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Dierks Bentley's 15-Year-Old Dog, Jake, 'Can't Be Replaced'

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Dierks Bentley will have you reaching for a tissue to dab your eyes as you listen to the end of his new song "Can't Be Replaced." The acoustic ballad mentions his dog, Jake, who at age 15 is fighting cancer.

Bentley says he found the lumps last year and put his best friend on chemotherapy. Jake is also deaf and has leg issues, but it's clear the singer is going to hold on as long as he can. He admits that he can't even get through the final verse of "Can't Be Replaced" without crying.

"For 15 years, right by my side / From a single man to three kids and a wife / Friends come and go, but when it comes to Jake / There's just some things that can't be replaced."

"Can't Be Replaced" is the final song on Bentley's new Black album. He changed the original lyrics of the Bentley, Luke Laird and Hillary Lindsey-penned song to include a reference to his best friend, he explains. Jake has been the star of Bentley's music videos, walked red carpets, appeared on The View and been a

constant companion through the singer's life — from bachelor years until now, when he's a husband, father of three and certified country music star. The dog recently appeared at the opening of Bentley's Country Music Hall of Fame exhibit, with the singer's wife Cassidy handling him.

Black is Bentley's eight studio album, available May 27. The singer explores some dark themes on the release and at times seems to continue a conversation he started with songs like "Drunk on a Plane." Collaborations with Maren Morris and Elle King are highlights, as is a song called "Freedom" that fans really responded to during a recent set at the DTE Energy Music Theater in Clarkson, Mich.