

MAN: Oh, stop that snickering. I insist you--

JIMMY CARPER: Whoa.

GIGI: Honest to God I am.

JIMMY CARPER: Hey. What happened there?

MAN: I think it's just the cart kind of ended--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh. Well, we played that before. Yes. Yeah. A little earlier, we talked about the 104 different openly queer groups or individuals--

GIGI: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: --that we've played here on *After Hours*--

GIGI: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: --the past year. And I want to play one. Actually, this is a duet.

GIGI: Oh.

JIMMY CARPER: And I'm just kind of hoping during '95 that this boy finally comes out of the closet.

GIGI: We hope so.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

Yes, yes, yes, yes.

GIGI: So nice.

JIMMY CARPER: That is nice. And when we started that song, we said we hope that this gentleman would come out of the closet, and we certainly did not mean Elton John who has been out of the closet for a long time. It's that hateful George Michael who still insists that his sexuality is nobody's business.

GIGI: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, George, come out of the closet for '95.

GIGI: Please do.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. OK. We're going to put a bug in your ear and we want you to listen and maybe check out these fine shows that you'll hear on KPFT Houston.

GIGI: All right.

WOMAN: Melissa Etheridge, one of many lesbian and gay voices. Lesbian and Gay Voices is a program that brings the lesbian and gay community as close as your radio. We feature local, state, national, and international news, music and community events, interviews, book reviews, and commentary, so tune in Fridays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM to Lesbian and Gay Voices on KPFT World Radio 90.1 FM.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yeah. Some fine programming on KPFT. And another one that I was looking for and that I haven't seen yet is the Prison Program on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 to 5:00 with your host, Ray Hill.

GIGI: All right.

JIMMY CARPER: And they are probably back to the regular schedule this week. I know last week they had two solid hours of call ins. But this week, 3:00 to 4:00 will be Ray and others talking about prison topics, and from 4:00 until 5:00 will be inmates, relatives, and friends calling in to talk to them.

GIGI: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, it's a one-way conversation. They talk over the air and the inmates listen on the radios.

GIGI: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: That's nice.

GIGI: That's pretty cool.

JIMMY CARPER: That's nice, and it's unique. Ray has been written up all over the US and England--

GIGI: Wow.

JIMMY CARPER: --for this show.

GIGI: Cool.

JIMMY CARPER: So that's tomorrow at 3:00. We were sitting around chatting, and you wanted to bring up something.

GIGI: Yeah. One thing I know, New Year's Eve, especially, can bring out is depression.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

GIGI: Feeling down. Especially--

JIMMY CARPER: The whole holiday season, you know. It's big expectations and to do this, to do that, and you've got time limits, and people expect things from you, and behaviors and all of that. And sometimes, it's just a little bit more than you can handle.

GIGI: Right. And one thing, you know, I know this season has been especially wonderful in the sense that I've gotten so in tune with my family of choice, so close to them. And I guess that's the message I kind of wanted to put out is that there is the family of choice here for you.

JIMMY CARPER: Absolutely.

GIGI: You know, even when it seems the darkest and things seem really down, a lot of times it's just one phone call away, or even just the person next to you. Sometimes it's hard to ask for help.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, you know, it's something I think we all have to learn. We think that we have to do things with our family of origin and that they should be the closest, and we look at our friends as second best or second to our family of origin. And sometimes, that just isn't the case--

GIGI: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: --that our friends are our friends because they love us for who we are--

GIGI: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: --and that our friends are here just for us.

GIGI: Sometimes knowing us better than our own family.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Yeah. And yeah, especially if we're in the closet to our families. Our friends are definitely closer because they know the real us.

GIGI: Yeah. And it's like this is a time sometimes to reach to that family of choice, you know, or to make that call to the gay switchboard.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

GIGI: Yeah. Especially if you're feeling real down, because I know the holiday seasons-- you know, I don't know. New Year's can sometimes be a real hard time for people. And I guess one thing I like to know is that the family of choice is here for you. You know, you just have to reach out sometimes.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. I guess New Year's Eve or New Year's can be kind of tough because it's a time of reflection. You look back and you think, you know, gee. I really screwed up my life this year. Or I didn't accomplish what I wanted to. Or I'm not where I wanted to be. And that can be depressing.

GIGI: There's also expectations that this is a time of year to be with a lover and if you just broke up with someone. You know, this night can be especially lonely for some people.

JIMMY CARPER: I love two people in my life, and at Christmas both of them were out of town. But you know, I have an extended family and I have people that I care about. And so I had a very fulfilling holiday. And it was made even more better when the two people that I love came back to town. It's great. It was like a really extended holiday for me.

GIGI: So you know, one thing that I realized long ago is that if you can't be with one you really love, love the one you're with.

JIMMY CARPER: There you go. No we're not going into the song. It would've been great, but no no no no no.

GIGI: But you know, I don't know. It really hit me this Christmas how important the family of choice is to me and how much it can mean. I mean, there's so much love out there and so much diversity. And you know, I think that's the other side of it is that in the bi group we get a diverse range of people in. And it's like one of the magic things I've seen in this group is that we all love each other in spite of our differences.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes.

GIGI: And then what I've been seeing lately is this phenomena where people have become so amazed at the differences in the diversity. And even though it's not something they want to get into, they can explore it in a safe environment and kind of at least become somewhat familiar with another way of looking at the world.

JIMMY CARPER: What's your wish for the community for 1995?

GIGI: I think peace and togetherness, coming together as a community. The gays, the lesbians, the other people, the bisexuals, the transgenders-- everybody coming together and being one queer community.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Yeah. It's taken me a while. I'm getting used to the "queer" word. You know, I don't know of any other to encompass everyone, so that's the one I've been using.

GIGI: But one thing I noticed, you know, it's like Houston's been so divided in its community. And it's like, I think the thing I would like to see for '85 is a coming together, recognizing that there can be strength and difference, that we can tap on things. Sometimes we can see, gain new insights from the least expected sources. All we have to do is open our eyes a little bit and know that we don't have to join in that difference to be accepting of it, and we might even learn something from it.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. You know, I would have to-- let me start all over again here. I would be remiss if I did a New Year's show or any kind of reflective show without going back to the roots of *After Hours*. *After Hours* was started in September 6, 1987 by a man named Buddy Johnston, and it was his idea to have a show for people who came home from the bars by themselves and felt lonely. The original show was on from 2:00 to 4:00 AM Saturday night.

Well, he soon found out that that wasn't the crowd he was reaching because the people who are out in the bars were going to their own after hours and going to the bookstores, and they weren't listening to *After Hours* here on KPFT Houston. But he found that he had people from Richmond, Rosenberg, and Galveston. And sometimes, on clear nights, all the way to Austin or San Antonio, and all those small towns in between-- Galena Park, Deer Park, Pasadena.

And not just gay and lesbian people. There are a lot of gay and lesbian people and trans people and bi people, a lot of teenagers who maybe felt like they were the only ones of whatever. And they listened to *After Hours* with a radio under the pillow so mom and dad couldn't hear. And we have a lot of security guards and a lot of united cab drivers are listening, and all kinds of night people are listening to *After Hours*.

And he got used to that crowd, and he talked to them. And we've continued that tradition and we've kind of even opened the show up to give a permanent voice to the bisexual community, the transgender community. We've had as co-hosts the Black people from the Black gay community and the Asian community, and we hope to have more in the future.

But one thing he did do is he was good at putting together pieces of music with lines from speeches, especially Harvey Milk. Harvey Milk was Buddy's favorite, and Buddy put together a piece of music that has been featured on *This Way Out* and has traveled the globe. And I'd like to feature it now because I'm very proud of that piece. And our own Buddy Johnston put it together, and I'm very proud to play it. It's called "Coming Out of Hiding." It's the Pamala Stanley version, and the special Buddy Johnston mix. Here we go.

GIGI:

All right.

[AUDIO PLAYBACK]

- The disorders began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar, The Stonewall, on Christopher Street in the heart of the West Village.

[CLAMORING]

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COMING OUT OF HIDING]

- (SHOUTING) Say it so they can hear you in the Capitol.

- (SHOUTING) For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back. For love and for life, we're not going back.

- (SHOUTING) For love and for life, we're not going back!

- I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the lesbian and gay rights march, the official count is over 500,000 strong.

- We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COMING OUT OF HIDING]

- It's all right. You may all come out.

- Here, queer.

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now!

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now! What do we want?

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COMING OUT OF HIDING]

- As president of the board, I'm here. As president of the board of supervisors, it's my duty to make this announcement. Both Mayor Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk have been shot and killed.

- Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

- (SHOUTING) They've got to understand something. They've got to understand something. We are not talking about crack politics. This is not a movement from the waist down. We are talking about our right to love and to choose and to live. And I don't care about straight tolerance, and I don't care about straight understanding. You better hear me in Washington. We are demanding-- we are demanding our civil rights.

- And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing.

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COMING OUT OF HIDING"]

- We must destroy the myths once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly-- most importantly, every gay person must come out.

- Harvey, do you have a few words for KPFA?

- Come on out! Join us!

[MUSIC - PAMALA STANLEY, "COMING OUT OF HIDING"]

- Difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends if indeed they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people in the stores you shop in.

[CHEERING]

Once they realize that we are indeed their children, that and we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And I ask-- I ask people all over this country to do one thing-- come out. Come out, America. Come out.

[CHEERING]

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now!

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now!

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now!

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now!

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

- (SHOUTING) Gay rights!

- (SHOUTING) When do we want it?

- (SHOUTING) Now!

- (SHOUTING) What do we want?

[END PLAYBACK]

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, yes, yes, yes. Thank you, Buddy Johnston. That's the special Buddy Johnston mix of Pamela Stanley's "Coming Out of Hiding" with all the Harvey Milk, lots of Harvey Milk speeches on there.

GIGI: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Come out. That's our message. If you can't come out for whatever reason, we're still here for you too.

GIGI: Right.

JIMMY CARPER: Remember we say that to you every week at the opening of this show. We want you to know that, because sometimes you just can't come out.

GIGI: And sometimes it's not just outside pressures but inside.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. If you're still living at home, you depend on other people like parents for your support. Sometimes it's not a good idea. As Ray talked the beginning of the show, there are a lot of throwaway kids out there.

GIGI: And coming out is a process.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yes. You have to be pretty sure of yourself before you come out to other people.

GIGI: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Because lots of times the first thing they do is oh, you're kidding. You're not really that way. It's a phase. And you know, if you're not really sure of yourself yet, that can be--

GIGI: The first person I--

JIMMY CARPER: --a lot of pressure.

GIGI: --had to come out to was myself.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Absolutely. That's always the number one person to come out to. When you can look in the mirror and say this is what I am.

GIGI: And before I came out to someone else I was able to look in the mirror and say this is who I am, and I'm proud of it. And I like it.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Absolutely.

GIGI: Because I know when I was first a little uncertain-- I knew if I came across uncertain to myself, I couldn't come across any better to anyone else. You got to be true to yourself first.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet. You sure do.

GIGI: And then it happens and it can be wonderful.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes.

GIGI: And I do want to say, from GiGi, Happy New Year's.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

GIGI: And may the next year be a good year of coming out and the queer community.

JIMMY CARPER: Absolutely. And now for the queer community, Sophie B. Hawkins has a great message, and this is this is how we feel at *After Hours* toward you.

[AUDIO PLAYBACK]

- Boots are being polished. Trumpeters clean their horns. Chains and locks forged-- the crusade has begun. Once again, flags of Christ are unfurled in the dawn and cries of soul saviors sing apocalyptic on airwaves. Citizens, good citizens all parade into voting booths and in self-righteous sanctity X away our right to life.

I do not believe at some that the vote is an end. I fear even more it is just a beginning, so I must make assessment. Look to you and ask, where will you be when they come?

They will not come a mob rolling through the streets, but quickly and quietly move into our homes to remove the evil, the queerness, the faggotry from their midst. They will not come clothed in brown and swastikas or bearing chests heavy with gleaming crosses. The time and need for such ruses are over.

They will come in business suits to buy your homes and bring bodies to fill your jobs. They will come in robes to rehabilitate and white coats to subjugate. And where will you be when they come? Where will we all be when they come? And they will come.

They will come because we are defined as opposites, perverse. And we are perverse. Every time we watched a queer hassled in the streets and said nothing, it was an act of perversion. Every time we lied about the boyfriend or girlfriend at coffee break it was an act of perversion.

Every time we heard, "I don't mind gays, but why must they be blatant?" and said nothing, it was an act of perversion. Every time we let a lesbian mother lose her child and did not fill the courtrooms, it was an act of perversion. Every time we let straights make out in our bars while we couldn't touch because of the laws, it was an act of perversion.

Every time we put on the proper clothes to go to a family wedding and left our lovers at home, it was an act of perversion. Every time we heard, "who I go to bed with is my personal choice-- it's personal not political," and said nothing, it was an act of perversion. Every time we let straight relatives bury our dead and push our lovers away, it was an act of perversion.

And they will come for the perverts. And it won't matter if you're homosexual-- not a faggot, lesbian-- not a dyke, gay-- not queer. It won't matter if you own your own business, have a good job or on SSI. It won't matter if you're Black, Chicano, Native American, Asian, or white. It won't matter if you're from New York or Los Angeles, Galveston or Sioux Falls. It won't matter if you're butch or femme, not into roles, monogamous, non-monogamous.

It won't matter if you're Catholic, baptist, atheist, Jewish, or MCC. They will come. They will come to the cities and to the land, to your front rooms and in your closets. They will come for the perverts. And where will you be when they come?

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[END PLAYBACK]

JIMMY CARPER: Richard Audd and the East Pacific Symphony, "I am what I am" underneath the great Pat Parker doing her "Where Will You be When They Come?" You've been listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude and it's been Jimmy--

GIGI: --and GiGi on KPFT.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet. Listen next week and you'll hear Scott Lewis with The Love Connection. A week after that will be Sara de Palma. And the week after that will be Gigi and Sara. And I'll be back with Evelyn the week after that.

GIGI: It should be a good show.

MAN: With Howard McHale.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes.

MAN: See, everyone leaves Howard out. He really feels--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, big daddy Howard McHale will be here. Oh, yes.

MAN: See, cause everyone knows who Scott is, but nobody knows who Howard is. So want to make sure we say Howard's name too, you know. Cause you know, jeez, don't leave the poor guy out.

JIMMY CARPER: Absolutely.

GIGI: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: So have a Happy New Year, and stay tuned for--

GIGI: KPFT.

BOTH: --the carbon dating game--

GIGI: Oh, yes.

JIMMY CARPER: --with Eric, coming up shortly.

[MUSIC PLAYING]