had lost his father in May of 2021. Flea is from Australia, and the bushfires that rocked that country in 2019-2020, defined as megafire, were called 'Black Summer'. There are Austrailia references in the song. The band was involved in the April Fool's prank of Jimmy Fallon and Jimmy Kimmel swapping shows (covered in bottom 2 links), appearing as guest on both shows on the same night. This song was only done on the Tonight Show.

\*\* Larry\*\*



**Personnel**

**Anthony Kiedis** - lead vocals  
**John Frusciante** - guitars, backing vocals  
**Flea** - bass  
**Chad Smith** - drums, tambourine  
**Matt Rollings** - piano

**Flea - 2022:I Like Your Old Stuff**

"You know, we started off, John Frusciante came back to the band. It was really exciting. You know, I can't speak for John. But I feel for him it was equal parts excitement and also like, 'Whoa, how do I navigate this thing I've been in for a long time? Like, does this still work? Does it still go on? And I don't know if you're thinking that or not. But, early on, John came in and he goes, 'Yeah, I got this idea for a song.' And he's mentioned recently that he hadn't written a rock song in a long time. And it's a song that became Black Summer. One of the things I really love about Anthony's lyrics is that even though I know they're deeply personal to his experience in the world, they're also wide open to interpretation. Like his metaphors, his sense of poetry and the way that words sound when they're next to one another is really magical to me. But they're wide open and everybody can apply them to their own experience and I love that."

**Anthony Kiedis - 2022:Forbes**

"'Black Summer' is a song that he brought to the band as a skeletal group of beautiful chords and ideas and arrangement, and then we just layered on top of it. So I think his aggressive guitar playing is super intentional and exciting and definitely gives the whole record a heavy color. But in terms of sequencing, we were just kind of going for vibe to vibe and trying to mix it up and create a bit of a meaningful segue from one to the other. I love John's aggressive guitar playing on this."

**YOU TUBE STUDIO TRACK OFFICIAL VIDEO**

**YOU TUBE LYRIC VIDEO**

**YOU TUBE LIVE 2022, The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon**

(For those of you that are confused about the Link above, on April Fool's day, 2022, they switched and hosted each other's shows. The Red Hot Chilli Peppers were the musical guest on both shows.)

**YOU TUBE Fallen / Kimmel April Fool's switch, 2022 EXPLANATION**

(The Link below shows first half of one of the shows, it's hilarious, worth a watch.)

**YOU TUBE First half of Fallen on Jimmy Kimmel Live**

A lazy rain am I  
The skies refuse to cry  
Cremation takes its piece of your supply  
The night is dressed like noon  
A sailor spoke too soon  
And China's on the dark side of the moon

Hit me now

Platypus are a few  
The secret life of roo  
A personality I never knew (get it on)  
My Greta weighs a ton  
The archers on the run  
And no one stands alone behind the sun

It's been a long time since I made a new friend  
Waiting on another black summer to end  
It's been a long time and you never know when  
Waiting on another black summer to end

Crack the flaming whip  
Sailing on a censorship  
Riding on a headless horse to make the trip

Been a long time since I made a new friend  
Waiting on another black summer to end  
It's been a long time and you never know when  
Waiting on another black summer to end

I been waiting  
I been waiting  
Waiting on another black summer to end  
I been waiting  
I been waiting  
Waiting on another black summer to end  
I been waiting  
I been waiting  
Waiting on another black summer to end