

Penny Lane

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The image is a complex collage. The background is a high-resolution photograph of a cobblestone street, likely from the Beatles' 'Penny Lane' video. Overlaid on this is a large, irregular, torn-paper-like shape. Inside this shape, there's a portrait of a person with reddish hair, looking down, with a blue and purple color gradient. To the right of the portrait, within the same torn shape, is a landscape scene with a body of water and a dark, silhouetted structure. The overall aesthetic is artistic and layered.

californication

a Soul to Squeeze

an unofficial Anthony Kiedis Biography

by Penny Lane

First of all I would like to thank Pascale and Maria for giving me the info I requested.

Secondly, I would like to dedicate this pamphlet to all the Red Hot Chili Peppers fans in the world and particularly to those who've been with me in this adventure which has been going on for 12 years now, to Jason, Yvette, Michelle, Zoe and all my friends of The Red Hot Chili Peppers Forum/Ezboard and One Hot Globe Forum.

And last but not least, everybody do a jig for my editors, the Great Ardnac and Ken.

NOTE OF THE AUTHOR

This biography is mainly based on interviews and facts I have read on the press and that to my opinion are reasonably reliable; I have just briefly hinted at a few things I've heard with my ears from the man himself or from people close to him. Of course some things might be missing or inaccurate, but nothing has been made up. While reading on you will notice I have written some dialogs between Anthony and Flea, or Anthony and Hillel or other people. Of course those dialogs have been made up because I wasn't there and even if I had been there I would have needed a tape recorder with me to report them faithfully. However, the reason for those conversations is mainly to lighten up the story and to add something fresh to things we already know (you will notice the dialogs are inserted mostly in the points of the story all the world already knows about) cause repeating the same things over and over again would be rather boring. But once again, also those conversations are based on true facts and are written with the style echoing the typical way of expressing the people involved. Also Dave Thompson, in his book about the Red Hot Chili Peppers, had to insert dialogs based on his intuition. I have followed the same rule.

Penny Lane

Chapter 16: Californication

The Red Hot Chili Peppers arrived in Europe on June 1st. A bunch of dates and TV appearances were scheduled till the end of the month. Three years had passed since the band's last visit to Europe and it was soon clear enough that many things had changed in those three years. First of all, there was John and not Dave, and the John the guys introduced to the European press had absolutely nothing in common with the lazy indifferent guy they all had seen during his last tour in Europe in Spring 1992. Something that suddenly struck many people's eyes (and ears) was that John had turned in a more active motormouth than Anthony. In all the interviews he was always the one who talked most, and though many journalists managed to understand very little of what he was saying, he didn't care at all. Anthony had a sort of older brother-like attitude with John. In all the interviews he normally let him talk, just watching him carefully, and when the interviewer was clearly having trouble Anthony would intervene, doing a sort of witty "translation" of what John had just said. They were somehow pretty funny to look at. Talking to a beautiful German MTV host Anthony and John once again told the story of the old haunted mansion where they had recorded BSSM.

"It was like having a sleepover at your best friend's house" Anthony said, "We only used to go back home at weekends".

"It was during one of those weekends that I wrote Your Pussy's Glued To A Building On Fire" John babbled. The girl made a puzzled face, she had probably never heard John's solo stuff.

"He's not saying that your pussy is glued to a building on fire" Anthony clarified while the girl burst out laughing, "That's just the name of the song that he wrote".

In the first days of the tour Flea got sick and so he didn't do as much press as the others, much to his relief. But Anthony, John and Chad were all over the place. That kind of respectability, the guys hadn't experienced since the BSSM days, was again within their reach. Not that the guys were encouraging this aspect a lot. In their hotel rooms and the tour-bus their behavior hadn't changed at all since their first tours of the eighties. Far from the press's watch, the Chili Peppers were still having fun hanging in clubs and looking at porn movies in their posh European suites. But the password was "CLEANNESS" now and everybody had to conform. John was always very talkative when asked about his drug use, Anthony not as much, but he always assured everyone that he was as clean as John.

"Actually I'm more worried about myself than about John" he once admitted "He's been clean for much longer than I am".

On another occasion someone reported him saying "Heroin will never be far away from my life" before some furious PR pounced on him, shutting his mouth.

And Flea, talking to the Finnish mag "Okej", similarly betrayed the password saying "Anthony's still fighting. We can never be sure that he's going to be clean. We can just stand beside him as much as we can".

But those were the only “leakages” in a picture that was of total love and newfound friendship and sobriety and harmony with the parallel universe. Pity that in this picture something out of tune had always to be recorded, like that night in Milan when Anthony and Flea were reportedly kicked out of a fashionable party, though armed with a regular invitation’s voucher, for being “undesirable”.



The Chili Peppers in Stockholm, Cali promo tour

here and there wrote: “The Chili Peppers have matured. The Chili Peppers don’t do drugs. The Chili Peppers don’t drink. The Chili Peppers love each other. ...Excuse me guys, have you turned into Aerosmith?”.

The band came back to US on June 20th and played two shows in LA and San Francisco, then Anthony went to pick up Yohanna in New York and took her to meet his parents in Grand Rapids. Blackie and Peggy were happy that their son had found someone new, and that maybe this time it was going to last.

“Maybe she’s the one,” they thought. Actually Anthony was looking very much in love with this girl, and since he was 36, everything might make everyone think that the time to start a family had finally come.

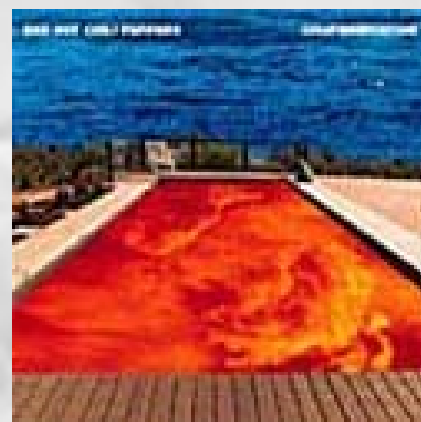
“She’s the first girl I met who I could truly consider getting married to” he told British mag “Q”.

But in the same days, replying to a fan who asked him if he was going to settle down he poured water on fire:

“Finding a wife sounds easier said than done. And as for settling down... maybe not”.

That question had come from a fanclub member during an on-line chat with Anthony at the band’s official site, www.redhotchilipeppers.com, to which only fanclub members were admitted. Unfortunately Anthony wasn’t asked any particularly

While the band was in Europe *Californication* was released, and one week later it went to the top of every record chart in the world. It was a record with some rock’n’roll, some funk, some rap and some pop; all of great value. Rick Rubin and John’s influences were all over the place. Generally *Californication* got very good reviews everywhere, though it was still far from equaling their masterpiece *Blood Sugar Sex Magik*. Someone out of the choir, from some alternative rock magazine



Californication

interesting question and to the few that seemed of some value he just replied "Yes" or "No".

When talking to the press he hardly disclosed anything more. "I only try to give positive things to the kids" he explained "and journalists often take one of the sentences from a conversation and turn it into something else. They always try to make some kind of scoop".

"We can't bear answering the same questions over and over again and trying to be sincere about it" Flea echoed.

But haven't you noticed, guys, that a lot of young people are literally going mad about you?

Those were people who were too little to be impressed when One Hot Minute had been released four years earlier, people who at the time had been 8-9, and in any case would they ever had been conquered by the dark lyrics and heavy sounds of that record? By Anthony's long, long hair and wild exotic facial features, or by Dave's goatee and nipple rings? No way! Those kids didn't remember at all they had ever heard about that band before. Look at them, who's the blond sexy guy with those beautiful brown eyes and that well-built body? How old is he, 24? 25? And look at the guitar player with that long hair and that sweet smile, have you ever heard about him? When they finally understood that Anthony was 36 and he was the same man once they had vaguely seen jumping on the stage at MTV Awards in a S&M outfit or kissing another man in a disturbing video, it was too late, love had already struck them. They could just console themselves thinking that Anthony had changed for better and now he was a sweet lovely guy. The publicity machine was doing everything to encourage that trend, and Californication kept selling billions of copies worldwide.

Waiting to play at Woodstock, the Chili Peppers headed to Toronto, where they played a gig on the street. Anthony sang "Give It Away" climbing on a pylon and this time he managed not to crash on the floor as usual; he just got a few bruises while getting down. Then, as settled, the guys left to Rome, Upstate New York, to play at the third edition of the Woodstock Festival.

This edition of the Festival had been organized to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the event. Besides the Chili Peppers the artists on the bills included Aerosmith, Chemical Brothers, Limp Bizkit, Jewel, Foo Fighters, Rage Against The Machine, Sugar Ray, Offspring, Alanis Morissette and many others. The Peppers were the main attraction of the second night.



Sweet lovely guy?

Whoever had attended the old glorious 1969 Woodstock Festival was maybe too old to mix with the madding crowd but also who had only been present at the 1994 edition surely remembered a peaceful and happy, though rain-plagued, feast. This Woodstock soon proved to be totally different. The mock-punk behavior of some new bands, Limp Bizkit above all, had teased the audience till the inevitable point of the famed bottle of champagne ready to explode. Other things had deeply annoyed the crowd, like the impossible state of the toilets, the astronomical cost of everything, water included, the tiredness and the unexpected number of people present.

When the Red Hot Chili Peppers jumped on the stage at the end of the day the atmosphere was already electrical. The guys of course had no idea of what was going on, they had just gotten down from a car, quickly changed their clothes, and rushed in front of 250.000 people. But as soon as Give it away started some fires were already visible in the distance.

"During the chorus of the next song would every girl menstruating with a tampon remove the tampon out of your menstruating vagina and toss it onto the stage" Anthony shouted "I mean it!". So much for being a clean minded, reformed boy. Only a few temerarious chicks obeyed, the others refused in disgust. But the show went on, and it was a great show. Anthony was sporting a new stage outfit: white shirt and black tie, Bermuda shorts and the usual Nike (sponsor! sponsor!) sneakers. Flea was completely naked, sporting just blue-colored hair. John was wearing a T-shirt over a long-sleeved shirt. "Why doesn't he want to show his arms?" someone quizzed. It didn't matter. His guitar playing was awesome. Also Anthony was looking on form, at least until he attacked Scar Tissue and he forgot half the lyrics. "Fuck, John, I think I've just fucked up everything" he told his guitar player. John just shook his head and laughed.

In the meantime things were getting worse and worse. People were burning anything they would find on their way, pizza boxes, wooden stalls, toilets, everything. While Anthony was looking at the stars ("I had never seen such a clear sky around New York") people were going completely mad. At the end of the set something caught also Anthony's myopic eyes.

"My God, it looks like Apocalypse Now over there" he babbled, before leaving the stage.

"The night went on..." he said on VH1's Behind the Music "and the level of mayhem increased and the fires got bigger and bigger. Police said that we tried to instigate the fires, but we weren't".

As soon as Anthony left the stage he was asked to go back there and tell something to calm down the audience.

"What the fuck can I say?" he barked "Please people calm down??? Those kids are totally mad!"

"Say whatever you want" he was told "But say it".

He reluctantly obeyed and babbled something nobody was interested to hear, then he left the stage again.

A few hours later the guys learned that in all



Anthony at Woodstock 99

that madness a girl had been raped and a few others molested. "Those are things which have nothing to do with music and fun," Anthony observed some time later.

The guys climbed on a car, nervous like hell, and were taken to Manhattan. Flea and John had a tremendous fight, their first since John had come back. Anthony was desperately trying to reach his girlfriend on her mobile but the girl seemed to have disappeared from the face of the earth. Then, they finally went to bed and that infernal day was over.

The second single taken from *Californication* was "Around The World", the opening track, a fast and joyful rap dealing with the beauty of traveling around the world and seeing so many different countries. "That was the first song I wrote for this record," Anthony stated. The video was shot in two days in August in a Hollywood theater and it was directed again by Stephane Sednaoui.

"We like him and we trust him" Anthony said, and then added "It's a performance video".

Anthony had arrived at the theater alone on his black 4WD, Flea with Clara, Chad with his ex-wife and his kids, Louis with wife, kid and... John, who hadn't a driving license yet. It looked like a family reunion.

MTV was there to shoot a number of their series "The making of a video" and even Clara was interviewed. The girl was nearly 11 and she looked very pretty. "I've been through these things sometimes" she told, totally self-confident in front of the camera "It's normal, except for the fact that my dad wears dresses. He calls them Egyptian robes, but they're dresses". Actually Flea was wearing a long skirt for the shooting, and nothing else. Anthony was also half-naked, with his Calvin Klein underpants peeping out

of his Bermuda shorts. The shooting went smoothly for two days, except for a "tiny mishap, really" which occurred when Anthony crashed into the steady cam with his right hand. That was his previously injured hand, and to avoid problems the director called a nurse who injected him with something. The nurse was a young woman and Anthony couldn't help but flirt with her even for only two seconds. "I can't feel my legs and my genitals are paralyzed, but all the rest is OK" he smiled to her. The nurse just smiled back and left.



"Around The World" video

Another MTV show aired during those days was a number of the series "FANatic". For anybody who's never seen it, a fan is picked up from a number of people who wrote to MTV to make him/her meet his/her idol while the camera's rolling: the best and quickest way to humiliate someone in front of a whole nation. The fan picked for the show with the Chili Peppers was a big guy named Oscar, who jumped into the room

where the band had gathered and promptly took little Anthony in his big arms, turning him upside down on his shoulders. "Oh my God" Anthony mumbled taking off his glasses, and then pointed at John shouting "Don't do it with him, he's fragile!". Oscar was supposed to interview the Chili Peppers but clearly the guys weren't in the right mood for that. Only Flea managed to give some answers with a bit of sense, while John was sprawled half asleep on the couch and Anthony and Chad were laughing all the time behind the couch. Anthony was also munching pop-corn and nobody understood what he was saying. He only looked worried when poor Oscar started eating a bunch of chili peppers to show his fondness for the band.

"You can fake it" Anthony observed, "Those things are really volatile, you don't have to do it". But Oscar wasn't the kind to draw back. He finished his chili peppers, sweating and puffing, and for the following days he had to stay in bed, sick as fuck. But hey, anything for the guys.

"Actually I had expected a hot underage babe" an ungrateful Anthony commented at the end of the show "But he was very sweet":

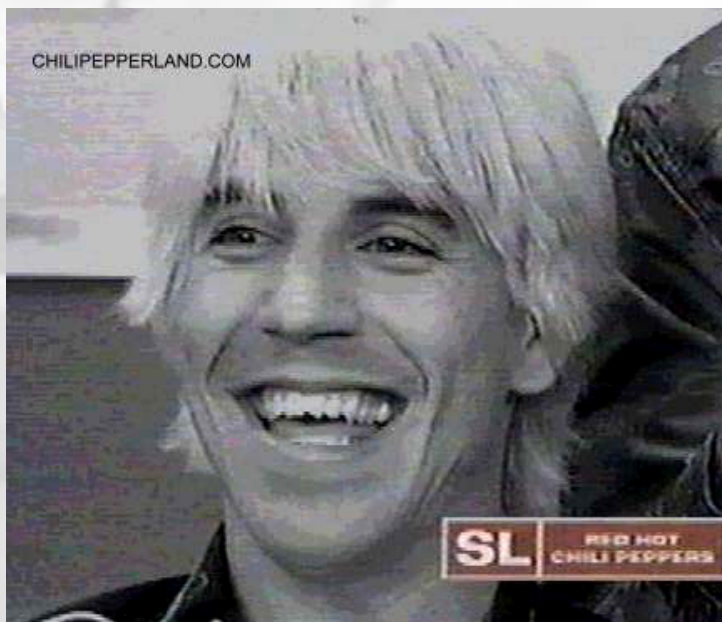
The day after the shooting of "Around The World" the guys took off to Moscow where they were booked to play a free gig in the legendary Red Square. They were all terribly excited. The only band who had played there before was Prodigy, two years earlier, and about 100.000 people were expected to attend the gig. "The day somebody handed me a fax asking us to play in the Red Square" Anthony told the press "I knew this was going to be a day to remember".

The Chili Peppers had had to get up at 4 a.m. to take their plane to Russia and for the first two days they had to submit themselves to a long series of press conferences, interviews and TV shows. Anthony was very curious about the situation of freedom of speech in that country and asked MTV Russia's host Tutta Larsen if there was still some kind of censorship.

"No" she replied.

To provoke something then he started singing a dirty ditty about Yeltsin, soon backed by Flea.

"Stop it!" Tutta shouted.



Anthony singing Yeltsin's dirty ditty on MTV Russia

The MTV Russia show had been arranged with various phone calls from watchers to which the guys were supposed to reply. But the conditions of phone lines in the ex-USSR must still be severe, and very few people managed to make a call, much to John's amusement. In the end Anthony decided to make up the calls by himself.

"Wait wait" he told, holding an imaginary receiver in his hand "I've got a call from Mongolia, from a small village in Mongolia".

Tutta was clearly holding her breath.

"The question is for Flea" Anthony continued "Flea, is it true what they say about guys in West Hollywood?"

"Yes it is" Flea replied with a pretty serious face "In West Hollywood we all have very big balls and huge dicks".

When the interview was over Tutta laughed "I didn't interview them! They did everything by themselves. I just stood there and watched them with my mouth open".

On the day of the gig Anthony wasn't feeling good and he stayed in bed till the afternoon. "The air is terrible in that country" he confessed later "I just couldn't breathe. I felt sick for all the three days".

But the gig, attended by an impressive crowd, was terrific. Not longer than a showcase, it excited the audience as clearly not much had done in ages. But the Russian



cops were still... Russian cops and they acted with extreme strictness with any *too* excitable guy on their way, often followed by the eye of the camera. Anthony, who on similar occasions had always vehemently taken the parts of the audience, this time decided not to expose himself (he just babbled something about it on MTV US some time later). Though he was used to dealing with cops, those ex-soviet sturdy guys were looking a bit too hard even for him.

The gig in the Red Square

The Chili Peppers were booked to play at two other important Festivals of the season, Bizarre Festival in Denmark and the legendary Reading Festival outside London, and at an Italian TV show named "Festivalbar". Their popularity was reaching astronomical levels everywhere but the old faithful fans were starting to be disoriented. Hordes of screaming teenagers were seen more and more often at the frontline at their shows, they hardly seemed to listen to the music, they were too busy squealing whenever Anthony took off his shirt or Flea pushed his bass aside showing his dick. The only Pepper who still seemed to have a little respect was John Frusciante. The others (Chad included) were treated by those girls as three seasoned Backstreet Boys. The old fans were also disappointed at the brevity of their shows, cause their gigs hardly lasted one hour. When asked about it Flea first brought up his "punk rock upbringing" ("I have always found that bands that play for 2 hours or so or more bore the shit out of me and I have never been really touched by a concert that long and I find it pompous, bloated, and unnecessary") then he blamed everything on a mysterious "throat infection" of Anthony's. It made no sense. People were forking out their scrapings to see the band live and they deserved something more than a paltry hour of show.

Reading Festival though was a laugh. The guys were on top form and they even set up some funny gags between one song and another.

"I have to pee" John declared.

"I told you to go before the show started!" Anthony protested.

Flea played an introductory note to the next song.

"But I really have to" John insisted.

Anthony shook his head "You can't leave the stage, there's no time" he said with a mock-furious face and then picked up an empty bottle and walked towards John.

"Behind the amp" he ordered. John trotted behind the amp followed by Anthony who was still clutching the bottle. They re-emerged 30 seconds later and John had a smile on his face. "Now it's better" he assured everyone. The crowd cheered. No one knew what had become of the bottle.



Flea and Anthony at Reading

A special guest at Reading Festival was Spice Girls' Melanie Chisholm, who popped up backstage to say hello to Anthony and spend some time with Clara. The girl was about to release her solo record, produced by Rick Rubin and William Orbit, and some gossip who had heard one of the songs, "Never be the same again", had interpreted it as a sort of ode to her Chili Peppers friend.

"It's about someone who's been close to me at one point" she told "And maybe I wanted him closer".



*Spice Girls: forever?
AAAAARGHHH!*

Apparently Melanie was totally ignoring that Anthony had long before written a song about her, "Emit Remmus", and she sounded surprised when the reporter made her notice that.

"I think that your someone has already written a song for you" he said.

"Really?" she said, "I didn't know that".

At the moment though Melanie had totally forgotten Anthony and was having a relationship with some boy-band idol, so their meeting at Reading was exclusively friendly. Clara asked her if the Spice Girls could attend her birthday party in Los Angeles and maybe sing some songs for her, and Melanie told her "Of course we will". Actually the girl hadn't had the guts to tell Clara that Spice Girls were at the end of their tether and they were hardly speaking to each other.

From England the Chili Peppers went to Verona, Italy, where they played at Festivalbar together with people like Sting, Ricky Martin, Backstreet Boys and other famous bands, but Flea was left appalled when he realized that most of those bands

were lip-synching. He and Anthony went horse riding in the countryside with Clara and Flea's mother, and the next day they took a flight to the U.S. for a well-deserved rest.



Anthony and Yohanna at a premiere

Anthony went to New York where he "unofficially" attended the MTV Awards with Yohanna Logan. The girl had completed her course and was finally ready to move to L.A. with her brand new fashion designer diploma under her arm, but since Anthony was still *homeless* she had to locate with him in an posh rented apartment near the Strip. Not that they could enjoy much time together in their new home: just a few days to attend some premiere and party and Anthony was off again, this time on a South American tour. But Yohanna was not the kind to stay at home watching soaps and waiting for her man to come back, and pretty soon she started working on a project of her own. She hadn't taken a four-year course at an expensive New York school to do the Chili Peppers' first lady!

The South American tour went great but the guys were starting to become tired, and some tension was noticed here and there among the band members. For the moment their arguments mainly revolved around the setlists, which never seemed to satisfy all together at the same time. Then from Mexico the Chili Peppers went to New York where

they played at the (sigh) World Trade Center in a very little hall.

The next day Anthony, sick with a cold and with his eyes all puffy and circled emerging above a heavy scarf, was interviewed by MTV News. "I don't remember we've ever played in such a little venue, practically with our backs glued to the wall, since our very early shows in the 80s".

Anthony did another interview on that morning, for Oz magazine "Juice". The journalist went to talk with him with a very cheesy approach, ready to show the world that both John Frusciante and Anthony Kiedis, the ex-junkies of the band, were now clean and mature and mellow and in harmony with the universe, and all that crap. Anthony tried to second that feeling but he was such in bad conditions that during the interview his head was constantly dropping on his coffee cup. He vaguely ascribed his unhealthy state to a "hangover", not specifying from what, but the journalist was so eager to write his piece the way he had conceived it he tried not to notice that too much. In his article he even hinted to a song of Californication ("This Velvet Glove") dedicated to an imaginary "Kiedis's wife", which promptly threw hordes of new female fans into pure panic. "Anthony got secretly married" some of these over-assertive girls affirmed in the message board of the official site of the band. A few suicide attempts were just considered and not put into practice before some smarter chick e-mailed Anthony's dad asking the question "Did Anthony get married?" to which poor Blackie replied with a simple "WHAT????".

Actually sometimes Anthony did think about marriage. He was turning 37, and he was developing a vague desire for fatherhood. When faced with the thought of the responsibilities fatherhood involves his desire seemed to fade but it was somehow always there. Yohanna could be the real thing, she wasn't as young as his previous girlfriends, she was intelligent and strong, caring but independent. But for someone who has lived all his life as a "free-flyer" the thought of settling down was still scary. Not that the girl was pushing in that direction at all. Anthony still remembered how much Jamie Rishar had insisted to marry him and he had always hesitated, but Jamie was too young and he wasn't ready at that time. Now that maybe he was starting to get ready his new girlfriend wasn't showing any remote intention to become Mrs. Kiedis. When asked about his plans for year 2000 by British magazine Kerrang! at the end of the 1999 Anthony enigmatically replied: "A honeymoon in Venice, Italy, and lot of swimming in the ocean". More panic among the teenyboppers. "He's getting married very soon" was the new password. "Stop dreaming about him gals" some older and wiser male fan admonished, "He's getting married in Milan and he'll spend the honeymoon in Venice".

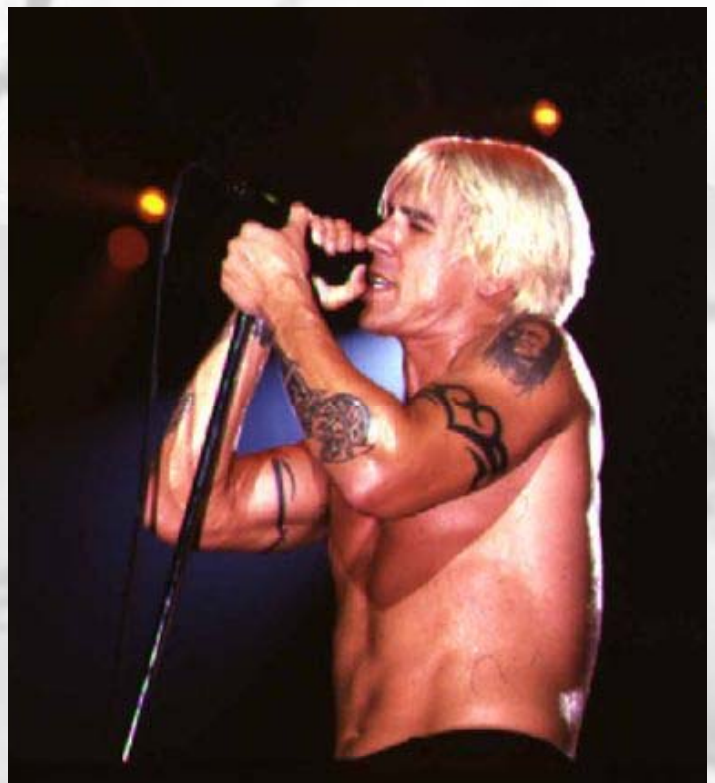
Actually Anthony went to Milan in November, but he was alone with his band and everybody was so bummed out on that day that nobody had the guts to ask him about marriage. A severe fight between Anthony and Flea was reported backstage before the show, and this time the cause was not the setlist, but still remained unknown. Anthony was seen slamming the door of his dressing room with a furious face and then he disappeared for a while. He came back just in time to do the show, but at that point his rage had already evaporated. Apparently his moments of madness never last too long. Flea though is a totally different matter. The show was long way over when he was spotted sitting alone in the huge venue, sobbing non-stop in the dark.

"What the fuck happened?" somebody asked him.

"I miss my daughter," he said "And somebody has stolen my Fela Kuti's pants".

OK: the guys were pretty tired. There was no other explanation. Fela Kuti's pants were given back to Flea the next day following his heartfelt plea at the band's official site. The "thief" was just two excitable girlyies who now were very regretful. "I have no resentment for those girls" Flea said, all happy "I understand. I have done much worse".

When the Chili Peppers came back to L.A. in December a new single was released, still taken from Californication, the beautiful and poignant "Otherside".



European Tour fall '99

*How long how long will I slide
Separate my side I don't
I don't believe it's bad
Slit my throat
It's all I ever
I heard your voice through a photograph
I thought it up it brought up the past
Once you know you can never go back
I've got to take it on the otherside*

Huuuummm... meaning?

Everyone had their own interpretation.

"It's a about being gay".

"It's about suicide".

"It's about heroin addiction".

All the Chili Peppers' message boards were throbbing with discussions about the real meaning of the song. After all it was something more refreshing than the usual "Will somebody tell me if Anthony's getting married?", as if all the various message boards were world-famous wedding agencies. The author of the lyrics though did not explain too much. If questioned about the meaning of the song, he chose the third option.

"So you don't believe it's bad being on drugs?" some sharp minded interviewer asked him.

Anthony just shook his head. Will these people ever understand?

He had lost weight again lately and that platinum blonde hair was making him look older. He was not on top form when the band appeared at Billboard Awards on December 7th in Las Vegas, where they played their new single and a Scar Tissue jam with Snoop Doggy Dog. He didn't even take his shirt off.

An anonymous and talkative L.A. pusher opened his mouth: "Anthony Kiedis? I have sold him a stock of heroin just on the other day. He was so messed up he shot up right there in my room in front of me. I was shit-scared that he was going to OD in my house".

Bullshit? Probably. Soon after the Las Vegas show the Chili Peppers shot a video for "Otherside" and then went to spend Christmas with their families. The Otherside video was not directed by Stephane Sednaoui but by a couple of directors, Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Farris, who had already made a name of themselves with the acclaimed Smashing Pumpkins' "Tonight, Tonight". Their videos were usually very dark, so they seemed to be the appropriate choice for a dark song like



Anthony in the Otherside video

Otherside. This time the members of the band were not the main characters, not even Anthony who restrained himself to singing standing on a tower with a trench on. The main role for the video was given to a young actor, vaguely resembling an early Johnny Depp, which many teenyboppers promptly mistook for a member of the band.

"This video reminds old Fritz Lang's movies" the ever film-expert Anthony told the press "Particularly The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari". Thank God the video was not as scary as that film, but it had a nightmare atmosphere that many people did not like at all. Actually, the most intriguing thing was a purple-haired Flea playing his bass on the electricity wires.

Soon after Christmas the guys went back to L.A. where they played a New Years' Eve gig at the Great Western Forum. 1999 was closing down and, according to all previsions, it had been a damn fucking perfect year.

Almost.

END OF CHAPTER 16

IMPORTANT LINKS YOU MUST KNOW !

- + [OneHotGlobe](#) ~ a red hot chili peppers fansite >[www.onehotglobe.tk](#) > [onehotglobe.net](#)
> [onehotglobe.com](#)
- + [One Hot Globe forums / onehotforums](#) ~ [http://rhcp.proboards6.com](#)
- + [Red Hot Chili Peppers BBS](#) ~ [http://pub47.ezboard.com/bchilipeppersbbs](#)
- + [Red Hot Chili Peppers official fansite BBS](#) ~ [http://pub56.ezboard.com/brockinfreakbbs](#)

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