

= Summertime (Beyoncé song) =

" Summertime " is a song by American singer Beyoncé Knowles featuring American rapper P. Diddy . " Summertime " was written by Knowles , Angela Beyincé , P. Diddy , Steven " Steven J. " Jordan , Adonis Shropshire , Varick " Smitty " Smith and Mario Winans , while production was handled by Winans and P. Diddy . The song was later remixed to feature vocals from American rapper Ghostface Killah . " Summertime " was included on the soundtrack album for the film The Fighting Temptations (2003) , in which Knowles played the lead female role . The original version of the song was released as a B @-@ side to " Crazy in Love " in the UK and Australia , while it was issued as a 12 @-@ inch vinyl single in the United States through Columbia Records .

" Summertime " is an R & B song which lyrically refers to falling in love . Music critics generally complimented Knowles ' vocals in the song and noted that it could have been included on her debut studio album , Dangerously in Love (2003) . The song also charted on the US Billboard Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart in late 2003 . The original version featuring P. Diddy and the remix version featuring Ghostface Killah peaked at number thirty @-@ five and at number fifty @-@ one respectively on the chart . Both versions charted for forty consecutive weeks . " Summertime " was part of Knowles ' set list during the Dangerously in Love Tour (2003) , and the Verizon Ladies First Tour (2004) .

= = Background and composition = =

The song has two different themes . It primarily talks about the romance and later marriage between the film 's two main characters Darrin (played by Cuba Gooding Jr .) and Lilly (played by Knowles) , as well as subtly hinting at Knowles ' real @-@ life relationship with rapper Jay @-@ Z. Darrin , a shallow New York advertising executive , traveled to a small town in the deep south upon receiving word that his aunt has died and left him a sizable inheritance . Once in town , Darrin is informed that he will only receive the money if he successfully leads a local gospel group to victory at an upcoming competition . Reluctant but strapped for cash , Darrin takes on the task of finding the best singers in town and shaping the group up . Along the way , he becomes acclimated to the town with the help of his cousin Lucius (played by Mike Epps) and meets Lilly , a single mother who not only possesses an incredible voice but also the ability to warm Darrin 's cold heart . Although Gooding 's character , Darrin , was in love with Knowles ' character , Lilly , the latter did not always feel the same until later on in the film . Near the end of the film , he proposes to her and she accepts . They eventually get married (offscreen) and within eighteen months they had a baby son together , making Darrin a father and also stepfather to Lilly 's other son .

" Summertime " was the only song which appeared on the soundtrack album of The Fighting Temptations but not in the movie itself . As a whole , seven tracks featured the vocals of Knowles . The latter has a starring role in the film , along with a choir made up of gospel , R & B and hip @-@ hop recording artists . Faith Evans , Angie Stone , Melba Moore , Rev. Shirley Caesar , The O 'Jays , Montell Jordan , T @-@ Bone , and Zane are all seen on the film and perform on the soundtrack . " Summertime " was written by Knowles , Angela Beyincé , Sean Combs , Steven " Steven J. " Jordan , Adonis Shropshire , Varick " Smitty " Smith and Mario Winans while production was handled by Winans and P. Diddy . Tim Sendra of Allmusic describes " Summertime " as an R & B " sweet love song " with lush sampled strings and acoustic guitars . The lyrics of the song do not reveal the film 's plot , but they do tell that it has been a year since Darrin and Lilly met and they have gotten closer which could possibly be referring to their marriage . According to Dani Boobyer of the UK @-@ based website The Situation , its lyrics make reference to " failing in love in the summer sun . "

= = Release = =

During a string of soundtrack releases , Knowles commented on the song in an interview with Billboard and stated : " A lot of music was written especially for the film . At first I was concerned about the timing of the soundtrack , [because] my solo album was supposed to come out way

before the movie . But then the solo album got delayed . " While later announcing the release of the soundtrack album in a press release , Knowles said : " Once you hear the song [' Fighting Temptation '] , and all the music in this film , you can 't help but fall in love with it . You 'll definitely get emotional . You might become happy or even sad , but your heart will get full . All the songs are touching and spiritual , and that 's what the movie itself is like . "

" Summertime " was issued as a 12 " vinyl single in the United States by Columbia Records on October 28 , 2003 , and was later serviced to radio by the label . The original version of the song also served as the B @-@ side to Knowles ' debut solo lead single " Crazy in Love " (2003) in the UK and Australia . " Summertime " was additionally included on Knowles ' 2005 mixtape Speak My Mind . The song was later referenced in Rochelle Alers 's short story " Summer Madness " , from the anthology Four Degrees of Heat (2004 ? 07) .

= = Reception = =

In a summer issue of Vibe , the song was included on a list of the top songs for a summer playlist . Research director Laura Checkoway reviewed the remix of the track and stated : " Ghost 's game is tight . " In an Amazon.com editorial review , Tom Keogh stated that the song " proves a breezy dance number . " Tim Sendra of Allmusic wrote that " Summertime " features " a wonderful vocal from Beyoncé . " He also considered that it would have made a perfect addition to her debut solo studio album , Dangerously in Love (2003) . Dani Boobyer of The Situation commented that the song is " infectious " and that it ends the soundtrack album " on a smooth , laid @-@ back high . " Both the original version featuring P. Diddy and remix version featuring Ghostface Killah charted for forty weeks on the US Billboard Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Singles & Tracks . During the week of August 16 , 2003 the remix featuring Ghostface Killah charted and peaked at number fifty @-@ one . During the week of September 20 , 2003 the original version charted at number thirty @-@ five . The remix also charted at number eight on the US Billboard Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles chart , which acts as a twenty five @-@ song extension to the Billboard Hot 100 .

= = Live performances = =

Although Knowles did not perform the song in any televised appearances , the song was a part of her set list on her tours . During the Verizon Ladies First Tour , which also featured Alicia Keys , Missy Elliott and Tamia , Knowles performed " Summertime " in New York in front of more than 20 @,@ 000 fans . Shaheem Reid of MTV News commented that Knowles " stepped in the name of love " during the breakdown of the song . Knowles also sung " Summertime " with an interpolation of R. Kelly 's " Step in the Name of Love " on her first solo tour Dangerously in Love Tour (2003) at the Wembley Arena in London , England . Knowles performed the song in a yellow summer @-@ dress that was bedazzled in rhinestones across the upper breast area and around the bottom of the dress . The song , alongside its live version , was included on a live DVD / CD titled Live at Wembley . " Summertime " serves as the twelfth track of the live DVD . A performance of the remix of the song was included on the Jay @-@ Z documentary Fade to Black (2004) , which features Knowles performing with Ghostface Killah .

= = Track listing and formats = =

US 12 " vinyl single

" Summertime " (Album Version featuring P. Diddy) ? 3 : 53

" Summertime " (Album Version Instrumental) ? 3 : 34

" Summertime " (A Capella featuring P.Diddy) ? 2 : 59

" Summertime " (Remix featuring Ghostface Killah) ? 4 : 04

" Summertime " (Remix Instrumental) ? 3 : 34

" Summertime " (A Capella featuring Ghostface Killah) ? 3 : 08

= = Charts = =