

- Very important.
- And anonymously too.
- That's right because sometimes, people are just not ready to do this face-to-face thing if they're HIV positive.
- They can do this anonymously and then if they decide that they do want to meet this other person and talk to them about it in person, they can send a private message with their real name and real phone number, in which case only those two people involved can see that phone number. The other users can't actually see it. So it's a very safe environment.
- Anyway, thanks for coming by.
- Thank you.
- That was great.
- You're still nervous?
- No.
- I really learned a lot tonight.
- I have too. It's a lot of fun, and it's a very, very safe place to meet gay men.
- I wonder if Stanley will swing for a computer.
- Huh?
- I wonder if Stanley will swing for a computer.
- Oh, God. Stanley's mad at you right now.
- That's right.
- I only push my luck. Hey, we've got Rock Lobster with-- Actually, it's not with, it's the story of Aaron Fricke.
- Peter, I was getting worried.
- The train was late. Aaron, you look fantastic.
- Well, I should. After all, it's the night of my prom. Come on upstairs.
- I got the tuxedos.
- Did you get the lavender ones?
- Did you really think I was tacky enough to wear a lavender tuxedo?
- Well, I am.

- *Reflections of a Rock Lobster. A Story About Growing Up Gay* in rural America. When Aaron Fricke decided to take another young man to a senior prom, the story made national headlines and caught history. Rock Lobster is the tender coming out story of one brave young man and his very special night at the prom.

- (SINGING) You're so unsure, and you run.

- This is community radio station, thank you for your pledge. You should have received a statement in the mail by now. Please, pay your pledge as soon as you can so you won't forget. You can call 526 KPFT to charge your pledge by phone if you wish. This broadcast is made possible by you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Hi, this is Larry Winters asking you to join KPFT downtown at the Houston International Festival. Country folk and Bluegrass stage in Tranquility Park for two weekends of great music. That's April 27th, 28th, May 4th and 5th. Enjoy some real, fine, captivating sounds of David Grisman along with Shake Russell, Jack Saunders, and people like Kevin Black. KPFT personalities will be hosting the show. So come on down and enjoy the food, fun, and excitement with us.

And don't forget, this stage is sponsored by KPFT 90.1 FM and the Houston Festival Foundation with the Continental, the official airline. For more information, call festival hotline at 850-1991.

- Mary, will Larry be down there

- Yeah.

- At that festival?

- Mhm-hm.

- Girl, did you see the paper?

- You know what we missed already? Sweet Honey in the Rock was there tonight.

- Oh, no. Had to work. Why does everything happened while I'm at work?

- I don't know.

- Girl, did you read the paper this past week? Do you know what the latest rage out of Japan is?

- No

- Because Japanese, I mean Japanese, Japan is like the official thing of the--

- Houston Festival, yeah.

- Do you know what the latest thing is? I swear this is true.

- Don't tell me Sumo wrestlers.

- No, Mary, they eat live fish.

- They've been doing-- not just raw but live?

- No, girl, it's not raw anymore, it's like a big thing now in Tokyo and all over Japan. They bring a snapper to your table, and they like gut it for you and while it's still flopping around on the plate. I swear.

- That's disgusting.

- That's awful. And this is After Hours.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Hey, can we go out in the lobby and cut that birthday cake?

- We better.

- Please.

- And we got presents to open.

- Oh, let's open those next. 90.1 FM KPFT Houston. We're here.

- And we're queer.

- And we're going to jump on those birthday presents right now. And are the Pointer Sisters.

- Jumping on something else.

- Girls.

[MUSIC - POINTER SISTERS, "JUMP"]

- We're getting ready to open the presents right here on 90.1 FM KPFT Houston After Hours.

- And I'm eating your cake.

- Girl, I love it.

- You know what? I really love that turkeys roost thing, because they have this Disney trivia, darling.

- Yeah.

- I told this guy that was here, I said, I could cheat because I have every book on Disney ever written.

- Oh, no, you do.

- But I'm going to do it right. I'm going to be fair. I want to get 100%.

- Yeah.

- Someday. We're here.

- And we're queer.

- Yeah, here's Wilson Phillips. Hang on, baby.

[MUSIC - WILSON PHILLIPS, "HOLD ON"]

- Those Mickey Mouse ears will not stay on.

- Oh.

- Can we do that in just a second?

- You bet. Because down in Hermann Park today, Bart Loesser was there with a group of his friends. His lover died.

- What?

- Did you know that?

- No.

- Yes. Bart's lover died of complications to AIDS. And they had a Memorial service down in Hermann park today.

- I didn't know that.

- And I wanted to go but girl, at things like that, I cry like a baby. And I just couldn't go. I just didn't want to go.

- You're a mess at those things.

- But Bart Loesser is with the AIDS Foundation, and he has the safe sex seminars and other things.

- Been on the show many times.

- And I really wish I could have been there. But since I wasn't, I'm going to play a song for him. How's that? And it's not Joan Baez.

- Oh, good. They played this song in the parking lot of the second Baptist church at Sergeant Smolinski funeral. I can't even talk now because I'm starting to get that feeling when you start talking like this. But it was really pretty. And Bart, I wish that we could have been there for you and with you, and we were there in spirit.

- Bart, we're here for you now.

- And it's going to be OK. So this is just for you and your lover. And someday, we will meet again, right?

- You bet.

- You bet.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[MUSIC - BETTE MIDLER, "FROM A DISTANCE"]

- That was very nice.

- Yeah I like that version.

- Played that for Bart Lossier and his lover. And honestly, I can't remember his name, Mary.

- I never knew it.

- I had never met his lover.
- Bart's always been very private.
- But I read in the paper that he died and that they had a memorial service in Hammond park, and I wish I could have been there. At the Chinese pagoda. And wouldn't that have been beautiful?
- No kidding.
- Girl, I just couldn't go. OK, now, I have ice cream and cake in front of me.
- That's right. We're doing party things tonight. Roger and Christopher brought decorations and soda and stuff. And so Richard brought munchies.
- What did Richard bring?
- All the munchies.
- Because it's my birthday.
- And I picked up the cake.
- Well, actually, May the sixth is my birthday.
- Yeah it is.
- But you won't be here.
- I know, I'll be in Disney World. Walt Disney World. Can I open this?
- Yeah, that's a card.
- Just in case you're listening, this is After Hours. And we do this occasionally at Christmas and Easter.
- Yeah.
- *Hey Vern*. The *Hey Vern* guy is on the front of this card. Can I read this or is this naughty?
- Please. I don't know.
- Oh, whose is this? Is this your card?
- No.
- Oh, well, Mary. "As you stand before your birthday cake, remember those immortal words of the man who invented the candle." Oh, this is going to be rude.
- Oh-oh.
- "You open it up, anyone got a match." Oh, good, I was scared. You know what I mean? Roger and Chris, "Present comes later." Don't give them any cake.

- OK, no cake for them.
- No cake, no present. Well, no ticket, no laundry.
- I see. no ticket laundry.
- That's another story, Mary. Now, what's that?
- I've got a big, red one for you.
- A what? Well, I heard it was. You shouldn't be down at the French quarters in that.
- It wouldn't be red, yes. No, no, no, no, no, it's a gift wrapped in red paper with a big red bow.
- Mary, in fact, two different things.
- Well, that's true.
- No, actually it-- well, you see, I know you're a Mickey Mouse fiend.
- So where's the card?
- I didn't get you a card.
- Well, you hateful queen.
- I know.
- And your packages. This is red and it's immaculate. Your packages are always immaculate.
- Thank you.
- To hell with it. It's a birthday. And I can't get it open.
- I know you're a Mickey Mouse fiend, so I just kind of collect Mickey Mouse things all throughout the year.
- Yeah, right.
- I do.
- So this is like the last 5,000 Mickey Mouse.
- Well, it's like me with angels, you know?
- Should I do this first or this first?
- No, the bottom one.
- OK. I love doing the bottom one first.
- I'll bet you do. And he's tearing the gorgeous red paper off.
- Oh, how pretty. It's a nice puzzle. Disney Fantasy Darling, Oh, how pretty. I don't have this.

- You don't.
- No.
- That's what I was just going to say. Me with angels and you with Mickey Mouse.
- A letter came back the other day from someplace, and she had a Mickey Mouse pinwheel for me.
- Oh.
- And I have never had one of those either, darling. Here, go put this together.
- I think she can handle it. It's ages seven and up.
- Well, give me back. I'll do it myself.
- I see. Yeah, he's going to take that to Florida, right.
- Here, Mary. This is like the gumbo bar.
- Yeah, these are goody things.
- Oh, how pretty.
- That's kind of a--
- It's a kind of a Mickey Mouse, what is it? Bandanna?
- Bandanna or scarf to keep the wind out of--
- Yeah, right.
- --your hair. Yeah.
- I have a micrometer of hair on my head.
- That's right.
- It's only because I had a haircut, Mary.
- His haircut's name is Butch. That's about it.
- The hair grows.
- That's a bandanna with Mickey. Red, white, and blue. I think you have that one.
- No, actually, I don't have this.
- Oh, really?
- This is kind of neat.
- That's a cap with Mickey all over it in different colors.

- This will go to Florida with me. This, I do have, girl.
- OK. That's a Christmas tree ornament.
- Which will hang on the tree.
- Which is like an old timey pocket watch with Mickey on it.
- This, I don't have.
- You don't have that?
- No, this is kind of neat.
- It's like a little bowl and cup for a small child with Mickey.
- Now, is that supposed to mean something?
- No.
- And here's a Mickey Mouse on a pencil. And Mickey Mouse is on pencils. And here's buttons coming out of your Yahoo.
- Yeah but--
- With Mickey, Mickey.
- Mickey, Mickey, Mickey, Mickey, Mickey.
- And I have that.
- Do you have the little one?
- I'm missing that. Where did you get that, girl?
- Well, I told you, I kind of pick these up.
- I don't have this. Now, that's cute.
- That's another Christmas tree ornament.
- Really? That's pretty.
- That's baby Mickey.
- It's a baby Mickey Mouse. And some more Mickey Mouse pants. And here is Mickey Mouse color forms sealed in plastic.
- Yeah, I got you two of those. That way, you can keep-- I know collectors, you don't just--
- We're acting like, open one and see what it is without screwing them.
- Right.
- And here is a gift bag.

- Those are little bags. Mickey Mouse baggies.
- To put my stuff in.
- Yeah, it says this bag belongs to--
- And this is what?
- That's another little bag thing, but it's got Mickey all over it. No, dear, that's--
- That's cute.
- And that is a bookmark.
- Oh, how neat.
- Yeah it's kind of--
- Isn't that too cute?
- It's a three-dimensional Mickey, but he's a bookmark. It's not neat?
- That is neat. And another pencil. There's no money in here?
- No, Mary. I told you, Stan and I are fighting. And it's about money so I'm a little short on cash.
- Well, thank you, baby.
- You bet.
- This is wonderful. Because there are some non-duplicate items in here like elitist pinwheel.
- We missed. We came in to ooh now over your gifts.
- Oh, OK. Let's have one big aaah.
- One big aaah.
- Ooooh.
- And they will be doing that next week during marathon with great abandon as you call in your pledges.
- Get the hell out of here. No, that was sweet. That was nice. We're doing Rock Lobster next.
- Yes, in just a few minutes.
- We are?
- Ah-huh.
- Where's that cake at?
- We'll only have to interrupt it just for the BBC at 3:00. So it'll be coming to you in two parts.

- Well, thank you very much. That was wonderful.

- And happy birthday.

- And I'll take this to Disney World with me. Thank you, darling.

- You bet.

[MUSIC - MARVIN GAYE, "HOW SWEET IT IS (TO BE LOVED BY YOU)"]

- Hey, if you want to win something, call us at 526-4000 and 526 KPFT. Caller number 10 will get something. Just call us up, and we'll figure it out, OK? 526-4000 and 526 KPFT. Caller number 10 is the winner.

[MUSIC - MARVIN GAYE, "HOW SWEET IT IS (TO BE LOVED BY YOU)"]

- 526-4000 and 526 KPFT. If you want to win, caller number 10. Now, we'll figure out what it is. It won't be a trip to the Parliament House. So if that's what you want, well--

To be loved by you. It's like jelly, baby. How sweet it is to be loved by you. Just like honey to the bee baby. Yeah, I know. How sweet it is to be loved by you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- 90.1 FM KPFT Houston After Hours radio celebrating live from the heart of the Montrose. We're here.

- And we're queer.

- Are you giving away things?

- Yeah. Who's this? Hello.

- Hello.

- Hi, who's this?

- This is Cindy.

- Cindy?

- Hi, Cindy.

- Well, guess what, Cindy?

- I'm number 10.

- Yeah.

- You win.

- Well, I needed some good news. I'm so glad to hear that.

- Good.

- What are we going to give Cindy, Mary?

- Well, what Cindy like.

- Yeah how about--

- You got these sweet young things down there?

- Girl, that's the next show. Hang on, now.

- No, just some old tough roosters. That's it.

- Hang on a minute. We'll get you something nice. What part of the city you calling from?

- I'm in MBA Houston right now. I'm at work.

- Well, hang on. Don't hang up, OK? Thanks for listening.

- You're welcome.

- After Hours on KPFT, yeah.

(SINGING) Sounding like a whisper, sound that came across.

- Oh, I'm sorry.

- It's just been a fun show. I love talking to the guys from the BBS.

- That was fun. I really learned a lot.

- Bulletin Board Servers And it's nice getting to see them face-to-face.

- Yeah. Well, through the switchboard, we give out these numbers to the BBS, Bulletin Board Servers. And I really didn't know-- Not being a computer person, I didn't know what it was all about.

- We're getting ready to listen to something very, very-- Oops, sorry, Mary. What was that?

- Something strange in my ear.

- We'll edit that out later.

- Isn't that a surprise?

- I forgot to tell you. Everything we screw up, we just edit out.

- Yeah, not a problem.

- We'll edit that later. No problem. We're going to listen to something very, very special called *Reflections of a--*

- *Rock Lobster*.

- Mary, one too many pieces of cake.

- I know. It's just gone straight to my head.

- It's the story of Aaron Fricke when--
- When he asked his lover to the prom.
- Well, actually, he asked his boyfriend to the prom.
- Whatever.
- And the school just freaked.
- Yeah, they weren't ready for it. But he decided to fight it.
- He went to court, and he won the right legally--
- To take his boyfriend to the prom.
- To take his boyfriend to the prom. And the story made national headlines. And Aaron Fricke has written a book that's called *Reflections of a Rock Lobster*. And several years ago, it was produced for radio by some queens in Boston. And every once in a while around prom time, we throw it on the machine and listen to it.
- You bet.
- So we hope that you enjoyed it. It's called *Reflections of a Rock Lobster*. And you're listening to After Hours on KPFT Houston.
- 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- That's what this show is all about, natural love, and just being yourself. And the story of Aaron Fricke is the story of someone who was being himself, and decided to fight the system. And legally, when his right to take his boyfriend--
- His choice of a date.
- --to the prom.
- You bet.
- And it's a really good show. And we're going to listen to first part of it. And then take a break for the news at the BBC, and then listen to the last. So it's good stuff, right?
- Yeah, we've got people who look forward to this every year.
- It just kills me, because the very beginning of it is Aaron's mother, and she says come out of that closet now.

[LAUGHTER]

Girl, he did in a big way, right?

- Did he ever.
- You're ready?

- Yeah.

- *Reflections of a Rock Lobster*. And you listening to it live on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

- Billy, Aaron, come downstairs, please. Billy, where are you two hiding? Come down here, right now. Young man, what are you doing in there? Open this closet door at once. (GASPS) What are you two doing? Billy, I've told you to keep those britches on, young man. Aaron Fricke, get out of this house immediately. Your mother is going to hear about this. Get out of that closet now.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Aaron Fricke's *Reflections of a Rock Lobster*. Starring Benjamin Keyser as Aaron, Andrew Seller as Peter, Richard Mcilvaine as Mr Lynch, and Kenneth Dansby as John. With Norris Sinclair, William Cadmus, Virginia Maser, Joseph Schramm, Michelle Gable, Bob Azar, David Erskine, David Strasburger, Peter Haider, and Alan Zarembo. Written by Richard Segal Carl. Based on the book and original material by Aaron Fricke. Directed by Nicholas Deutsch, produced by Wesley Horner.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye. United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island is now in session. The honorable Chief Judge Bertini presiding. All rise.

- Be seated. In the matter of Fricke vs. Lynch shows that the following opinion was entered into the record May 28, 1980. (CLEARS THROAT) Most of the time, a young man's choice of a date for the senior prom is of no great interest to anyone other than the student, his companion and, perhaps, a few of their classmates. But, in Aaron Fricke's case, the school authorities actively disapprove of his choice, the other students are upset, the community is abuzz, and the other state newspapers considered the matter newsworthy.

All of this fuss arises because Aaron Fricke's intended escort is another young man. The seeds of the present conflict were planted a year ago when Peter Grayson, then a junior at Cumberland High school, sought permission to bring a male escort to the junior prom. The principal, Richard Lynch, denied the request. At that time, Aaron Fricke was a friend of Peter's, and supported his position regarding the dance. Peter Grayson subsequently left Cumberland High school, he now lives in New York City. But the emotionally charged issues surrounding his request persisted into the following year.

- Finally, I want to say something about responsibility. I've been your principal for three years, and I've seen you mature during that time, some more than others. But you're all seniors now. And, as seniors, each and every one of you is responsible for your younger classmates. Now, they'll be looking up to you to set a good example. It doesn't take much for that one problem student to ruin it for all the rest.

[BOOING]

I'm sure most of the you know problem I'm talking about, but that was last year. This year, we won't have to put up with that problem anymore. This year is going to be a good year at Cumberland High.

[APPLAUSE]

- Anne, Anne. How are you?

- Aaron, it's good to see you.

- How was your summer?
- Oh, it was OK. I'm glad to be back in school.
- I'm not too thrilled about it, especially with a welcome speech like that.
- Yeah, Mr Lynch is too much.

[BELL RINGING]

Listen, Aaron, I've got to run. I'll call you tonight.

- OK, and I'll talk to you. Hey, Bob. Bob, wait up. It's me Aaron, Aaron Fricke.
- Yeah, yeah. I know who you are. What do you want?
- I just want to say, hello. Long time, no see.
- Well, I've been busy.
- Oh, sure. I understand.
- Bob? Where did you go? I've been looking all over--
- I was talking to Aaron.
- What were you talking to him for?
- Ah, never mind. Let's get out of here.
- I'm going that way too.
- Get lost. [INAUDIBLE]
- So long, Bob.

[INSECTS CHIRPING]

[PHONE RINGING]

- Hello.
- Peter, it's me.
- Aaron. God, I'm glad you called. How was the first day back at school?
- It was the pits. Lynch gave one of his great speeches. You'll never guess what he said about you.
- I can't wait.
- He said you were the problem from last year.
- Wonderful. Just what I always wanted to be.

- Yeah. Now that you're gone, he thinks the whole school is straight. I saw Anne today. We're in biology together.

- Uh-huh.

- Oh, and we're going to do Thurber Carnival this term.

- Great, you're a natural for the carnival, a born star

- Right. No, really. Thank God for the drama club. Something else happened today. I saw this old friend of mine, Bob Cote. He's going out with Bea [? de Walsh. ?]

- Oh, oh. The Wicked Witch of Cumberland High.

- Yeah, right. But, when I said hello to Bob, he acted like he hardly even knew me. It was like our friendship didn't mean anything to him.

- What did you expect?

- I don't know. Just some sign he cared, that's all.

- He's one scared guy, Aaron. He's afraid to get near you, let alone show that he cares. You ought to know that by now.

- Yeah, I guess so. Peter, I really miss you.

- I miss you too.

- You wouldn't believe the impression you left on Cumberland High. If nothing else, you've gotten them to say the word gay at least 600 times a day. I do miss having you here.

- I'll be up.

[DOOR KNOCK]

- Aaron, It's kind of late to be talking on the phone, isn't it?

- Yeah, dad. I was just getting off. Listen, I've got to go. I'll talk to you later, OK. Bye.

- [INAUDIBLE].

[SHOWER]

- OK. Who did it?

- Did what?

- Look in the locker. Somebody spit on my clothes again.

- Prove it Homo.

[LAUGHTER]

- Where are you going? Where are you going? Back inside? Going back to school? Yeah.

[DOOR KNOCK]

- Yeah, Fricke. What is it?

- I'd like permission to leave gym class early.

- What for?

- Someone's been spitting on my clothes when I'm in the shower. It's like the fourth time it's happened.

- I don't understand, Fricke. What's leaving early got to do with it?

- Well, it wouldn't happen if I could get dressed before everyone else.

- Class is up when the bell rings, those are the rules. If you don't like the rules, talk to Mr Lynch about it.

- All right, I will.

- Aaron, I can understand why you want to leave gym class early. But I just wonder how the other students are going to feel.

- The other students?

- We don't want to look like we're favoring anyone.

- No, sir.

- You're friends with Peter Grayson, aren't you?

- Yeah, we're friends. But I don't see what that--

- Yeah, just a minute, Aaron. Don't you think the other fellows know you're friends with Peter? And don't you think that's why they're giving you such a hard time?

- No, sir. I don't. I don't think Peter has anything to do with it.

- I see. Well, leaving gym class early won't solve the problem, not in my opinion.

- What if I transferred, took another class?

- You could. Of course, we'd have to tell your parents.

- My parents?

- We couldn't do that without their approval. Should we call them? Or do you want to think it over first? It's up to you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- So, what did you tell him? I told him to forget it. I don't want my parents to know that I'm gay.

- Listen, sweetheart. If they don't know by now, you should be up for an Academy Award.

- Very funny, John.

- I'm sorry if I offended you. Oh God.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

The old metro parking lot is really hopping tonight. And look who's cruising us, in a station wagon, no less.

- Big deal. I've seen him here before.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Sometimes I think I'm a rock lobster, no claws. Always hiding in my little shell. Always afraid. Afraid of what? Afraid of myself? What?

- Ooh. Why so serious? What's the matter with you tonight?

- I just feel so helpless sometimes. You know, Peter wouldn't have taken that crap from Lynch.

- You still miss him, don't you?

- Yeah, I miss him a lot. Peter was the first person I ever met who was proud of being gay. I want to be proud. Oh, I don't know what I want. I just don't want to lie and hide anymore, that's all. Like Peter. Peter had all the nerve.

- And look where it got him. Kicked out of the house by his parents, he had to leave town on account of that stupid prom.

- Well, if being yourself means getting into trouble, then maybe staying out of trouble isn't such a great idea.

- Listen, honey. You don't have to tell me that. I've always been myself. But pride or no pride, you don't pick a fight unless you can win it.

[SIGH]

- Aaron, (SIGHS) you've got to go easier on yourself. Give yourself time. Do you want some of this?

- No, go ahead.

- Check out Mr Muscles over there.

- Which one, in the Honda?

- Not him. The honky number in the little Chevy.

- Oh, yeah. It's getting kind of crowded.

- I know. Isn't it fabulous? (SIGHS) So many men, so little time.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- You're listening to *Reflections of a Rock Lobster* exclusively on *After Hours*, KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[CAR DOOR CLOSING]

- Aaron, could you come over here?

- Yeah, dad. What is it?
- Do you know anything about this?
- No. No, it's the first time I've seen it.
- Now, why in the hell would somebody spray paint "gay" on our front door?
- God, I don't know. Maybe it was some kids playing around.
- You're probably right. Anyhow, there's some paint remover in the garage. Why don't you clean it off?
- Sure.
- Oh, and Aaron.
- Yeah.
- I wouldn't tell your mother about this, it might upset her.
- OK, fine. I wasn't going to say anything, anyways.
- Hey, Aaron, what are you doing in the library?
- Don't tell anyone. I'm cutting gym class.
- I don't care what you're cutting, I want to talk to you. Last night, I was hitching back from Providence and this old guy picks me up. He was like in his 40s. So we're driving along, and he starts asking me if I'd ever made it with another man before. Then he pulls off the road and starts putting the moves on me. Jesus, I didn't know what to do. So I jumped out of the car, and I waited until he left, then I caught another ride.
- What are you telling me this for?
- Because you're a faggot, man. Everybody knows that. And I sort of thought you could explain it to me.
- There's nothing like being the school queer. Look, why don't you call the gay helpline and tell them what happened? I'll give you the number.
- I will, I'll call them. There's something else.
- Yeah. What's that?
- I want you to give me a [INAUDIBLE].
- What? Are you crazy?
- Come on. Just do it.
- Is that you Fricke?
- Yes sir.
- Aren't you supposed to be in gym class today?

- Well, there's a reason why--

- Save it for Lynch, you're coming with me.

- You're trouble now, man.

- Just call that number.

- I said move it, Fricke.

- All right, all right. I'm coming.

- I thought we had an understanding, Aaron. I thought that you were going to work through this little problem of yours.

- Mr Lynch, it's just that gym class-- you don't know what it's like in there for me.

- But that's not what we're here to talk about. What it's like for you, is it, Aaron?

- Then what are we here to talk about?

- Don't you use that tone of voice with me. I'll show you what you're here for. You know what this is?

- No.

- It's your attendance report. It says you've skipped gym class four times in the last two weeks. I could suspend you for that, but regular suspension would be too lenient. And so, I'm giving you three days of in-house suspension instead. And I don't want ever to hear about this problem of yours again, do you understand that Aaron?

- I understand. I don't think it's fair.

- I could care less what you think. Now get your books and go to Suspension Hall.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Hi. This is Peter Grayson. I'm not home right now, but you can leave a message right after the beep. Bye.

[BEEP]

- Peter, it's Aaron. I was just calling to say hello. John and I are going to Newport to see *Rocky Hagen*, and we'll probably cruise the metro parking lot after that. So anyways, I'll call you back later tonight. Bye.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[INAUDIBLE]

[LAUGHTER]

- What a night. My dear, you were definitely too much. When you showered the entire front row with [? rice ?]

[LAUGHTER]

- And John, you never looked more gorgeous. That gown is you.

- Put me in magenta, and girls, eat your hearts out.

[LAUGHTER]

Oh.

- We've got to go back. Next week?

- Yeah. Oh, slow down. We're almost at the metro. We mustn't look too eager.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Hey, the place is empty. Where is everyone?

- We've got company.

- Looking for someone?

- Get the hell out of here.

- Ask nicely. I can't ask you to do nothing [INAUDIBLE] queer.

- If you want us out you'll, have to make us leave.

- Aaron, he's got a crowbar. Let's get out of here fast.

- I said beat it, faggots.

[CAR REVVING]

- Did you see him? He wanted to kill us. We were lucky to get out of there.

- God damn it. Isn't any place in this town safe for us? Where the hell are we supposed to go?

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- There will be a short quiz tomorrow on Chapters nine and 10.

[CLASS GROANING]

- That's all for today. Aaron, could you stay after class for a moment? I want to speak with you.

- Yes, Mrs. Murdoch.

[CLASSROOM CHATTER]

- What is the meaning of this paper you handed in the other day?

- I thought I was doing the assignment.

- The assignment was to write a paper on a topic that interests you. Homosexuality is an improper subject.

- But I am interested in it.

- Well, no one else is.

- [PAPER TEARING] You're getting an F on this report.

[LAUGHTER]

- Here he comes.

- Cut it out Bea. Leave him alone.

- Well, Bob. What do you care?

- Hello Aaron.

- Oh, hello Bea. Hi Bob.

- We were wondering if you asked anyone to the prom yet.

- No, I thought I'd skip the prom this year.

- What's the matter? Couldn't you find any boys to go with? (LAUGHS)

[DOOR KNOCK]

- Yes.

- Mr Lynch, I've got a complaint to make.

- Do you have an appointment to see me here?

- No, I don't need an appointment. Look at this. Look at my back. Do you know what that is? It's what's left of the animal parts they're throwing at me in biology class.

- Well, I'm sorry to hear that. But you'll have to take it up with the assistant principal, Mr [? DeGois. ?]

- No. I want to take it up with you. I want to know what you're going to do about it.

- (SIGHS) Well, Aaron. I've said it before, and I'll say it again. Your classmates know all about your friendship with Peter Grayson. What happened is to be expected.

- That gives them the right to call me faggot? And then queer? Because I know Peter Grayson?

- You should have thought of that before you started spending time with him.

- I thought you were supposed to protect the students. Every student, including me.

- I've heard just about enough from you, Aaron.

- You're going to hear a whole lot more from now on.

- Now, you just wait a minute, young man. I'm not finished with you yet.

- Well, I'm finished. Because, if this is your idea of protection, I'm better off on my own.

[DOOR CLOSES]

[PHONE RINGING]

- Hello.
- Peter, it's me.
- (SLEEPILY) Oh, Aaron. What time is it?
- It's about 2:00 in the morning. Listen, I did it. I finally told my parents I'm gay.
- Hey, it's great. How'd they take it?
- Well, my mother kind of suspected. But my father. He just broke down and cried.
- You're kidding.
- No. It was pretty bad. He was sitting at the kitchen table. He didn't say anything. The tears just rolled down his face.
- That's OK. He'll get over it.
- (SIGHS) God, I hope so. It was awful.
- How do you feel? That's the important thing.
- I feel all right. I really do. I mean, there were so many times when I'd wonder, did they know? God. All the lies I told to keep them from finding out about me. They didn't even realize who their own son was. What it was like at school, what I've been going through. I just couldn't keep living like that anymore. I had to tell them.
- You did the right thing.
- Yeah, I guess so. But you know what's really funny? Now that I've told my parents, I feel like telling everybody, the whole world.
- So what's stopping you? Go ahead and do it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- You're listening to *Reflections of a Rock Lobster* exclusively on *After Hours*, KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- What? Oh, man they're asleep. They're asleep by now.
- I don't think so.
- Yeah, well, they are.
- Oh, well OK.
- We're not going to play that right now.

[LAUGHTER]

- We're going to listen to the BBC News update at 3:00 AM.

- Yeah.

- And then those *Blues Bros* will be in here.

- They are here already.

- Oh, they are?

- Yeah, scarfing up your cake.

- Oh damn.

- And then next week, you guys are going to be like, marathoning--

- We are. We're going to be saying--

- --while I'm in Florida.

- Send this money or--

- Or send us--

- That too.

- Well.

- No, send us money or you're going to hear from Buddy when he gets back.

- You better be nice while I'm gone, because I have--

- I'm always nice.

- --I have never ever, ever missed a marathon show.

- I know.

- I'm really, really nervous about it.

- Well.

- Because marathon is what keeps us going. You know, you don't hear commercials, and it's people like you that send us the money that keep us going.

- I know--

- And somebody said, Oh it won't work. Well, it's worked for about 40 years plus.

- Mm-hmm.

- And--

- And *After Hours* is not really *After Hours* without you. But I've got a few surprises planned for next week. I've got some new music.

- Really?

- Yeah.

- New music?

- Yeah. And some different kind of music that people have-- some people have said they would like to hear. But we don't normally play on the show.

- Mm-hmm.

- Mm-hmm.

- Oh.

- So I'm really excited about that.

- OK.

- And Mike Lyon will be here, and Frank will be here--

- Yeah.

- And Roger will be here.

- Oh, the pitch?

- Mm-hmm.

- Oh, really? You roped him into that?

- In a manner of speaking.

[LAUGHTER]

- Let's see, are you enjoying *Rock Lobster*? I guess you are.

- I love *Rock Lobster*.

- We'll listen to the conclusion right after the news from the BBC. I just want to remind you that this is KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM *After Hours*.

- You know what?

- What?

- I think after *Rock Lobster* is over, we ought to give a cassette away.

- Of *Rock Lobster*?

- Mm-hmm. Unedited.

- Oh, yeah. That's right. It's important that you understand we had to edit out the dirty words.

- Mm-hmm. There aren't that many--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- Jesse Helms. Well, you can say I'm going to bash your faggot head in, which is pretty obscene.

- Yeah, yeah. That you can say.

- But you can't say-- I can't remember what it is we couldn't say but--

- It doesn't matter, because you can't say it

- It's--

[LAUGHTER]

- It's not on that. It's on the unedited copy.

- Yes.

- So you're going to win one of those after we're done?

- Yeah, I think we ought to give one away.

- Well, Mary, that's awful--

- Or maybe two--

- --nice of you.

- --depending on--

- What kind of mood Stanley's in?

- Yeah, I know, because I have to mail them out.

[LAUGHTER]

- And then, after that?

- Well, he's in Seattle. I took him to the airport this afternoon. So, ta da.

- Are you going to take me to the airport Friday?

- Mm-hmm.

- Are you really?

- What time's your flight?

- It's a lunch flight.

- Well, (SIGHS) you'll have to wake me up.

- I'll do that.
 - OK.
 - And you're going to have everything under control, right?
 - You bet.
 - And you're going to be doing my Monday night thing?
 - Mm-hmm. I'll be here.
 - Please don't play a lot of Beethoven.
 - No, no no. I just--
 - If I write down some stuff you'll play it right
 - I've got lots of new age at home
 - Yeah, [? Qatarro, ?] I've seen that album.
 - What's wrong with it?
 - Huh. Well, I mean I have some--
 - I've got Chris Spears.
 - Chris Spears has a new album.
 - Oh, really?
 - I got the cassette yesterday. It's going to be on Music West Records. And I talked to-- Oh gosh. I can't remember his name. Kenny Altman with Music West. And I talked to him today and I said, Kenny, how soon is that record going to be here? And he was like, Oh I'm going to interview, Chris, on *Tranquility Base*. And he's going to do some IDs for us
 - Wow.
 - In LA and send those this way.
 - Hey, that's exciting.
 - Yeah, it's really good stuff. Anyway, hang on to your hats.
- [MUSIC PLAYING]
- KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM, we're here.
 - And we're queer.
 - And we'll be back with the conclusion to *Rock Lobster* right after the news from the BBC. So stay with us, right?
 - Right

- Right.

- This is London.

[PHONE DIALING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- 8 o'clock, Greenwich Mean Time. BBC World Service. The news, read by Keith Bosley.