

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROB DITTO: This is KPFT Houston, and you're listening to 90.1 FM, listener-sponsored Pacifica radio. And welcome to *Afterwords*, Houston Radio's magazine of lesbian and gay news and culture. My name is Rob Ditto, and joining me today, we have John Bergo, who will be discussing youth affairs on Youth Beat.

Mike Leone has a commentary on looking for Mr. Right.

MIKE LEONE: Well, something like that.

ROB DITTO: Something like that.

MIKE LEONE: It's on why we feel sexually frustrated.

ROB DITTO: Oh. OK. Topic we can all relate to unless you're very lucky. Unless you're very lucky, you feel sexually frustrated from time to time. I know I do. In addition, we have K. Harper with the community bulletin board. And we're going to have a special feature on lesbian and gay literature tonight.

I'm going to be doing a little bit of commentary on that, and then following me is the first radio appearance of somebody who's real special to us around here at *After Hours*. Carranza Hall is going to be in her guise as a high priestess of some church that you'll be hearing about a little bit later on. And she's going to have a book review as well.

So we've got a pretty jam packed show for you today here on *Afterwords*. So stay tuned. The lesbian gay newsreel is coming up right at the beginning of *Afterwords*. So keep listening. My name is Rob Ditto.

And first up on the lesbian gay newsreel, Linda Morales of Houston and four other lesbian and gay rights activists filed suit to decriminalize homosexual activity in the state of Texas. The suit was filed in a state district court in Travis County.

The complainants are trying to get the court to declare unconstitutional the Texas sodomy law, which makes sex between members of the same sex a misdemeanor. The complaint states that the sodomy statute violates Texans' right to privacy and other rights in the state constitution's Bill of Rights. Keep listening. We'll be talking, we hoped, with Linda Morales soon for more on the suit.

And in San Francisco, a person with AIDS has gone without food for more than three months hoping to draw a nationwide attention to the problems of lesbians, gays, and people affected by the AIDS crisis. Sandy Dwyer of Pacifica station KPFK in Los Angeles has this report.

SANDY DWYER: Stuart McDonald of San Francisco escalated his hunger strike on April 6 by limiting his liquid intake solely to water.

STUART With 140 pounds at 6 foot 1 after being on a severe three month hunger strike, it's not going to last very long.

MCDONALD: I'm hoping that this will just create an immediate sense of urgency for someone to do something. If nothing more than to get the gay community to start acting, to writing letters, and making phone calls, and doing civil disobedience, or something.

SANDY DWYER: McDonald with an AIDS related condition began refusing food over 90 days ago in an effort to get President George Bush, California Governor George Deukmejian, and California Senator Pete Wilson to take concrete action to halt discrimination against gay men, lesbians, and HIV infected people.

If Bush or Deukmejian commits publicly and in writing to sign such legislation or if Wilson promises to do so if he should be elected governor, McDonald will stop his strike.

STUART
MCDONALD: They've waited 10 years. They saw there was an epidemic going on. They could have nipped it in the bud by massive educational programs back in the early 1980s, and they just refused to do it. The religious right wing put all this pressure on our government, on politicians, and basically neutralized it from giving us any hope.

And what they have effectively done and knowing that this would be the result is that gay people would get infected and then they would die, thousands upon thousands, maybe even millions by the time this is all over. It's directly responsible for the religious right wing. The politicians are more guilty, because they had the tools to stop it and refused to do so.

SANDY DWYER: He said he is prepared to die if they refuse.

STUART
MCDONALD: I don't think this is an act of suicide. Nobody works this hard to commit suicide. But if that happens, if it's done nothing more than to draw some public attention to the plight of gay people, I think it will be worth it. Because this is genocide out here. This is just nothing short of genocide.

ROB DITTO: And if you were offended by press coverage of the speculation surrounding the departure from Houston's airwaves, a former Channel 13 meteorologist, Ed Brandon, you might be interested in another tale of media misunderstanding.

Craig Davidson of Glad, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, tells us how prurient interest led to media insensitivity in a similar case in Seattle.

CRAIG
DAVIDSON: Recently, a prominent Seattle judge committed suicide just hours before the Post-Intelligencer newspaper printed an expose of his sexual misconduct with young males who had appeared before him in court. As a judge and earlier as an instructor at Seattle's most prestigious private school, Gary Little developed special relationships with young men that eventually led to sexual relations.

The focus of the subsequent uproar in Seattle has been on the fact that certain journalists and prominent people in the city had known of Judge Little's pattern of misconduct for some time and had failed to do anything about it.

In several different respects, this story reveals severe confusion about the distinction between sexual exploitation of minors or pedophilia and homosexuality, which is something else altogether. Writing in the Columbia Journalism Review, reporter Leslie Brown suggests that some people in Seattle overlooked Judge Little's conduct, because they didn't distinguish between pedophilia and homosexuality.

They didn't want to blow the whistle on the judge, because they didn't want to be accused of gay bashing. If this is true, it is unfortunate. Because Judge Little's misconduct was real. However, it had nothing to do with his still uncertain sexual orientation but consisted of his misuse of his official position to obtain sexual favors and his consorting with minors.

It was really irrelevant whether those miners were boys or girls. Some facts. The overwhelming majority of cases of sexual abuse of children involve male adults and female children. The vast majority of male adult abusers of boys consider themselves to be straight and are not interested in adult males.

Apparently, Judge Little put himself in this category. Confusion over the pedophilia homosexuality distinction also reared its head in a 2020 report on ABC about the little case by correspondent Lynn Sherr. She reported, for example, that people's fears of being accused of gay bashing were what prevented reporting on Judge Little. But unlike Miss Brown in the Columbia Review, she failed to go on to explain that those fears were unfounded based on confusion.

Ms Sherr also referred in her report to the "homosexual acts" that Judge Little required the boys to perform. I've read many stories in the last week and in the past about the sexual abuse of young girls by adult men, and I have never seen a reference to heterosexual acts.

Because people clearly distinguish between pedophilia and heterosexuality, nobody mentions the word straight or heterosexual in those reports. But because people do not distinguish pedophilia from homosexuality per se, they used the words gay and homosexual in those reports every time.

This double standard has serious negative repercussions for gay men and sometimes for lesbians too. We urge you to write to Ms. Sherr pointing out that her careless use of language can only reinforce the ethical and sexual confusion that caused Judge Little's peers to hold off from reporting his judicial misconduct in the first place. Write to Lynn Sherr 2020, ABC News, 47 West 66th Street, New York, New York, 10023.

ROB DITTO: That was Craig Davidson of GLAD, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. That address again, Lynn Sherr, that's S-H-E-R-R at ABC News 2020, 47 West 66th Street, New York, New York, 10027. And coming up next, we have John Bergo with Youth Beat. 10023 is that zip code. Thank you, Mike. Stay tuned. We have John Bergo with Youth Beat coming up next.

[RELAXING MUSIC]

[UPBEAT MUSIC]

JOHN BERGO: News for lesbian and gay teenagers and college students. The Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas has announced the list of bills they will be opposing or supporting in this session of the Texas legislature. And among them are two pieces of legislation that could have an important impact on the lesbian and gay youth. An omnibus bill dealing with youth suicide and a bill providing services to runaways and juveniles have been filed in the State House of Representatives. House Bills 2320, 2321, and 2322 by representative Bob Melton deal with many issues of youth suicide. Included in these bills are services which will both provide youth suicide counselors with sensitivity training towards gay and lesbian issues and provide counseling services which are aimed exclusively at lesbian and gay youth.

House Bill 2118 by Representative Jack Vowell provides support for services for runaways and juveniles. Among them, services for younger gay and lesbian individuals who find themselves on the streets. Some experts estimate that the suicide rate among young homosexuals is as much as four times higher than it is among heterosexuals, while up to one third of all runaways and throwaways are gay or lesbian. If successful, these bills may help reduce these statistics.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Gay/Lesbian Students Association at U of H. In recent elections, Todd Deaver was elected president; Babs Howard, vice president; Brian Leem, treasurer; and Jay Prince, secretary. These officers have some exciting new plans for the group, which should start to materialize this summer.

Gays and Lesbians of Rice, GALOR, will meet tomorrow at 4:00 PM in the Minor room of the Rice Memorial Center. Anyone is welcome to attend, especially Rice students and alumni. For more information, call the Gay/Lesbian Switchboard of Houston.

Speaking of the Switchboard, the Gay/Lesbian Students Association at U of H and the Switchboard have announced that they will co-sponsor four car washes this summer, on the third Saturday of each month beginning in May. The car washes will be held at the parking lot of Mary's, one block west of the corner of Westheimer and Montrose. All funds raised will be used to support the valuable activities of these two organizations.

The University of Houston was thrown into an uproar this past week when the school's paper, *The Daily Cougar*, ran an opinion piece entitled, "Is AIDS Really God's Wrath? Judgment Day Awaits Gays." Tom Brower, a senior majoring in history, wrote his article in response to an earlier editorial that blamed the inaction of the Reagan administration for the rapid spread of the HIV virus in the United States.

Mr. Brower stated in his article that homosexuals were responsible for AIDS, and that protection from the disease would come only to those who turned from their sinful ways and accepted God. Response to the article was swift and positive. Five opinion pieces published in the next two days called Mr. Brower sick, cruel, inhumane, ignorant, and un-Christian. No one stepped forward to defend his views.

Meanwhile, the incident has prompted the Gay/Lesbian Students Association to make plans for a candlelight AIDS memorial to be held Thursday, April 27, at sunset. The memorial will begin on the back patio of the University Center, located at entrance number 1 of the University, and will feature a candlelight procession to the University's administrative building. For more information, call the switchboard.

This has been Youth Beat with John Bergo.

ROB DITTO: You're listening to *Afterwords*. And this is *After Hours* on KPFT. Stay tuned. We have some words from Mike coming up. The topic-- sexual frustration.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MIKE LEONE: Hi. This is Mike Leone. As I mentioned last week, tonight I'm going to begin discussing some of the ideas addressed in Gregory Flood's book, *I'm Looking for Mr. Right, but I'll Settle for Mr. Right Away*. I'm going to be approaching these commentaries from two different vantage points. First, I'm going to be talking about some of my ideas about what being gay means. And second, I'm going to use these little commentaries as a springboard to integrate things that are on my mind at the time. So here we go.

Mr. Flood starts out the Introduction to his book by mentioning a popular t-shirt which has the slogan on it, "So many men, so little sex." While I've never seen one of these t-shirts, I have heard any number of gay men voicing a similar complaint. I think the appropriate question to ask here is, why do we as a whole feel so unfulfilled, sexually? There are probably any number of answers to this question, but I try to keep this segment down to five minutes, so I'm only going to address three of them.

First, as Americans, we have all inherited the Puritan ethic which states basically that anything enjoyable is bad. Sex is at the top of these no-nos. Accordingly, Americans regard it as a forbidden fruit and want it all that much more. It wouldn't be so bad if it stopped there, but Americans have become obsessed with sex. There was a French physician quoted in Randy Shilts' book about the AIDS epidemic called "And the Band Played On." This position says that only Americans could decide that a virus has the intelligence to be able to distinguish between heterosexual and homosexual behavior and thus label AIDS a homosexual disease. And this obsession with sex is played out every day on television, in the movies, and so forth. And it has affected us as gay men also.

The second reason why I think that we feel that we are not sexually active enough is also relates back to the media. The media have always portrayed gay men as incredibly promiscuous, and we grew up with these images.

Even though we may have had countless opportunities to observe that gay men as a whole are not promiscuous, we still go around believing that everybody else out there is as active as the media says, and that we are the sole exception. Thus each one of us ends up believing that not only are we bad for being gay, but we are also bad at being gay. Thus, once again, we end up feeling frustrated.

The final reason for this feeling of frustration is that a lot of us believe that sex is a road to fulfillment. I don't think that this is the case. They did a study a little while back and found that the things that gave more people more pleasure and satisfaction than sex were watching television, having friends, helping others, vacations, hobbies, and reading.

Also, Dr. Abraham Maslow has done a study of people who are living up to their potential more than the average, and he has found that they were not preoccupied, especially with sex. But it's hard to realize that fulfillment doesn't come through lots of sex unless you've been there, and then examined your situation objectively. And if you haven't, you still might feel frustrated.

Let me go back to the study I mentioned a minute ago and zero in on one of the things that people as a whole found more satisfying than sex. That is helping people.

A few nights ago, I had the opportunity to attend the mayor's awards for Outstanding Volunteer service. It was very inspiring to me to see people from the age of 10 to the age of 80 who have made important contributions to Houston. One of the 19 honorees at this ceremony was Darrell Butler, who was chairman of the Board of the Montrose Counseling Center, and involved in several other volunteer activities, such as the Colt 45s.

There was a story on Darrell in this week's Montrose Voice, and he is quoted as saying about volunteerism, "the more you give, the more you receive." Anyway, this item on sexual fulfillment has given me a chance to promote volunteering once again.

There are numerous organizations in the Houston area that need your help, and if you feel that your life is in one way or another unfulfilled, don't assume that the lack of fulfillment is related to sex. Instead, give volunteering a chance.

If you don't feel that you can work for an openly gay identified organization, there are many other groups in town that need your help. I would like to make a suggestion however, and that is the Buddy Program operated by the AIDS Foundation. If you get involved with this program, what they do is pair you up with a PWA. You get to know him or her, you call and talk with them on the phone a few times a week, and you meet with them in person at least once a week.

It's hard to give too many details because each PWA is different and has different needs, but they do try to pair you up with somebody within three zip codes of yours and that you have something in common with. It's rewarding work and sometimes extremely challenging.

The Foundation really needs help right now since there are over 60 PWAs waiting for assignment. Their number is 623-6796. Getting involved with that sort of activity will mean that you might not feel the need to wear a t-shirt like the one I mentioned at the beginning of this commentary. I'm Mike Leone, and those are my words for tonight.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

WOMAN: Oh, relax. Enjoy another sip of the sun. That's what's waiting for KPFT fifth annual Cajun gumbo cook-off grand prize winners, the Texas Thibodeau's, at the Jamaica Jamaica hotel in Runaway Bay. Congratulations also go to first place winners first class Cajuns who will be cruising the Caribbean for three days with the Carnival Cruise line.

But most of all, a big, merci beaucoup to all of you who came out to Walter Hall Park to sample world class gumbo and chow down on 4,000 pounds of crawfish. Thank you for your support of your community radio station KPFT 90.1 FM.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROB DITTO: Now, I must comment here. 4,000 pounds of crawfish, each of which was personally picked up by me and you and Garland and the rest of the cleanup crew--

MIKE LEONE: All of us who hung around past 7:00 or so.

ROB DITTO: We're really glad you came but folks, next year try to be a little neater after you suck out the guts of those crawfish. Why don't you throw them in a trash can? Little advice from those of us who have to help these things work.

MIKE LEONE: But the cook off was a lot of fun. I had a great time.

ROB DITTO: Great music.

MIKE LEONE: Oh, wonderful music. Yeah, and I wanted to ask them could we have another one next weekend? I had so much fun. I was pouring beer for 4 hours. I had a wonderful time.

ROB DITTO: Yeah. It's a good deal so stick around next year, the sixth annual Cajun gumbo cook-off. Anyway, speaking of outdoor festivals, we have the Houston international festival which is happening right now. It's going on until April the 23rd. And you know what? I was there today, and I saw an amazing, amazing musical group called Sweet Honey in the Rock. Have you heard of them?

MIKE LEONE: Oh, yeah. They play their music on the station.

ROB DITTO: That's right. One of the shows that plays that is traffic JAM. And we had Mary Helen and Kim Hyman from traffic JAM. We were hanging out together watching Sweet Honey in the Rock. They were great.

And hanging out with us was this guy who was just sort of stunning. He had on kind of an all black outfit, the shirt of which he took off, and he was carrying red, white, and blue feathers, which he played with for a while, and then he inserted it into the Super co-pilot from the stop and go.

If any of our listeners meets this description and was in fact, there at Sweet Honey in the Rock, you were sitting next to me. Why don't you give me a call? The number 526-4000. Anyway, on less of a personal matter, we have coming up--

MIKE LEONE: Personal ads right here on *Afterwords*.

ROB DITTO: On *Afterwards*, yeah. Coming up, we have the radio debut of Kerensa, Kerensa Hall, who is going to be the high priestess of some church which you will be hearing about soon. She also has a book review. But first, you've seen her in *Kindred Spirits*, you've seen her at mother's. Now hear her voice and get the good vibe from the dancing tongue and dulcet tones of Kay Harper coming up next on *Afterwords*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KAY HARPER: Hi, this is Kay Harper with the community bulletin board. It's always nice to know where I've been hanging out. I don't seem to remember those bars but OK. Anyway, community bulletin board.

ROB DITTO: I tried.

[LAUGHTER]

KAY HARPER: I went to the ranch tonight, darling.

ROB DITTO: Note it in log.

KAY HARPER: OK. Usually Charlie's Coffee Shop's a better place to find me, though. If you get up early on Sunday mornings, the Gay, Lesbian, Hispanic Unidos is holding a garage sale this morning from 9:00 until 5:00 in the parking lot of Rubio's.

Gay Fathers of Houston is celebrating their 5th anniversary on Monday, April 17 at 8:00 with a potluck dinner. All past and present members and friends are invited to bring their favorite food dish and join the celebration at the Dignity Center in lieu of a regular meeting. For more information, call 522-6766

Also on Monday, there will be a benefit called Fairy Tales Do Come True. It's a group that's planning on helping grant wishes for PWAs at Shoots. I don't know why I can't talk tonight. Anyway, Gay Lesbian Political Caucus is having their last meeting at the Viscount hotel on Wednesday, April 19th at 7:30 PM. The caucus phone number is 521-1000.

And after this meeting, they're going to be meeting at the PWA Coalition offices like everything else in town. Thursday is civil disobedience night in Houston. Both GUTS, the Gay Urban Truth Squad, and ACT UP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, are meeting that evening.

GUTS will be meeting at 7:30 PM at the PWA Coalition offices at 800 Rosine. There will be a representative from the ACLU there to discuss the Rights of Persons to conducting civil disobedience. ACT UP will be meeting at 7:00 at the Montrose library.

On Sunday, April 23rd, GUTS will be holding a class in nonviolent civil disobedience in preparation for the march on Austin. There will be an action taking place in Austin. The Women's Network program at 7:00 on Wednesday, April 26th it's called Coping with Depression. Something I could use. The network meets at the Counseling Center, 900 Lovett suite 203. The counseling center's phone number is 529-0037.

And the Gay and Lesbian Student Association at U of H is sponsoring a candlelight AIDS vigil at dusk on Thursday, April 27. For more information, call the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. The switchboard is our community's information source. We're there from 4:30-ish until midnight, seven days a week at 529-3211. Call for the scoop on what's going on, or if you just have to have someone to talk to. You all take care.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: Boom, boom, boom.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[STATIC]

ROB DITTO: There's the music. I knew it would be there somewhere.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROB DITTO: Here at *After Hours*, we get a lot of calls and letters from gay people of all ages and sexes, what have you. And this is what some of the letters say. I'm all alone. I'm lonely. I feel cut off from other gay people. I can't meet other people. What can I do to make it stop hurting, so I won't feel so alone? Buddy's passed on to me quite a few letters that say some of those things, and what you all are saying, I hear it loud and clear.

I've been openly gay for seven years now, and my life is better for it. Richer with the self-knowledge that you get when you come out to yourself into the world. That doesn't mean that everything's peachy. I'm lonely, too. And I really feel for you when you write and tell me you're hurting.

I live alone. I don't have a lover. Most of the people I really love live in other cities. In San Francisco, Washington DC, Philadelphia, et cetera. None of them are here in Houston. So what am I saying? I sympathize. I know how you feel. I know how much it hurts at times. We're in this together.

So what can we do? How can we ease the pain and the aloneness we all feel from time to time? Let me give you an easy answer. An answer that you can use any time it hurts. Like the old Calgon commercial, I've got something that can take me away, and I want to pass it on to you. Some simple advice. Three words is all that it is, and those words are read gay fiction.

I want to read you something that George Stambolian wrote. George has put together two books of short stories by gay men which are both called *Men on Men*, and they're available at stores like Lobo, but also they're available at mainstream bookstores as well.

This is what George says about gay fiction. He says "the history of any culture is a history of change and of struggle. Gay fiction is providing access to our history and culture for an ever more diverse community. It's producing writers whose superb command of language can no longer be ignored. Above all, it is revitalizing American literature by contesting its social and literary assumptions. At this time, in the history of our culture and for all who read it, gay fiction means life."

Now this may sound kind of broad. Kind of a worldview that may not apply to me the individual or you the individual. Let me tell you something. What he's saying is true. Gay fiction and fiction for lesbian women as well does mean life. It's a record of our lives and the possible lives we could live, and it's a way to help get through life. Fiction can show us worlds where we are not alone. Where lesbian and gay people live, love, and learn.

I can't tell you how many times I come home from a hard day at the office, or how many times I lie in bed feeling all alone because Mr. Hot Italian stud or Mr. Sweet Honey in the Rock isn't there with me. You know what I do? I pick up a gay book or a gay magazine, and I read, and it's magic. Like Calgon perhaps. Calgon, take me away. Calgon doesn't do that for me, but gay fiction can, and I count on it.

So with that in mind, let me give you some suggestions for lesbian and gay fiction reading, or as I like to think of it, tactical escapism using literature. If you're a young person of any age and you relate well to the problems of young people, there's a classic book you must read. It's called *The Boys on the Rock*. It's by John Fox. It's a story of a 16-year-old boy in the Bronx who comes out to, among other people, his swimming coach, his aunt on the Jersey Shore, and a young political activist who becomes his lover for a brief time. It's a really touching book, but it's funny.

And if you're looking for a good comic novel, I can't think of anything better than *The Object Of my Affection*. This book is by Stephen McCauley, and it pulls no punches in dealing with the trials and tribulations of an apparently platonic gay man, straight woman couple. You'll laugh. You'll cry. You'll want to eat a lot of salt. What on Earth am I talking about? Read the book and find out.

And if you're looking for a great coming out story from a woman's point of view, we have *Unusual Company* by Margaret Earhart, and to tell you more about that book we have Kerensa Hall and her high priestess guy is coming up in just a sec.

All the books that we're mentioning tonight are in paperback, and they should be pretty easy to find at both new and used bookstores. If you want the titles again, give me a call at 526-4000 in about seven or eight minutes. I'll be able to talk to you and make some recommendations over the phone.

So what I'm saying here is that old chestnut. Reading is fundamental. That means it's also fun. And it's whenever you feel like you're a mental case, do something fundamentally helpful. Pick up a book. Stay tuned for the high priestess with a review of *Unusual Company* coming up next.

KERENSA HALL: It's the high priest for the first lesbiterian church here in the *After Hours* Book Corner. This week, my book is a novel by Margaret Erhart entitled *Unusual Company*.

Fran is our main character who at the beginning of the book is a 22-year-old virgin living in New York. Yes, 22 and still a virgin. She runs into a woman named Claire in Risoli's bookstore. Claire is 30, quite experienced, and spends the next several weeks seducing Fran.

A year later, Claire leaves Fran to become part of a spiritual community in the Caroline Islands. Fran moves back home with her parents and walks around like a zombie for a few weeks. Then she gets a letter from her best friend from grade school. Esther, this woman, wants her to move to California so they can live together and track and count white deer for a living.

So Fran buys an old Ford Futura and meanders her way to California. The two become friendly lovers with Fran finally leaving a year later, still on good terms with Esther. Fran drives to Santa Fe, where she gets a job as photographer for various dance studios.

It is at one of these that she meets BT, whom she later moves in with. BT and she are getting along beautifully when Claire shows up, literally, on their doorstep. BT leaves to spend the night with an old lover so Fran and Claire can have the house to themselves. That night, Fran beats the you know what out of Claire, blacking her eye, dislocating her shoulder, and raping her.

Claire leaves in the middle of the night for Chicago, where she settles on a farm similar to the one she grew up on. The book ends with Claire forgiving Fran for that violent night, and Fran forgiving Claire for leaving her so many years before. This book is fraught with emotion and reads very easily. I became caught up in Fran's life, and could identify with her endless search for her true self.

If you've ever been hurt by someone you love, if you were, are, or plan to be innocent, this is a must read. This is the high priestess of the first lesbiterian church with *Unusual Company*, a must read book by Margaret Erhart.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROB DITTO: Beat music, hon. That is an album called *The Falling*, and it's by an artist who's from Stockport in England but very popular in France. Her name is Carmel, and I think you'd have to go to SoundExchange to get her records. They're kind of hard to find in the States. It's good stuff.

And speaking of good stuff, here comes the *Afterwords* theme, which is a song called *Evil the Weasel* by Acoustic Alchemy. That's just one of the many pieces that we use to fit together your typical *Afterwords*. Some of these pieces, of course, include our correspondents.

Rob Hess isn't in here tonight. We have John Bergo, Kay Harper, and Kerensa Hall, the high priestess of the first lesbiterian church. I think I finally learned the name of her church. And also Mike Leone, in addition to being our Words from Mike columnist, is also the broadcast engineer. Thanks a lot, Mike.

MIKE LEONE: Oh, it's fun. I love it.

ROB DITTO: Good, good. We had some tapes material from a program called This Way Out and international radio magazine for lesbian and gay people, which we don't carry in its entirety here on KPFT, but we'll be hearing more of it. One reminder. If you're listening to Dateline Earth on Mondays-- and I recommend it. It's a very informative program.

You may hear some familiar voices. You might hear me, and Kay, and Mike, and *Afterwords* crew, and there's a reason for that. It's because we are producing the Lesbian Gay Newsreel, a 15 minute special segment on Dateline Earth every Monday. Dateline Earth, of course, is hosted by Garland Ganter, our news director, and includes the Pacifica news, but at about 4:15 or 4:20 every Monday, you can hear the Lesbian Gay Newsreel.

Anyway, and it is a new feature of Dateline Earth and KPFT. I got to get out of here. We'll have more Buddy coming up next. You've been listening to *Afterwords*. And this is *After Hours*, radio celebrating life from the heart of Montrose. Stay tuned.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

ROB DITTO: Buddy? Buddy? Where are you?

BUDDY Is it over?

JOHNSTON:

ROB DITTO: It's over.

BUDDY Hey, Rob. Before you leave, now, if you miss the news, you can hear it again in the reruns, right?

JOHNSTON:

ROB DITTO: In reruns, right. Yeah, between the episodes of *The Brady Bunch* and the *Partridge Family*, we now have reruns of *Afterwords* starring Eve Plumb and Mike Lookinland No. It's really called the Lesbian Gay Newsreel, and it's a special feature that Garland Ganter, our KPFT news director, has started on Dateline Earth. You can hear that at 4:15 or 4:20.

Somewhere along those lines every Monday on Dateline Earth, which is news and information for the Houston area on KPFT. And it's not going to be just *Afterwords* voices that you're going to be hearing. I'm going to be running some series by people like Pokey Anderson who does the breakthrough show and Jack Bettis from nonviolent alternatives, and we're hoping to hear from Jack Valinski from *Wilde N' Stein* So we're going to make it a pretty broad based show here.

BUDDY Sounds fun. And that's every Monday. Somewhere around 4:15, right?

JOHNSTON:

ROB DITTO: Should be 4:15 or 4:20. It's a special segment on Dateline Earth.

BUDDY OK. Thanks, dear.

JOHNSTON:

ROB DITTO: I'm out of here.

BUDDY We'll see you later.

JOHNSTON:

[AUDIO OUT]

I turned him off and I turned myself off. And Jimmy-- where are you, Jimmy? Sit down and say a few words, Jimmy.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, hello, hello. Nice to be back.

BUDDY Well, raise--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: [INAUDIBLE]

BUDDY Mr. Hill. That was fun.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY 526-4000. It's about 20 minutes before 4:00 and Mojo's here. [INAUDIBLE] coming up at 4:00. It's not on because

JOHNSTON: I'm going to cue this record.

JIMMY CARPER: [INAUDIBLE]

BUDDY It's called modern technology, darling. I can do all kinds of things while I'm talking.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. And some of them happen to occur right here in the control room.

BUDDY There's one thing I can't do while I'm talking.

JOHNSTON:

[LAUGHTER]

And that is now-- come on, I'm already in trouble.

JIMMY CARPER: No.

BUDDY No?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Not as much as you could be.

BUDDY 526-4000. That's the number to call. We want to hear from you. We need to get your pencils and paper ready
JOHNSTON: because we're going to give you an address, and phone numbers, and all that good stuff.

Someone said that-- well, they requested this song. And I'm going to play this for Kurt and I can't remember the kid's name that called me, though. Someone called during the week and asked me to play the song for him, and I said sure. So I left your name at home, darling, but we'll play it anyway.

This is Chicago. And it's once again almost 4:00 so stay with us *After Hours* on KPFT where we're celebrating life in the heart of Montrose, and we're waiting to hear from you. We want to know what's on your mind this morning. 526-4000. That's the number to call. This is *After Hours* radio celebrating live from the heart of Montrose on Houston's KPFT 9.1 FM Pacifica radio for Texas.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[AUDIO OUT]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BUDDY Now then. What did you just say?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: I was just thinking that it would be nice to send out a get well message to someone very special to this community.

BUDDY Yeah? Like who?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Like Mr. Bruce Cook.

BUDDY Bruce Cook? Where is he at?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: He's at 12 Oaks.

BUDDY 12 Oaks Hospital?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, he's been there for about three or four weeks now.

BUDDY I talked to him a week or so ago.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I went to see him

BUDDY And said if you need anything, call me. So I'm sure he'll appreciate that. I've got a song that we'll play for him.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, good.

BUDDY You want to hear it?

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I do.

BUDDY It's from Chris Spears album *Pathways to Surrender* and the song is called *Where the Angels Fly*.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, beautiful.

[MUSIC - CHRIS SPEARS, "WHERE THE ANGELS FLY"]

[AUDIO OUT]

[MUSIC - CHRIS SPEARS, "WHERE THE ANGELS FLY"]

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, that's pretty. Is that a new artist or something?

BUDDY Well, it's not a new artist. Chris has an album called *Desires of the Heart*, and this is his new one called *Pathways*

JOHNSTON: to *Surrender*. Beautiful, beautiful music.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY If he's not gay I'll-- I mean, he doesn't have to come out of the closet or anything, but he's beautiful, beautiful

JOHNSTON: music.

JIMMY CARPER: Not a bad looking guy either.

BUDDY But I can think a lot of guys I'd like to just jump on.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

MOJO: Yeah. He's so beautiful.

BUDDY If he's not gay, I don't know. There is no God.

JOHNSTON:

MOJO: If you get his album *Pathways To Surrender*, read his lyrics, and then you can decide whether he's gay or not. I have already decided. My mind is made up.

[LAUGHTER]

What's wrong with that boy tonight?

BUDDY He's looking for his tape.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Sounds like he's looking for more than that.

MOJO: [INAUDIBLE] I left behind.

BUDDY We're always looking for more than that, darling.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: That's right, and that's why we're here.

BUDDY Houston International festival. That's right. This weekend or this week, or--

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: This weekend, this week--

BUDDY It has a French flavor, darling.

JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: And next weekend. Yeah. Yeah. They run it during the week in the downtown area. It's a little on the smaller scale.

BUDDY They have wonderful concerts here and there, and you need to get one of the schedules to find out what's going

JOHNSTON: on everywhere.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

BUDDY But if you were at the gumbo cook-off last weekend, we want to say thanks. It was a tremendous success. 20,000

JOHNSTON: plus people. We raised lots of money for KPFT. I want to remind you to get your nickels and dimes aside and start rolling those pennies because it's marathon time right around the corner.

We're going to be getting ready to make pledges to programs. That's what keeps us on the air one right after the other. Lots of dollars, lots of nickels, lots of love. I want to say thanks to Ray Hill. He's probably home sleeping by now. All right.

JIMMY CARPER: [INAUDIBLE] does he ever sleep?

BUDDY I don't know, but I could sit here and listen to the man forever. If he would let me engineer for him, I'd let him talk

JOHNSTON: because I could engineer and make beautiful music.

JIMMY CARPER: Somebody needs to follow that man around with a tape recorder. That's what, because he says some of the greatest, truest, and funniest things off the air.

BUDDY All kidding aside, I want to re-emphasize something that Ray said, and I'm kind of guilty of it, I guess, myself.

JOHNSTON: Because in all the hoopla, sometimes we forget to remind you that even though we're all screaming and yelling at each other a lot of times in meetings like Pride Week meetings and GOPC meetings, and I understand that's not going on at GOPC now since Ray's been elected, but anywhere.

Not just in gay groups, but in straight groups, anywhere people get together, somebody's going to have a difference of opinion. And those opinions have to be dealt with, and those differences have to be worked out so that we can move on. But the bottom line of what Ray had said is something we've been preaching for almost two years now. This is our movement, mine and yours.

Ray said something earlier and I sat here and it almost brought tears to my eyes when he said, I'm nothing special. Because that's the way I feel. We're not anything special. We're just like you. We're just like you as you listen every week, sitting there at home or work or in your car. The only difference is that one day we decided enough is enough and we took that step to make changes in our lives which we feel have only been for the good.

Now there will be a Gay and Lesbian Pride Week parade in June, just like there's been for years here in Houston, and despite how much we fight, and how much we yell, and scream at each other, it will be beautiful because the love in our community is beautiful. And you need to come forward, and you need to support it.

I can't tell you the feeling of joy and the feeling of power that you will get as you stand on the corner of Montrose in Westheimer on that Sunday, and feel the presence of 20 or 30,000 gay and lesbian people standing around you. You can hide in the crowd in dark glasses and big hats and just be there.

April 30th, we're going to Austin, and you need to be there. Somehow you need to get there. As Ray said, hitchhike, take a bus, fly, drive, carpool. Whatever it takes because this is your movement. We're all in this together.

We need you to get your pencils and papers out. We've been saying that all night because we need you to write us at *After Hours* here KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006.

Or you can call me at home, and this is the *After Hours* hotline. I keep saying that we got some wonderful phone calls last week. Number's 529-4636. It's 529-4636. As we come in every week, and laugh, and carry on, and joke about other people, we're not making light of them. Is that right?

JIMMY CARPER: No, we're not. There's a specific reason for that.

BUDDY We're just doing what we're supposed to be doing. And Jimmy, I can't remember what you said out there earlier
JOHNSTON: when we were sitting out in the lobby having birthday cake that-- you said something to Ray about how did he feel, or how did Harvey Milk feel about not ever being accepted?

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. How do you feel? It amazes me when you stop and think about it, how he's such a hero now, and not one gay organization ever supported him for his election.

BUDDY We talk about this all the time. But that's OK because the movement will go on because gay and lesbian people
JOHNSTON: are wonderful people. And sooner or later, we will get our act together, and once we do, they won't be able to stop us. I got a letter last week from the Pride Week committee.

They're putting together the guide, and they said they had written to people in the community and wanted us to share our feelings of what we thought about Stonewall and what it meant to us. And I've been thinking about it, and what I want to write, what I want to put together, is a comparison of the day that Rosa Parks said no on the bus to the white bus driver in Birmingham.

From that day, until the Civil Rights legislation was signed into law. I want to compare that few years to the 20 years that we've been involved with the Stonewall movement. And I just want to see you at the parade. I want to hear from you, and I want to know that you're doing all you can to make your life as wonderful and as beautiful as it can be.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, listen. Go to one parade and you'll be hooked. It's that feeling of pride that comes over you.

BUDDY And we want to recruit you. We need your help for the parades. If you want to march with us or help us throw
JOHNSTON: condoms or wigs.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right, or if you just want to get in drag and stand by the sidelines.

BUDDY Artificial breast-- I don't know what we're going to be throwing. But if you want to get involved, call me and say, I
JOHNSTON: want to help with the parade. I want to be with the *After Hours* group. We did this last year and had a whole group of listeners come down, and it was wonderful.

JIMMY CARPER: It was fun.

BUDDY In fact, some of the people brought their children, and it was so wonderful to be in the streets with them. But the
JOHNSTON: number again is 529-4636. 529-4636. *After Hours* radio, KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006. And say hi to Bob. Sorry I missed seeing you. Who's Bob?

CREW: He dropped the letter off tonight.

BUDDY Bob dropped that letter off. Say hi to Bob. Bob, I want you to come see me some week. Come down. Call us, and
JOHNSTON: come down. Make arrangements to come down and sit with us during the show sometime. You can do that. As you're listening now, you can call us and come down. We can have a one night audience.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BUDDY We want you to be involved. I want you to put your best foot forward. 529-4636. KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard,
JOHNSTON: Houston 77006. We need to get the heck out of town.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, is it that time already?

BUDDY Yeah.
JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, gosh. Yeah. Looks like about two minutes or so to go. I can't believe it.

BUDDY Mojo's ready with some great blues. It's going to be fabulous as it always is.
JOHNSTON:

JIMMY CARPER: He certainly is ready. Whoa.

BUDDY You need to stay tuned for that. And once again kids, get those nickels and dimes out for Marathon. It's right
JOHNSTON: around the corner. And first, I have to make the first pledge to this guy show.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

BUDDY Because they were good to us back during the time change. We always get yanked an hour when the damn time
JOHNSTON: change comes. We'll make it up to him in the fall. And we've got like 20 hours.

[LAUGHTER]

But anyway, stay tuned.

JIMMY CARPER: If you like good blues, it's here.

BUDDY It's like two minutes to go, so get ready. He's queuing up records now, and I can hardly wait. So you kids be
JOHNSTON: good, and we'll see you next week, and until then-- That sounds corny.

JIMMY CARPER: I know.

BUDDY We want to do some of that Casey Kasem song. And keep your feet on the ground, and keep--
JOHNSTON:

[LAUGHING]

Goodbye, kids. I love you. We'll see you next Sunday.

JIMMY CARPER: That's good.

BUDDY Bye.
JOHNSTON:

ANNOUNCER: If you only had a moment, and the world was listening, what would you say about peace? You could say peace is inevitable. That war will end, either through decision or destruction. We have a choice.

For the first time in history, it is possible to view the entire planet with all its human diversity as it truly is. Our world is one world. Peace is more than just an end to war. Conflicts just as deadly are raging on hidden battlefields in our hearts and minds.

Let's talk peace. Real peace. Racial, religious, social, economic. Personal peace. Peace is possible because it too begins in the heart. A thought for peace from the Baha'i faith.