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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, transgendered, humor, tampons, restroom, funny, thought, transition, drag queen, real, paranoid, gender, legislator, women, day, talk, person, joke, men, crack



00:01

Okay, who else do we have in the studio there?



00:04

Michelle Meyers again.



00:05

Okay. And de McKellar and we're going to be talking about the humor of being transgendered. Oh, and there is lots of, yeah, there really is. Now, the reason we bring this up is because as Jamie pointed out, at the start of the show, we have done some real heavy stuff, we did a show about guilt and shame. And we did one about the rights to transgendered people, and how the, you know, your human rights doesn't end and the day that you decide that you realize you are transgender. And here we are coming up on Pride Week and pride, right. And I thought, let's, let's do something a little lighter. So I wanted to talk a little bit about some of the humor that's involved with being transgendered. And I thought maybe I would kick this off a little bit by talking about a couple of incidents that have happened to me, because they're political incidents, and then we can share some of what we've got going here. I several months, several months ago. Well, I guess actually, last year now, I went to speak to some folks at the Texas legislature. And there was a urban African American legislator from Dallas, that I want to go talk to. And I explained it and I said to him, Well, you know, my name is Sarah Palin. I'm a transgendered person. I'm here to check this out transgenders I know all about you people. I said, you do? He says, oh, yeah, I've seen you on television. I said, you did when you see me on television, he says, weren't you on Oprah? I said not yet. In the work were cracked me up, but it's the hidden mistaking me for Kate Bornstein. No, yeah, yeah, no. I said, Well, I know Kate, but no, I'm not hurt, right?



01:42

Nothing. She's six foot tall. What's the deal?



01:45

And I turned to the legislature and I legislator, and I say, Well, of course, I know that we all look alike. And he got it. He got it. And then he sat down. Listen to what I had to say. But I just thought that was very fine. Knit you know, I it's one of those situations where you might as well roll with the punches and have fun with it. Yeah. And they did you know, yes. I had another situation where we talk to a legislator. And as I was talking to him, he kept staring at me and staring at me. And finally said, Excuse me, is there? Is there something at the end of my nose? And he says no, no, is it just that you look so much like my daughter, and I thought, Oh, we're gonna win this guy or you watch. So it's kind of interesting how things work out. I was telling Dr. Cole today about an incident that happened when I went to channel eight. I think we talked about this on the air. I was supposed to be on channel eight on the show. And the people who were interviewing course had never met me. And he can't she came out and talk to the Secretary of State is the drag queen here yet. And the Secretary kind of spoken earlier, like, head up, shut up. And she says I'm looking for the trackways drag queen here. And I finally stepped up and said, Do I look like RuPaul to you? Now? RuPaul is like like, what? Seven feet or something? Yeah. And I'm like five feet four. And she looked me, you're the you're the Kneset? No, and I'm not a drag queen either. Okay, now, those are the kinds of things that that come up. And it's really important. I think, if you're going to have any kind of a transition at all, you've got to be able to have a sense of humor about that. And I want it this one and everybody just kind of talk about the sense of humor stuff that's happened to them, or things that they think is kind of humorous, but being transgendered. So whoever wants to start there, go ahead.



03:27

Okay, well, I guess I'll start, I just thing that pops to my mind. First off is like, like, at work, my boss was her birthday. And they were circulating this card for her birthday, and everybody was signing it and everything. And, of course, everybody where I work knows and it's like, it's kind of an open secret sort of thing. But well, it's really open now. But there was this card, and it was like on the front of it. It said like, Would it be great if you could like, be pampered for a day and everybody would wait on you and everybody would you know, cater to you and treat you like a goddess. And then you open it up and it says In other words, be a man for a day.



04:12

Oh, oops.



04:16

Knowing me I wrote in there. Been there done that



04:25

and I got some real great,



04:31

that's bad. Love it. My boss was



04:34

horrified.



04:39

But that's the way to handle it.



04:40

Exactly.



04:42

Oh, yeah. Absolutely. It takes off it diffuses all the pressure and you get to have fun.



04:46

Oh, yeah. And it's like they feel uncomfortable. But I know Do you know it's like,



04:51

Danielle, I cannot imagine you not having fun. Really? Yes, it happened.



04:57

Did she get so distraught? secretly I know Okay. Shall you want to chime in telling you?



05:06

Oh, yeah, I have a little joke, okay. Most of us who are transgendered and at some time or other contacting somebody in the psychological professions. So, in one of my duties is to patrol I call around and get in contact with people to come out on patrol. So the other day, I ran into the following message. This is the psychological helpline. If you are a psychotic killer, please press one. If you're manic depression, press two and three, two and three, two and three. If you're a compulsive, press one incessantly. If you happen to have multiple personality disorder, please pass a 456 I'm sorry. If you are schizophrenic, just hang on the line and a little voice will

come and tell you what number to press. And if you are paranoid, you don't have to press a number. We know who you are and where you live. I'd like to add one more. If you like transgendered press 7770



06:41

How tisk tisk All right, Mr. Keller, your turn over there?



06:46

Well, not a whole lot has happened to me. That's funny, although I was at a party about a year or so ago and some real dead so a young lady was talking to me.



06:56

Was that me? Know, wasn't you and



07:02

I don't know



07:04

if you're paranoid but don't force any buttons. Yeah.



07:10

She found out something about my history. And she said oh, you used to be a guy. Can you say something in guy



07:26

so I burped



07:31

Can you say something guy?



07:32

It could have been worse

it could have been worse.



07:39

You know, Phil, Phil was fried tells the story now Phyllis is a non operative transsexual. And Phyllis likes to tell the story about about calling about going to the doctor's offices lady sister. Well, Miss Frey courser we're gonna have to do pap smear. And Phyllis has no I don't think so. And she's Oh yes, we do that for all the women that your age and Phyllis it and maybe you need to look at the charge here. And she did she looks at the charts. Just Oh, Phyllis. I'm so sorry. And Phyllis says don't get Don't be stories. The funny thing happen to me all week. You know, it's, it does happen. And I think



08:11

that's the point when when situations like this occur if you turn it into something funny instead of something like, oh, I can't believe what they did. You know, it's it's part of your outlook on life, isn't it people



08:23

are generally not trying to be mean that they're, they're shocked. Or they're just uninformed. I had to go for my first mammogram, which was like, not a thrilling experience. But this lady kept reading chart and she gives me all the put this can't be right. There's, there's there's, you know, your breasts are too dense. And I, my first reaction is that she's saying that I'm denser. And then I realized what she said. And I said, Well, I think you need to read the chart because I had written on the chart that I was a trained a, a preoperative transsexual and taking hormones and blah, blah, blah. And she said, but but the readings and I said, No, no, I think you really, really need to read this application. Yes. And she looked at she she was hardly embarrassed. And I was like, Don't Don't be embarrassed. It was funny, you know? Yeah. I think a lot of humor actually comes in learning about transition. I look back at some of the pictures that were taken me when I first started. And honest to god, I keep trying to bury them. Laurie has some pictures of me. She likes to try it out when she thinks she can embarrass me and one day I'm gonna get these pictures and burn you watch and you know your look back at those new year look back those really pictures. They actually look like this. Oh my gosh,



09:31

all my high school pictures. I'm like, geez, all that black eyeliner. I mean, I couldn't supply to third world country for crying out loud.



09:41

Tammy Faye Baker has nothing yet. Oh, it was horrible. I had some wigs honest to God. And I was gonna ask you about that dust mops never looked this bad. Okay. I mean, honest to God. And it's amazing to me that I didn't get laughed out of everywhere that I went. And it's just one of the funniest things that I've learned now. This sounds really strange. But the first real shock

to me was I discovered that women's bikes talk to one another in the restrooms. Oh, because because you know, like, guys don't do that. No, you know, that's a very personal thing. Yeah, they like



10:13

they're at the wall. Yeah. Unless they're Yeah, unless they're like real good buddies. And then it's about sports. Yeah, but



10:19

see, women's restrooms are kind of like safe places away from guys. Yeah. And they will say things in the restroom is you won't hear anywhere else. And I know one day I was sitting, I was in a hotel restaurant, restroom. And one of the women says, Oh, I was just dancing with this guy and his hands. He's got hands over me. And the other one says, Well, you know, she says, just yeah, just Tom. Just screw him. Well, no, don't screw him. He says, Well, you know what I mean? And everybody in the restroom just cracked up. And I think that was when they realized they were talking enough loud, because the whole restroom was listening to this.



10:58

bathroom humor I liked.



11:01

But isn't that true? Yeah. Oh,



11:02

god. Yeah. And well, it's funny because I don't really have much of a frame of reference as far as the guy perspective, because it's like, when I was in high school, it's like, I avoided the boys restroom. like the plague. Yeah. And since I've been out of high school, it's like, I haven't really been in a men's restroom. I think I would cause a scene if I had. But it is true, though, about women in restrooms and stuff is like, I could tell stories, but I don't think I could tell them on the air.



11:30

Yeah, I clean this point up because they've i But I mean, some of the things that it's really funny because women that it's a safe place away from men. Sure. And they will say things in restrooms you won't hear anywhere else. And that was a shock to me. I wasn't prepared for that. Something else I learned if you have a half mile of newly paved sidewalk, okay. And your yield, there's one crack in this entire newly paved sidewalk. I guarantee you your keel will find it. Oh, yeah, there, you have noticed that



11:58

Oh, and try walking on like wooden decking or something. And



12:01

I probably thought I fell down. I think I must have fallen down the stairs three or four times trying to learn how to go up and down stairs in heels. Because the dog on heels would catch on there was like yeah.



12:13

I've always been kind of a daredevil with heels. I'd like the vaulting off like four steps, you know? Like, let's see how far I can go.



12:23

Yeah. Well, yeah, that's that's part of why they call it transition. Well, yeah, you know, now now D she has read a lot of stuff that Ricky Wilkins has put out. And D has her own version of some of that, don't you?



12:38

Well, no, I've got a friend who writes this stuff. Right and and she couldn't be here tonight. She's got to go to work early. And but she asked me to talk about a little bit and and what she has done is his show that a lot of people in our community don't have a sense of humor.



12:59

Amen to that. They take it way too seriously.



13:01

She put out a press release back in September. She she had talked about organizing a new a new organization. So anyhow, the organization is called Gender Mack. And so she put this out, and I'll read the entire internet release says gender Mac announces Washington sit in takes movement politics to a new level. Okay, now we get into the text. Trixie Dickens, Executive Director of the gender millennial Action Coalition today announced plans for a massive demonstration in Washington DC in the spring of 1997. starts the quote. transgendered people have been treated like crap by our government for way too long. We aren't going to stand for it anymore, and we're going to Washington to raise a big stink on May 5 1997. We're inviting all transgendered people to take a dump for freedom. At our demonstration near the Capitol, this

date coincides with a major lobbying event planned by another transgender organization, so we expect a lot of participation. The exact site has yet to be determined because finding space for 50 to 100 portable toilets takes considerable negotiation.



14:26

Take a dump for freedom Okay,



14:28

Miss Dickens wearing your trademark heliotrope tights and mauve T sweatshirt with the neck cut out went on. Congress has never seen this aspect of the transgender movement. They simply aren't aware of its depth and we're going to educate them. As a souvenir of this landmark event we will be distributing small packets of refried beans to each and every member of Congress, members with children or grandchildren less than two years old. will also receive a packet of guacamole. We hope they will remember us when the chips are down.



15:07

Oh, oh, okay.



15:11

Gender Mac, the gender millennial Action Coalition is dedicated to promoting gender and gender evolution, working toward a society where men can be men, women can be women, and the rest of us can be whatever feels good at the moment. Okay, that was that went out on a on an internet mailing list for transgender activists. That list promptly erupted with people saying that's the worst idea I've ever heard of people did not no joke. Series. They said this is going to bring great discredit on our movement, or



15:55

intended but



15:58

really, they did really upset



16:01

Yeah. Yeah, they honest to God didn't realize that it was a joke. If people writing and say, this is horrible, and I was like, Oh, come on. Can't you see this as a point on this?



16:12

One person in San Francisco wrote in and said, After this had gone on for a couple of days, she wrote in and said, Didn't anybody think that maybe this was a show?



16:25

Somebody got it? And



16:27

and a reply came back? Well, yes. But at the top it says for immediate release, please repost as appropriate. Well, and that makes it serious. We thought that this was a lack of refried beans immediately. But people don't always say the fact that it was made to look like a legitimate press release. Had this other person totally fooled.



16:56

It is amazing to me that somebody tried to transgendered people really do take themselves way too seriously a lot of time. And I realized that that in some sense, you know, yeah. Okay. Nobody likes to be laughed at. But sometimes having a sense of humor will just get you through all kinds of trouble.



17:12

And sometimes it's good to be the one that laughs first. Yes, it is.



17:15

Yeah, yeah, it is. I've had some situations come up. Where humor has probably saved my neck. You know? Yeah. If you can't laugh at yourself a little bit. I think you're really in some deep trouble.



17:29

Yeah, I think it it bespeaks some kind of basic insecurity on some level. I mean, it's like, if you can laugh at yourself, that means you're comfortable with yourself, you're comfortable in your skin with who you are. And you can share that with people and you can laugh with them and say, Hey, it's okay. You know, I'm me. I'm happy. I like being me. And there's this part of me that you probably don't understand. But hey, you know,





17:54

I bet I go and talk to classes quite often. And it's always kind of amazing to me. It's a running joke. We're in our house as to whether this will be the first or second question as to which bathroom will we use? And I've learned to say to them, well, picture me coming out of the men's room, what do you think? And it's kind of like, oh, well, okay. And it's like, you know, it part of me that says, well, though, what a stupid question. But then I think, well, but everybody asks it, so you might as well just learn to roll with it. And



18:26

you have to, like, bear in mind, their mental process that they're going through and say, you know, the first time they're ever dealing with this, you know, I've been dealing with it for whatever seems logical and obvious to me. It's like they're like, do you know,



18:39

I went to speak to a legislature as legislator one time and this guy, he was old guy from West Texas. And this guy is that he's a grill cigar chomping. I mean, classic Texas, West Texas kind of guy. So I want to speak to this, this guy, and I had some material in my hand and material said, you know, the transgender leadership of taxes and, and blah, blah, blah. And so anyway, I handed this material and he looks at it, he looks at me, looks at it looks at me, looks at it. All of a sudden, it's click, gets it. And he looks at me and says, are you willing to learn more? Then we'll try and see actuals? I said, Yeah, we don't look anything like we do on television, do we? He says, Well unknown, so good. And he literally he fell down the scarf fell out of his mouth and said, and while you're here, the reason I came to talk to you was and he voted for the bill. He voted for it. It's just funny to watch the reactions of people that just they don't know what they're what to expect. And they they get it wrong.



19:39

And we get it wrong too. Because we all have this tendency to be paranoid. So I came out at work in April, like to tell everybody what was gonna happen at the stand up in front of the whole group and explain the situation The next time that I had an opportunity to come back to the office, I came back to the office as Michelle, which was on the 19th of May. Now, this is a big office, this is an office, one of the one of the largest oil companies in the world. And so I showed up, and I had been talking to everybody on and off for about three weeks. All my close friends at work had known for a year and a half. And I was frankly, a little bit disappointed that there were a few people that I knew who just didn't seem to be as comfortable as I thought they were going to be. And as they had indicated, this was on a Monday morning. By Tuesday, I found out from three or four others people that seemed to be uncomfortable, that they weren't uncomfortable, and they weren't unfriendly. They just didn't know who the hell this person was. Saying hello.



21:20

So you're you are being trolled paranoid about it and come to find it had nothing to do with



21:24

that. No, they just didn't recognize me.



21:26

I wish I had that problem.



21:28

I say when I first started transition, I was attending a class at the for the I forget now was for some Labor Board anyway. And it was you know, it was new to transition. And I was not really sure about going into the ladies room. So there's a big there's this break. And of course, all the women all rushed to the ladies room. And I'm thinking, Well, you know, maybe I'm gonna wait outside until things clear because, and I turned around this lady, she's standing there, and she's staring at me. Oh, here it comes. Oh, God. And she looks at me. She says, Sarah, there's plenty of room give me here. So here, I was shaking in my boots saying, Oh my God, I've been read. Oh, she's gonna make us think about the bathroom. She's wondering why the hell wasn't there with everybody else? So



22:12

what did she make us think about?



22:16

Not that I'm going to know.



22:21

She'd make a good actor.



22:24

You know it. But it is true in a lot of ads. Funny. I've had to come up a couple of times that people have, I've actually caught people staring at me. And I used to really get paranoid, you know, that I've been read. And we're in target one day, and I caught this lady staring at me and I got kind of, you know, upset about it and said, you know, is there what's the matter is, is there something about me? She says, no, she said, I was just looking to color your hair and wondering, well, what if that was your real color or not?



22:47

Yeah, it's funny. It's like, and that's what I tell people, when they talk to me about it. It's like, you think you're getting red. But you never know why people are looking at you. People look at you for all kinds of reasons. And they can be looking at you and thinking, gosh, she looks like somebody I know. Or yeah, or she looks like my daughter, you know, it's like you never know, it's like, so don't be paranoid about it. Or you'll have to press one repeatedly.



23:11

Well, one of the things that Laurie pointed out to me is that is that having a sense of humor, though, is a subset of having some confidence in yourself. Oh, absolutely. And so maybe I think that developing a sense of humor may be a more advanced sort of trait in this process. Because if you haven't been in it long enough to have built confidence, it's pretty tough to have a sense of humor.



23:33

Yeah. And I think once you become comfortable in your own skin, you know, however you arrive at that point, and everything just kind of falls into place. And you can laugh at yourself, you can laugh with people, and everything just kind of happens and confidence just as a part of that. You know, that's,



23:52

that's great advice for all of humanity. Well, yeah,



23:54

I mean, people are so hung up on, you know, anything that's going on in their life, you know, it doesn't have to be a transgender issue. I mean, everybody has some issue that they're sensitive about at some point in their lives, you know, and you got to understand that with people it's like, and so like with me, I don't really try to hide or like I don't try to act like because I know everybody at work knows and I know that everybody in all of my social sphere knows. And they know that I know that they know and I know that they know that I know. And that I can Okay, I lost.



24:37

I didn't know that



24:44

Marx Brothers she's on first.



24:53

Okay, I get it. But it's like, they are more uncomfortable about it than I am. But what's funny though, is that being open and being able to laugh about it really can bring you closer to people. Because like, there's several girls at work, you know, I can joke about this with them. And we have like, surgery jokes, and hormone jokes and electrolysis jokes, it's like, and it's great because it really makes my daily life better. Being able to share that with people. And at the same time educating them about this whole,



25:27

I think that's very important. And one of the things I'd like to do on this show is kept carry on, have a good time, and stick that message in there right in the middle of it all. And I think that's the way to do it



25:41

is very, very important, because we spend our whole life as transgendered people in the closet, afraid to come out and free to talk to anyone about it. And so then you go, and you actually come out to a few people, you decide you're going to transition. And if you go and immediately run into another class, then there's a whole part of your life, that again, you're never going to be able to talk about, you're going to be able to relate to people from



26:17

it's running from one class to another. Yeah, D is very good at having a sense of humor in in her journey. Her humor is very dry. You know, she has kind of humor. She'll say something and it's next day before I get it. You are blonde. Yeah. But it's but it's true. She'll say in the end, it's mixed in? Oh, so that's what she meant. It takes a little while to go quickly. All right. No, again, even worse is when Laurie has to explain it to me, you know?



26:52

Well, you know,



26:52

you know sometimes though, the the opportunities present themselves. Well, one of the things that that that I do in out at the police academy is part of the gay lesbian transgender sensitivity panel. I don't I don't do it. We all do it. We saved the third hour for questions and answers. And we say you can ask anything you want. And so one, one class, we got a written question that says this question is for D. And it's what do you do with your penis?



27:32

Oh my god, they actually asked you that.



27:35

And so the answer was a lot less than I used to.



27:44

Great.



27:47

Anyway, that's, that's the sort of thing that that you learn how to do when you work on KPFT 90.1 FM in Houston. Oh,



27:57

she's good.



28:00

89.1k els College Station. Two o'clock,



28:03

I run out the button. I learned that from watching radio. Right in the middle of conversation too.



28:09

Yeah.



28:11

Are you looking for co host?



28:14

You know, the the funny part about about transition too is when you look back at things Laurie

was was telling the story on me today. But it happened to be true that when I first started transition, I literally would not leave the house to go pick up the newspaper till my makeup was on. And not only did it have to be on but it had to be perfect. Or I wasn't walking out the door. You know, like like the neighbors really gave a damn at 6am what you look like, you know. And so finally she dragged me to Sharpstown mall one day and she said, Listen, you're gonna go without the makeup and you watch. Nothing's gonna happen. And she was right. And what I discovered was people look at you just enough to make sure they don't bump into you.



28:49

Yeah, that's pretty much



28:51

yeah. And they're not you don't and now it's like, makeup. What worries you know, I have to wear it to work. I'm not wearing it. When it goes shopping.



28:59

We have an extra head or something, you know, third arm if people are not going to really stare



29:05

it's gonna be 110 degrees in my car. I'm not wearing makeup in their own world. Yeah. But it's kind of it's sort of funny to look back at that and sort of say, God, that was a dunce. But it was insecurity.



29:17

It's insecurity. Exactly. Yeah.



29:20

I'm sorry. It could be chemical dependence on Lancome or something.



29:26

I should have bought stock and some of the makeup companies out but I must have gone through a million dollars worth of makeup in my first few years. Well, that's no good. And, and instead of saying, Well, I'm just gonna throw it out. So I toss it out and then I buy some other well, you know, you're going to key in and you know, it's always like Walmart brain, you know,

money for anything. Well, of course it looked like crap. Yeah. It's 80% Water 10 person coloring. There's little stuff left in here to stick to your face. And they call it makeup, you know is like, Yeah, sure.



29:54

What's it make it out of horses or something? Something else



29:57

that certain things crack. It's actually cool a couple of times. I was gonna wear I've been in the restroom and someone said, Do you have a tampon? And I say, Well, no, actually, I



30:09

never happened to me. Well,



30:11

I actually know some people who literally do carry tampons in their purse. So that when that question comes up things, yes, I do. And then they



30:18

mean, I don't carry them. But I know people who do.



30:22

I mean, there's so paranoid about I mean, they will carry champ, not they need themselves. But they put that they will hand out if somebody asked me he said, Yeah, because they don't want to be suspect say,



30:31

Well, are they really authentic? though? Do they only do it a few days a month? Or do they do it everyday? Well, and how you determine which days to do, if you're gonna be real authentic.



30:45

I'm in a real bad mood today. I think I'll take tampons to work.



30:49

This is my 20th it, you know, I'm just here to see the nuts. This is my 20 A Day of Caring tampons. This is special.



30:59

It just it. It cracks me up some of the things that people will do. And it also I find it really amusing. Some of the things that will happen. Especially is part of the transition process. I remember going into a grocery store one time, and this little kid kept staring at me now and I've always worried about little kids because they take you off a lot quicker than the adults do. And they're honest. Yeah. And finally, I thought, Well, I gotta do something here. And I turn around this little kid and I said, Is this something bothering you? He says, No, he says, I just haven't seen anybody this short before. Better short than saying, Well, you look like a guy, you know. So it's funny how suddenly things that you would have been insulted for kind of like, well, I dodged that bullet. See, that was good. Yeah. Oh,



31:43

yeah, sure. Hey, let's be self conscious about that.



31:47

Oh, I have a kid story. Okay. A year and a half ago at Christmas. With the help of my sister, I came out to her children.



32:01

On the evening of Christmas, my Christmas Eve the evening of Christmas. And her son, my nephew Michael. Had a friend, Josh. Josh was. Well, Patrick and Sarah are at the time 10 and 13. Michael was 16. And Josh was 18. Josh came over that night. And Josh had been more than come over. He came home that night, Josh had been living in my sister's house for about all four months. Joshua was a fellow who got thrown out of his house by his mom and kind of lived in his car for a while and then came and live with with my sister and Michael. So Josh knew me pretty well, because I was going over to San Antonio about once every two weeks and visiting. So Michelle is out. Michelle is out to the family. And Josh comes home and he walked in. And he looked and he said I knew it. I knew I knew it. I just knew it. I tell you I know it. I knew it. I knew it. I know it. And then he came over and gave me a great big hug and a kiss.



33:35

Ah,





33:37

yeah. What is it? You knew? Inquiring minds want to know? What is it? Oh?



33:48

Well, the thing is, see when I was supposed on, like about 10 years old, I started losing my hair. And by the time I was, yeah, by the time I was about 21, I lost in like,



34:07

talk about a widow's peak. Wow. By 30, I was totally bald on the top. So with this big shiny thing on the top of my head, it was very easy to pass for a guy. So because there aren't very many bald women out there. But Josh knew, and just just knowing I knew it, I knew



34:37

why he knows.



34:38

No kidding. No kidding.



34:41

It is it is kind of funny. One of the things that I wanted to I wanted to get the point across to people is you hit it's part of having a sense of humor is being able to make the distinction between when you're being insulted and when you should have a sense of humor. And sometimes that's a real fine line. It's hard I guess it would be Yeah, it's sometimes a real it's sometimes it's hard to know, when somebody's saying he's saying something that's cruel. And when they're saying something that's just they don't know any better.



35:09

I found that in the gay community and what I try to usually do is it even if I think it's being cruel, I turn it into.



35:17

Yes.



35:18

I found that's usually the safest way because it just avoids the whole kind of does.



35:21

It does it makes them look like a fool.



35:24

Yeah, it also makes you look like the bigger person. Yes. It's like, you just tried to insult me and hurt me. But you know what, it didn't work. And that really kind of flummoxed those people.



35:36

That's right. Well, yeah. When you don't take that on? Yeah,



35:39

it's like, hey, bounce right off, you know, try again.



35:44

Not, not a bit. Not a big deal.



35:47

Yeah. Like, you don't matter.



35:51

That's exactly what it really is true that having a sense of humor makes a big difference. You know, we joke that what Laurie and I, we joke about my breasts all the time. You know, they're they're the bumbling minor. Blueberry. Yeah, they're the boob bets and the booze Ling. And in here, it's having a sense of humor about it that it makes it makes it less painful. Yeah, you know,



36:11

I often refer to my shows does Kansas



36:19



36:19

talk about my miracle bra and how it's a miracle it stays on.



36:24

Yeah, but a super, you know, honestly, this is awful. I shouldn't be telling this on the year. One of the worst things about having the breast not grow India is your bra. Just keep writing up all the time. It won't stay because there's nothing to hold it there. Oh, so he's been here every day pulling your dry down. And I often wonder what do people think? Yes, she looks like a gorilla. She's pulling it down.



36:47

Yeah, my problem is, is that I don't have enough to hold it down. So the straps are always falling



36:51

off. The straps are always follow and it's been halfway they put the straps back up. Go. No is noticing, okay, I can do it now.



36:57

Yeah, but my friend Shannon gave me this tip. It's like if you notice a friend of yours, whose strap has come down and you can see it a nice code word to tell them like XYZ almost Is it snowing of North



37:20

The other thing that I found about about transition is you start to develop a much different view of men. Oh, all bad. It's interesting. Now, I never noticed guys turning it on watching women go up the aisles before. But now it's hard not to notice that they do it. And it's funny you your whole view of men changes. And I find sometimes I'll be talking to Guy nothing more. So I used to pull that crap



37:54

so it didn't come as a big surprise.



37:55

While I am one. And I know.



37:59

I'm just a Suzy completely, I guess. But it was it was a kind of a shock to me. And now I tend to I tend to look at men with kind of a jaundiced eye like what are they trying to pull



38:09

here? You know, I used to know that trick. I think it gives us an advantage.



38:13

It does give us an advantage it makes it kind of makes it real hard for people pull stuff over.



38:17

Yeah, it makes us very hard to what is the word boondoggle or something? Something like that? It's a word like that some goofy word. Yeah, I think. And I think that's one reason why guys are kind of put off funny because it's like I put out this there is nothing you can pull on me that I don't already know about. I used to pull it myself. So stop. Now, I never pulled it myself. But you know, growing up being perceived as a male person, even kind of sorta, you get to see a side of the male sex that they don't generally portray amongst females. So I think that has given me a unique perspective.



38:59

Yeah, yeah, I've yeah, I've found that too. It's just one of those interesting, isn't it? And again, it's one of those things that you might as well develop a sense of humor about it. It's not gonna change.



39:09

That's like yeah, there man again. Yeah.



39:13

You know, to take estrogen. Sometimes I think that would be a good idea was feed men's message and you know, but then they put one of these Towcester on I don't want to go back here again, so forget that.



39:23

Oh, yeah. Although here lately I've been thinking you know, some testosterone would be nice

right about



39:32

it might, it might come in handy.



39:36

A little pick me up every now and then, of course, I don't have anything to pick up anymore, but that's irrelevant.



39:45

That's the thing I found about transgendered people is that there are some transgendered people who can look at themselves and say, look, it's going to be okay. I was part of a conversation one day where, you know, people were sort of talking about their self images and how they thought they were Gonna turn out and everybody's sort of seem they seem to have this like this Kathleen Turner mentality. They got the minister Well, if I look like Rhea Perlman, I'll be happy. And they literally said, well, well, don't you want to be kind of sexy? And I said, five foot three. How sexy Do you suppose I'm going to be? If I'm real lucky, I'm going to be real Perl. And they just couldn't get it through that. That was like, okay for me. You know, I figured that was success. If I if I got that far, I was doing pretty good. You have to dye your hair dark for that. Yeah. Well, I've got the attitude down.



40:37

Italian thing going on? I've



40:37

got the Italian thing going so far. Yeah, yeah, eventually I might get there. If I could lose 100 pounds or get close?



40:45

I don't know. 100.



40:47

Well, I guess we I guess we better move on here. I just want to I just thought that it was kind of interesting to to talk about the humor being transgendered a little bit. Because we talked about so much heavy stuff. And I wanted to I do think it's important. I don't think you can get through transition successfully. If you don't have a sense of humor.



41:05

You're right. I want to live in general.



41:07

Yeah, I mean, for anybody, for anybody. I mean, this is something that is not unique to the transsexual experience. This is something that everyone should I mean, regardless of what your particular situation, what your circumstances, you need to have a sense of humor you need to be you need to look at things that are uncomfortable to the point where you can get comfortable with them, and when you can get comfortable with them. Other people can get comfortable with it.



41:32

When I was at Texas a&m, we went to speak to this one sociology class. And so happens the next day, I'm in this large supermarket with a friend of mine, and one of the kids from the class walks up and says, you know, loudly like he's going to embarrassment. Oh, you tell you to wear the fact that we're in the classes that yesterday my friend looks at him with an absolute straight face. Yeah, I remember you you were the guy asked knows how to questions.



41:58

Oh, good.



42:00

Just kind of shrunk. Last time we saw him



42:06

come back.



42:08

I might have missed my promise. I think like three days later. Oh, that's what I should have said Where was it when I needed it? So it was kind of nice. I was telling Jimmy I want to we were on our way or miss Montrose hooker lookalike contest one night. And I had borrowed an outfit from a professional dominatrix. Okay, so like, I'm dressed in full leather and the whole bit Okay, so we're coming out of the potpie it's Halloween it's you know, getting in and out people have a few drinks anyway, this guy stopped me. And he offered me money if I'll take them home and in whipped is ruined for him. And before I could say anything, one of my friends Her name was

Chico, drag queen. She reaches over my shoulder looks at him she says honey, you wouldn't be worth \$50 If you mortgaged the house this poor guy just kind of slunk off I was like shut up that was real money you



43:00

actually see the money right? Oh, and show me the money and if I



43:04

would have been arrested you know?



43:08

Yeah, just You're like an undercover cop.



43:10

Yeah, that's exactly right. So what do you got there? Yeah,



43:13

well to end this whatever we've been doing I dug deep. Oh, I've got something by Jane county off of her deviation album.



43:31

And she definitely fits the category



43:33

as she does I mean, she's the grandmother of punk rock. I just love it. Anyway To end this I've got Jane county doing The Texas Chainsaw manicurist after hours we're radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station we'll be right back



44:26

Yeah, I think



44:41

dressed in full leather



44:45

oh me the money I dug deep Ark I just love it. Anyway, to end this I've got Jane county doing the text This chainsaw manicurist at Houston