

[LAUGHTER]

RAY HILL: I know that there might be some familial abuse there, probably cut both ways, you know? But when you're drunk, you don't make the best judgment.

TONY: That's exactly-- yeah, yeah.

RAY HILL: And so we celebrated New Year's, thanks to the wonderful staff at *After Hours*, with a little non-alcoholic champagne. It was just [INAUDIBLE] tickle you on my nose, just like the real stuff, I feel. No wonder I haven't been drunk on New Year's. As a matter of fact, the last time I was drunk was January the 4th, 1959--

TONY: Wow.

RAY HILL: --the year after I came to town. I was in Havana, Cuba. A revolution was going on out in the streets. I had gone there to upstage the senior prom. You know how [INAUDIBLE].

TONY: Yes, yes.

RAY HILL: And so we were having-- are you getting tired of me, Tony?

TONY: No, this is great. Are you kidding?

RAY HILL: We're having a wonderful time. I was drunk and sick and had three other sick, drunk queers to take care of, my high school boyfriend and another gay couple, and were taking turns making-- with their arms wrapped around the toilet, making the white [? porcelain ?]. And I thought, if this is fun, if this is somebody's idea of a really good time--

[LAUGHS]

And I have been stone sober ever since.

[LAUGHTER]

TONY: Something very similar happened to me several years later, yes.

RAY HILL: Jimmy and I really do love you, and I love *After Hours* and--

TONY: Thank you.

RAY HILL: --I'm glad to communicate with the audience. But if you go ahead and get married tonight, in spite of all of my advice and it doesn't turn out to be a good husband, when he goes to jail for his DWI, probably his third one, Ray Hill is listed in all the telephone directory. You can give me a call.

TONY: 523-6969.

RAY HILL: 523-6969.

TONY: Yeah, there you go.

[LAUGHTER]

RAY HILL: And that's why they made an Uncle Ray is just for you and your sorry husband. Thank you, gentlemen.

TONY: Thanks for coming, Ray. And now, we're going to give you a musical delight to sum up that. It's a great, great group called The Flirtations, and a song for the entire community.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Mm-hmm, "Something Inside So Strong" by The Flirtations. That's a classic song on *After Hours*, and I never get tired of it, just never get tired of it, mm-mm.

GIGI WILBUR: [LAUGHS]

TONY: Gigi.

GIGI WILBUR: Yes.

TONY: I still cannot get over you dressed as a New Year baby.

GIGI WILBUR: Aw.

[LAUGHS]

It just feels right.

[LAUGHTER]

TONY: It just looks right, too.

GIGI WILBUR: Uh-huh.

TONY: So how's BiNet doing?

GIGI WILBUR: Oh, it's doing really good. We've been growing and the core group is really getting powerful and strong. And it's like--

TONY: I hear you've been kind of branching out. In fact, you have-- it's growing so that there are kind of people involved in committees and things like that. Wow.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah. And at some point, we're going to start putting together some ideas for gay pride float.

TONY: Oh, great.

GIGI WILBUR: Have a bi-float.

[LAUGHS]

And--

TONY: You bet.

GIGI WILBUR: --PRIDE and become a little more visible in the community.

TONY: And that's-- you're meeting still every Wednesday at 7 o'clock at MCCR, 1919 Decatur Street. That's Washington, and then you can kind of take Silver.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, you take--

TONY: And it's a block away from there.

GIGI WILBUR: Right.

TONY: OK.

GIGI WILBUR: And you kind of backtrack one street from Silver.

TONY: Yeah, just look for the big church. Yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

[LAUGHS]

TONY: That's how I-- whenever I go out there, that's how I do it.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

TONY: So how is the group doing?

GIGI WILBUR: During the holidays, it's very tight. It's like-- some of the group members didn't have much family. I don't have much family except family of choice, and so I did a lot of stuff at my house for the group.

TONY: Well, this is a-- and I know this is a close-knit group because most groups that I know of meet maybe once a month. And BiNet meets every week.

GIGI WILBUR: Right.

TONY: So you can get really involved in this group pretty quick.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah. And another thing that's been going on in the last couple of meetings, we've been having different members tell their story, how they came to know about their own bisexuality and how they came out to themselves and eventually to whoever they did. And it's really kind of cool because it's brought in this kind of-- since we've been doing that, it's like everybody's been getting to know each other on so much of a deeper level.

TONY: Oh, OK. I've noticed that because Jim Vaughn's a member of BiNet. And I've noticed in the past couple of months he's been doing more social things with other members of BiNet. So there's kind of a friendship building and growing there, which--

GIGI WILBUR: And there's another sense of-- one thing I see that goes on all the time is that in Houston, there's never been a bisexual community--

TONY: Mm-hmm, I know.

GIGI WILBUR: --and that's forming in our group, and it's like everybody's getting this real identification of, oh, I am bisexual. It's not weird. I'm not alone.

TONY: Yes, I'm not the only one.

GIGI WILBUR: Because--

TONY: Where have we heard that, you gay and lesbian people out there?

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

[LAUGHS]

It's like-- you know? And we had a couple of new members last meeting and it was like--

TONY: Great.

GIGI WILBUR: Oh, it's been great. We've been getting new ones every week just about. And one thing that really impresses me is that how starved people are to identify as bisexual and be around other bisexuals where they can breathe for the first time and go, oh, I don't have to watch everything I say.

TONY: That's kind of nice, yeah. And if you want to--

GIGI WILBUR: It's like, I don't have to watch myself around my gay friends or around my straight friends. I can just be me for the first time. And it's such an opening-up process.

TONY: If you want to hug someone of the same sex or the opposite sex, it's OK.

GIGI WILBUR: And you can talk about-- it's like-- I went on my first three-way date--

TONY: Oh.

GIGI WILBUR: --which is really cool.

TONY: Yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: I've never been asked out for a three-way date before.

TONY: Now, this is not a sexual thing. This was just a date.

GIGI WILBUR: No, not this was just a date.

TONY: OK.

GIGI WILBUR: We went out and shot pool and acted campy and crazy and I dressed up as somewhat like Gigi. Yeah, kind of.

TONY: Yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: And this girl was playing pool on the pool table where we went by herself and I went up and put some quarters in and said, mind if we join in? And by the end of the night, we were all dancing and playing pool and doing all kinds of crazy stuff all over.

TONY: Cool.

GIGI WILBUR: And it's just-- and what really impressed me, the girl said, you know, y'all don't look like you fit here. Where are y'all from?

[LAUGHTER]

We're from-- most of us from here. And I said, it's just we're a little different.

[LAUGHS]

We're bisexual.

[LAUGHS]

And it was-- it was kind of cool to-- I've been bi for a long time.

TONY: Yes, you have, yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: And it's like for the first time in my life, I've got people I can identify with in a sense of community.

TONY: Well, you seem--

GIGI WILBUR: I've always seen--

TONY: You seem kind of focused toward the bisexual aspect. And so that helps to focus other people.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, and it's like-- I've always kind of on this outskirts of the gay community, but never quite fit into it. And I never at all fit into the gay-- I mean, straight community.

MAN 1: Evelyn called and she wants to wish everybody a happy new year.

TONY: Oh, cool.

GIGI WILBUR: All right.

MAN 1: And if you have Janis Joplin, she would sure love to hear it.

TONY: Oh, I'll see if I can-- I don't know. I'll have to look, I'll have to look. But I've got something that she's going to like. Oh, I can play something that she's going to like that Leslie Ann sent.

GIGI WILBUR: Ah.

TONY: Mm-hmm.

GIGI WILBUR: But I do want to say one thing about my group is that I think it's something that's been long-needed in Houston.

TONY: Answering phones at the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, I can guarantee that because I've had, over the years, lots of people call looking for a bi group that isn't purely a sexual group.

GIGI WILBUR: Right. And I mean, we're--

TONY: This is a support group.

GIGI WILBUR: This is a-- well, we're both a support group and something of a political group.

TONY: And social.

GIGI WILBUR: And social.

TONY: Yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: We have a good time, we talk about issues, about myth.

TONY: And, hey, you don't have to be bisexual to go.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, right.

TONY: I've been to several meetings as a friend of the bisexuals.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, you can be bi-friendly.

TONY: Yes.

[LAUGHTER]

GIGI WILBUR: And that doesn't mean that you have to get involved.

TONY: No, no.

GIGI WILBUR: Just by friendly means that you're friendly to the bisexual viewpoint.

TONY: Exactly.

GIGI WILBUR: And it's like-- I think it's an emerging community all over, I mean, of-- in San Francisco, there's been a group for--

TONY: A long time.

GIGI WILBUR: --a long time.

TONY: Yes.

GIGI WILBUR: And on the East Coast, there's been a group in New York for a long time.

TONY: But it's like these two places and nothing else.

GIGI WILBUR: Well, within the last two or three years, groups are springing up all over the country.

TONY: Oh, really?

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, it's like all of a sudden, people are kind of waking up and going, well, wait, I don't fit on this extreme. I don't fit on this end. I like both ways. I don't want to go just one way.

TONY: Exactly.

GIGI WILBUR: And--

TONY: And there's a whole gamut, though.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

TONY: I mean, there are people who are in same sex relationship now and probably or may get into an opposite sex relationship later or--

GIGI WILBUR: And we've got some people that are into monogamy and some that are into polyamorous relationships and everything in between.

TONY: That's a new word, polyamorous.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

TONY: OK.

GIGI WILBUR: I got that at the North Carolina Bi Conference.

TONY: I see.

GIGI WILBUR: [LAUGHS]

TONY: I like that. I like that.

GIGI WILBUR: I do, too. It's so cool.

TONY: [LAUGHS]

GIGI WILBUR: It's like-- I can't even say poly-- pol--

TONY: Polygamy?

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, whatever is it.

TONY: That one?

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, that--

TONY: Oh.

GIGI WILBUR: --one where you have more than one lover.

TONY: Yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: [LAUGHS]

Well, that's me but, I can't even say it.

[LAUGHS]

But I like polyamorous. I can say that.

TONY: Polyamorous.

GIGI WILBUR: It feels right.

TONY: I like that.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

TONY: You had a song that we've got queued up.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, it's about transgender. And I can't tell you a whole lot about it. I just got it as a Christmas present.

TONY: Ah, OK.

GIGI WILBUR: So I haven't gotten a chance to really sit down and listen to it yet, but it's-- I've kind of heard it and-- well, today, we were making leather toys and stuff in my kitchen. And so we were kind of listening to it in the background, and I was focused on leather works.

TONY: Oh, OK.

GIGI WILBUR: But I haven't really sat down and listened to it, but it is good. I kind of got the main gist of it.

TONY: Well, you're listening to KPFT Houston. This is *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude. And from Gigi to the *After Hours* listener, Suzanne Vega with--

GIGI WILBUR: "As Girls Go."

TONY: OK.

[MUSIC - SUZANNE VEGA, "AS GIRLS GO"]

Oh, yeah, Janis Joplin. And that was for Evelyn and Bubba Suedan. I hope they're both enjoying a happy New Year. And-- oh, she'll be with us shortly.

And now, from Leslie to the gay community. How about Leslie to the queer community? Because I keep-- I don't know. You got to say gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered. And so that's kind of wordy for me, so maybe just the queer community.

This is the dream date that all lesbians-- well, maybe not all lesbians, but most lesbians and a lot of gay men and probably bisexuals and transgenderers would love to see. Melissa Etheridge, KD Lang doing "You Can Sleep While I Drive."

[MUSIC - MELISSA ETHERIDGE AND KD LANG, "YOU CAN SLEEP WHILE I DRIVE"]

Ooh, Melissa Etheridge and KD Lang, "You Can Sleep While I Drive." Ooh, that's hot, that's hot.

GIGI WILBUR: Mm-hmm.

TONY: I was just thinking-- well, I was thinking earlier today that I know we deal with a lot of music on *After Hours*. We really do. So I looked over all of last year, 1994, and I found that we played on *After Hours* during the year 104 different openly gay artists.

GIGI WILBUR: Wow.

TONY: Openly queer artists.

GIGI WILBUR: Yes.

TONY: Because we're counting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered artist or, if it's a group, it's an openly gay or lesbian person. 104, and I'm going to read the list.

GIGI WILBUR: Wow. All right.

TONY: I'm going to read the list because I have most of that music here, and if anybody wants to hear it, Tom's at the phone, 526-5738. We started it off-- and this is from January through. Pet Shop Boys, Johnny Mathis, Michael Callen, Elton John, Melissa Etheridge, Pansy Division, Pussy Tourette, Erasure, Fem2Fem, Faith No More, The London Suede, King Missile, KD Lang, Sophie B. Hawkins, Frank, Deidre McCalla, Meg Christensen, Romanovsky and Phillips, Cris Williamson, Atwood and Kamo, The Flirtations, Jamie Anderson, Bronski Beat, Nona Hendryx, Jimmy Somerville, Queen, The Washington Sisters, Sister Double Happiness, Fag Bash, Black Angel's Death Song, God is My Co-pilot, Happy Flowers, Jose and Louise, Marc Almond, Doug Stevens & The Outband, Joseph Victor Seigler, The Breeders, Suede, Suede the female.

GIGI WILBUR: Mm.

[LAUGHS]

TONY: Janis Joplin, Teresa Monet, Shattered Heart, Lucie Blue Tremblay, Holly Near, David Bowie, Fifty-Fifty, The Goldenrods, Lucy Stoners, The Gay Men's Chorus of LA, Diverse House. That's Trine Shardon's group.

GIGI WILBUR: Ooh.

TONY: Mm-hmm. Sylvester, Sam Harris, Ted Fox, The Buzzcocks, Morrissey, Your Girlfriend, Betty, The Indigo Girls.

GIGI WILBUR: Ooh.

TONY: We were just talking about them.

GIGI WILBUR: Yes.

[LAUGHS]

TONY: RuPaul, The Smiths, Ani DiFranco, Right Said Fred, LMNOP, The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington DC, Girls in the Nose, Lisa Coke, 7 Year Bitch, Boy George, our own Nancy Ford.

GIGI WILBUR: All right.

TONY: Gretchen Phillips, Rumors of the Big Wave, Mark E. Adam, B-52, One Dove, Helix Revolt, Violent Blue, who is a local group with a gay member and they have that great song called "Shadowfall." Kitchens of Distinction, Tom Robinson, The Williams Brothers. Those are the nephews of Andy Williams.

GIGI WILBUR: Mm-hmm.

TONY: Mm-hmm. Because there's a Black group called The Williams Brothers.

GIGI WILBUR: Oh, OK.

TONY: So let's not get them confused.

GIGI WILBUR: Really.

[LAUGHS]

TONY: Janis Ian, Horse, which is a very popular group here on *After Hours*. Bob Mould, Richard Audd and the East Pacific Symphony, which is electronic music. Chumbawamba, Huggy Bear, Wendy Carlos, Luscious Jackson, Lea Zachary, Double Zero, The Swine Kings, Hyperdrive Sex Kittens, Tribe 8, Virgil Fox, the organist, Fred Schneider from B-52's, Man 2 Man, Juliano [INAUDIBLE], Jimmy James, John Topping, Alison F. Levy, CWA, The Montrose Singers, The Seattle Men's Chorus, Venus Envy, Bay Area Gay Men's Chorus, and The New York Gay Men's Chorus. Whoa.

[LAUGHS]

I'm worn out just listing them.

GIGI WILBUR: What a list.

TONY: Yes, and--

GIGI WILBUR: We're growing in numbers.

TONY: --that's just in 1994. And those were just the openly queer artists. Because we played music from artists that aren't gay at all, but have a great message for the gay community, and some that we suspect.

GIGI WILBUR: Mm-hmm.

TONY: So if you want to hear these groups or anybody else, give us a call at 526-5738. And now, I want to play something from a very special artist that's been featured on *After Hours* since the very, very beginning and--

MAN 1: Did your girlfriend make it in there?

TONY: Oh, yeah, oh, yeah.

MAN 1: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

TONY: Very special person because he's always had his music featured here on *After Hours* and we just celebrated one year of his death. He died last year December 27. And I'm going to play the first song I ever heard from this artist on *After Hours* when I first tuned in.

GIGI WILBUR: All right.

TONY: Michael Callen, "Love Don't Need a Reason." This is for Buddy and Roger.

[MUSIC - MICHAEL CALLEN, "LOVE DON'T NEED A REASON"]

Oh, yeah, "Love Don't Need a Reason," Michael Callen, who died one year ago, December the 27th. Gigi.

GIGI WILBUR: Yes? We did get a couple of calls, request. First was some clarification on what polyamorous is.

TONY: Oh, polyamorous. I guess we didn't talk about that.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah, we talked a little bit about it. Basically, what it means is that you have more than one love simultaneously. Sometimes it can be more than one in the same bed or it can be more than one--

TONY: Trust me, it's very easy to love more than one person at a time.

GIGI WILBUR: Exactly.

[LAUGHS]

And that's one of the other things our group does a lot is education because there's so many myths and so much misunderstandings about what it is to be bisexual, just a whole lot of-- like what you and Jim were going through at one point, just needing to know what is all this about, what are these feelings that we have. And it's like I can-- for me, I can love a person both because of their gender and be gender blind in the same sense. It's like I can love someone for their maleness, for their femaleness, or I can love someone-- sometimes I'll be walking down the street and I'll see someone and not know which they are.

TONY: [LAUGHS]

GIGI WILBUR: And--

TONY: But be attracted.

GIGI WILBUR: --be super attracted. I love the androgynous ones even best.

[LAUGHS]

I guess I identify so much with androgyny. But--

TONY: You know, we did mention that BiNet that meets at the MCCR.

GIGI WILBUR: Right.

TONY: What we didn't say was--

GIGI WILBUR: We didn't give the number.

TONY: We didn't give the number.

GIGI WILBUR: That was our other call.

TONY: Yeah.

GIGI WILBUR: The number is 861-9149. And we meet every Wednesday night at--

TONY: It's MCCR. That's Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection.

GIGI WILBUR: Yes.

TONY: That's why we say MCCR.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah. It's hard to say. It's a tongue twister.

TONY: [LAUGHS]

GIGI WILBUR: And when you're dyslexic like I am, it's--

TONY: Hey, well.

GIGI WILBUR: [LAUGHS]

I try not to say those things. I stick to the alphabet soup.

[LAUGHS]

TONY: Since we're talking about MCCR, it kind of brings to mind the hit song from Romanovsky and Phillips this year off of their brand new album. Actually, we call it a brand new album, but it's-- whoops. It's kind of about-- oh, I don't know. About a third of the songs are new, another third have been redone, old songs that they redid in a different tempo or something, and the other third are songs that are just from other albums.

GIGI WILBUR: Yeah.

TONY: But this is a fun song and it's a song that got them into trouble and they almost didn't get this album made--

GIGI WILBUR: Oh, wow.

TONY: --because people working on it didn't like it, thought it was maybe blasphemous because the name of the song is "If There's a God, He's a Queen."

GIGI WILBUR: All right.

RON We've been traveling around a bit and we get to have quite a perspective on things because we get to go to so

ROMANOVSKY: many places. And while I generally feel like the gay '90s are here and things are starting to change, the anti-homosexual movement is sure going full force, too, and the propaganda that these groups put out is like so out of my reality. I mean, they're always talking about the homosexual agenda.

PAUL PHILLIPS: As if gay people could agree on anything for one minute, right?

[LAUGHTER]

RON I love that, though. When I hear that, I always picture millions of little memo boards on the refrigerators of

ROMANOVSKY: homosexuals throughout America marked, Queer Things to do Today.

[LAUGHTER]

And another thing. They're always talking about special rights. I mean-- OK, there is a little bit of truth to it. I think we deserve some special rights like parking.

[LAUGHTER]

Just some little pink triangles next to the handicapped spaces.

[LAUGHTER]

It's all I'm asking for. My life's been a little difficult, and that would help.

PAUL PHILLIPS: But I'll tell you, the thing that really pisses me off about these people is that they always talk as if they own God. So we'd like to add our \$0.2 to this discussion.

[MUSIC - ROMANOVSKY AND PHILLIPS, "IF THERE IS A GOD, HE'S A QUEEN"]

TONY: Oh, yes, Romanovsky and Phillips, another group that have been featured on *After Hours* since the very beginning, and that very beginning was September 6, 1987.

GIGI WILBUR: Wow.

TONY: Been on the air continuously since then.

GIGI WILBUR: Mm-hmm.

TONY: Mm.