

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: Are you ready for a story?

WOMAN: Yeah, yeah!

MAN: A story of our past.

WOMAN: At last.

MAN: A story of faggots.

WOMAN: A story of dykes.

MAN: A story of many incredible fights.

MAN: A story of good.

WOMAN: A story of bad.

MAN: A story that made us fighting mad.

WOMAN: His story.

MAN: Her story.

ALL: Our story. Gay story. History. Gay history rap.

[UPBEAT MUSIC]

MAN: Hey, it all started back in '69 when a bad [INAUDIBLE] named Seymour Fine and his boys in blue decided it was time to keep all the faggots and dykes in line.

So off they marched to a Village bar. This time, they pushed just a little too far. Their mighty mission was to punish them. They were in for a surprise at the Stonewall Inn.

ALL: Gay history rap.

MAN: Now, the Stonewall Inn was a sleazy place. It was hard to get in if they didn't know your face. Reason for this was mighty clear. It was against the law to run the bar for queers.

Prices inside were more than double. We paid them 'cause we didn't want trouble. But something strange was brewing inside. Faggots and dyke stealing something like pride. Stage was set, people in place for the cops and the queers to meet face to face.

ALL: Gay history rap!

WOMAN: The first three arrested were men in drag, but these queens were not cringing fags. And a crowd started gathering and seeing the scene, shouted support to those three queens. Through the door came another queer--stocky little woman who knew no fear-- screaming, punching, kicking pigs. Crowd [? giddy up ?] 'cause she wasn't too big. Running and hiding was the thing of the past, when this tough dyke started kicking [INAUDIBLE].

ALL: Gay history rap! Tempers were flared and the real fun began when the crowd decided to give her a hand.

MAN: Nickles and quarters and bottles flew down on the heads of the cops and all around.

WOMAN: Feeling the rage, the cops ran and hid in the very bar they were supposed to rid.

MAN: A parking meter smashed against the door. Then a fire starting spreading across the floor.

ALL: Three days later, peace was restored. The hinges were sprung on the closet doors. Gay history rap!

WOMAN: Woo!

ALL: No more worries. The shrinks say we're not crazy. The tube says we are healthy.

MAN: Yippee! Party over here! Is Reagan's son a queer?

MAN: Party over there.

WOMAN: Anita says she doesn't care.

MAN: Make noise. Be seen. Is the prince really the queen?

ALL: Now that the nation has swung to the right and more and more people have seen the light, murders and muggings and a lot more fights, sex and discos instead of rights. History rap. Now that the nation has swung to the right and more and more people have seen the light, murders, muggings, and a lot more fights, sex in discos instead of rights.

WOMAN: 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 air waves. Citizens-- good citizens all-- parade into voting booths and, in self-righteous sanctity, X away our right to life. I do not believe, at sum, 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 baring 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 opposite, perverse. And we are perverse.

Every time we watch the 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.

[CHEERING]

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 court rooms, 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 are 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 an 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?

MAN: A cry to unite is in the air. Fear, death, and dying, and despair. But hopefully determined, we will survive by keeping the flames of our faith. A cry to unite is in the air singing praises of pride. A cry to unite is in the air, a time to celebrate, to love, to care.

Forever united we must stand, or divided we will surely fall. Listen to the cry. Rise up. Stand tall. The cry to unite is in the air, singing praises of pride. The cry to unite is in the air-- bonding of souls and hearts everywhere. Our dream to unite must come true-- the courage to face the world as you. A cry to unite is in the air, singing praises of pride everywhere.

MAN: That's right, Maude. You had it easy. You lost your husband in a nice clean hospital. You know how I lost mine? I lost mine on the street. That's right. They killed him on the street. 27 years old, laying dead on the street, killed by a bunch of kids with baseball bats.

That's right, mom, killed by children, children taught by people like you, because everybody knows that queers don't matter. Queers don't love. And those that do deserve what they get!

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

[MUSIC - YAZZ, "STAND UP FOR YOUR LOVE RIGHTS"]

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights.

[SIREN BLARING]

Stand up for your love rights. Do it, do it, do it, do it.

MAN: I'm here tonight to say some good things about Texas. I'm proud to be a Texan. I know that I could not have heard Harvey Milk's challenge to me had not something in my life this state prepared me to hear the word of freedom that Harvey spoke to us.

I am here tonight because it is time that all of us love this state, that gave us light and has nurtured us and taught us our values, to stand up and claim the history of this state for freedom and justice and human respect, away from the forces of narrow-mindedness and bigotry that too often dominate the politics of the state of Texas.

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

SINGER: (SINGING) Don't be afraid. Don't let things stand in your way. Now you've reached a time in your life when you just can't take no more.

Are you ready to leave 'cause you can no longer breathe? You can't hide or disguise what it is that you want to change.

Don't hold back. Make up your mind. Don't hold back.

Stand up for your love rights.

[SHOUTING]

MAN: 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. For love and for life, we're not going back!

SINGER: (SINGING) Ooh, now don't take what you don't want. Just take what you need. It's your right. Don't be frightened to fight it. Take your time to choose.

Yeah, when you're ready to leave, make up your mind and believe. Don't you run from the truth. It's no use, 'cause it's all you'll need.

Don't hold back. Make up your mind. Don't hold back.

Stand up for your love rights.

REPORTER: Harvey, do you have a few words for KBFA?

HARVEY MILK: Come on out! [LAUGHS] Join us. Bring a friend.

REPORTER: What do you think about the turnout so far?

HARVEY MILK: Well, it's never enough. Never enough.

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights.

WOMAN: They've got to understand something. They've got to understand something. We are not talking about just 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 politics. And I don't care about straight understanding. You better hear me in Washington. We are demanding-- we are demanding our civil rights!

MAN: I have a dream today.

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights.

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights, and don't you feel ashamed. Stand up for your love rights. Do it, do it, do it, do it.

WOMAN: It's all right. You may all come out.

WOMAN: 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!

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights and enjoy it.

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

HARVEY MILK: I ask people all over this country to do one thing-- come out. Come out, America. Come out.

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights.

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

SINGER: (SINGING) Stand up for your love rights.

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them?

ALL: Now!

WOMAN: What do we want?

ALL: Gay rights!

WOMAN: When do we want them? Now!

WOMAN: OK, we're back, and this is KPFT Houston-- 90.1 FM.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes.

WOMAN: And you just listened to some really great stuff put together by Buddy Johnson, who is our fearless predecessor.

JIMMY CARPER: Founding father of after hours.

WOMAN: That's right. And some of the best stuff-- I think some of the best stuff-- I really like the Gay History Rap. It's one of my favorites. And Martin Mull-- men, men, men, men. I love that. And Edith Ann, who wants to change her name to Lesbi-ann. I love it. Some of the best stuff.

MAN: Yes.

WOMAN: We did get some calls, and you can call us at JAM-KPFT. And for those who are-- whatever it is Diane says-- alphabetically impaired, that's it. That number is 526-5738. I never know.

And we did get a couple of calls. And one of the calls that especially struck me was from a straight person out there who's listening to our show, who is around my age and wanted to know why all we ever played was rock and roll.

And one of the reasons I want to-- I've given it some thought since you called earlier. One of the reasons is because most of my fellow co-hosts are very young people and that's what they get off to.

MAN: And a lot of the listeners are young.

WOMAN: A lot of the listeners are young, and then that's what they're playing for. But you're right. And also something she said-- she put it to me-- why is it you assume that everybody wants to listen to rock and roll? And while I was thinking about that-- why is it we assume that everybody listens to is, is gay.

Thinking about her out there listening to us really made me feel good, and I appreciate your call and input. And I hope you enjoyed the tape. I know you were in a hurry to finish talking with me so you could listen to this tape. And we do have some music-- two of them?

MAN: Yes.

WOMAN: Two pieces, back to back, that we picked specially for you.

JIMMY CARPER: I had a couple of people in mind as a matter of fact when I picked the one from Margie Adam.

WOMAN: Oh, I love Margie

JIMMY CARPER: And it's her very famous song called "Best Friend." It's the unicorn song. And it has been covered by Peter, Paul, and Mary, and Joan Baez and all kinds of folks. And after that, it's your tape by Meg Christian. And guess which one that is?

WOMAN: "Ode to a Gym Teacher." Can I guess? Is there a note? Are you passing notes? Are they sugar notes or do I get one?

JIMMY CARPER: Somebody is being a smart ass. How about the ones in between?

WOMAN: Yeah, right. Yeah, right. The ones in between. Yeah. "Ode to a Gym Teacher" by Margie Adam-- I mean not Margie Adam-- sorry, sorry. Meg Christian.

MAN: Yes.

WOMAN: Margie is doing the other one. I told you about meeting Margie here, didn't I?

JIMMY CARPER: No.

WOMAN: I guess about four years ago we had the big conference here-- women's recovery conference. And JoAnn Loulan was supposed to speak here. And when JoAnn showed up-- so Joanne is somebody-- JoAnn has written several gay and lesbian books-- actual lesbian books-- "Lesbian Passion" and "The Joy of Lesbian Sex" or something. I don't know.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yes. She has written great stuff.

WOMAN: They're great stuff. And I connected with JoAnn several years before and have been connected with JoAnn off and on several times. As a matter of fact, we still correspond occasionally. And when JoAnn showed up and somebody said, oh, there's JoAnn-- and I went over to say, hi, to JoAnn-- standing next to her was Margie Adams.

And I knew Margie Adams from her tapes and play-- I had listened to her since I was a young little lesbian and was very thrilled and very big fan of hers. And JoAnn turned and said, this is my lover.

And I was dumbfounded. Here are two of the greatest women I'd ever met, and they were lovers. It was just great. I was just so thrilled to be able to spend time with both of them. It was an exciting time just to sit next to Margie. And you could just feel the electricity.

Anyway, she did a couple of numbers for the recovery conference, and JoAnn did a big-- big talk, a speech-- a lecture. That's it, a lecture. So it was a great time. And I've always treasured and cherish those moments that I got to spend with both of them.

But Margie, with her moon circles-- there was nothing better than moon circles to me. So you've got two-- one from Margie and one from Meg, so we got the M&M sisters.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

WOMAN: What, Matt?

MAN: Actually, quite a few of the people who call in are in between--

WOMAN: In between.

WOMAN: We get quite a number of calls from people--

WOMAN: Cool.

MAN: --that don't get much mention and are usually prejudiced against by both.

WOMAN: We really don't care what sex you are or what kind of sex you want to have, if you want to have sex at all. We care that you have the freedom to make those determinations for yourself. Bottom line is that you make-- you have the freedom to make those determinations yourself and to live with dignity and respect and with all the equal rights of every other person.

So we don't want to imply that this is for-- although we do-- that's who we are. So we do tend to-- and because there are so many other programs for other people. And there are so few for gay people. So we do tend to lean in that direction. But we want you to know that we're happy you're there whether you're gay, straight, bi, or not, so-- we're going to play these two? OK.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SINGER: (SINGING) After hours. After hours.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SINGER: (SINGING) My friend, you're a good find. It's celebration time.

SINGER: (SINGING) Now aren't you proud of how we can be? Share in the magic, feeling the pride, share in the magic all of our lives. Share in the magic.

MAN: Gay and lesbian pride is traditionally celebrated during the month of June, with festivals and parades in cities around the world. Because the history and culture of lesbians and gay men is still traditionally omitted in virtually all school textbooks, many in our community remain ignorant of the pivotal event which these June observances celebrate.

GABRIELLE This is Gabrielle Antolovich, reporting from West Hollywood for "This Way Out." Do you know what the Stonewall **ANTOLOVICH:** riots were about?

MAN: I'm not real clear. I'll be honest with you. I never have read about it, as far as what exactly happened there and the purpose of it.

GABRIELLE Do you know what the Stonewall riots were about?

ANTOLOVICH:

WOMAN: I've never heard anything about it. No, I don't know nothing about it.

MAN: "This Way Out" tries to remedy that situation each year. We begin with excerpts from a program originally broadcast on WBAI in New York City in January 1969.

MAN: This is "The New Symposium," a program from and for the homosexual community. I'm Bert [INAUDIBLE], and also on hand--

KERMIT LAMB: Kermit Lamb.

MAN: The discussion for tonight was more or less what's wrong with the homosexual culture. And when I sent out the schedule and so on I, simply noted that whoever of the regular panel had wanted to be on could be on tonight. And apparently, the rest of them just don't think there's anything wrong with the homosexual culture because only Kermit showed up. And I will say that I know that Marie had a class tonight so that's why she couldn't make it.

KERMIT LAMB: I felt-- and I think I've changed even my thinking on this in the last three or four years-- is that homosexuals aren't proud enough to be homosexuals and get out and be militant a little bit and say, I am. And it's a little like-- I'm glad to see now in the racial thing that Negroes now aren't just trying to get along with everybody else. They've seen beauty in their own blackness. Black is beautiful.

MAN: It bears on what you're saying about being proud of homosexual, which I think, even now, is a little much to ask of most people. But just being open about it. Since doing this program and because we're doing this program and trying to find people to do this program, back at the beginning, it has come, so sharply, to my attention the total lack of courage that the homosexual community has.

And I know the reasons, damn it, and I've been through it myself. I think that is one thing you can really pin on all of you out there is cowardice.

And now I'm going to get letters saying, OK, it's easy for you. You're not going to get fired from the station. But it hasn't been that easy-- the feeling that I've totally lost contact with my father because of this program. And I know that people's lives can be ruined if they open up and reveal themselves.

On an idealistic plane, we all know that, if every homosexual said what he was tomorrow, that the whole situation would be changed for the better. Now, this is obviously a pipe dream. But for every homosexual that does open up and reveal himself, there are that many more people that realize that homosexuals are real, breathing human beings. They are not sex maniacs or freaks, that many more young people that are given the fact that a homosexual life needn't be a disaster.

KERMIT LAMB: I know a number of people who are under 25, say, under 20-- they all seem to be much more relaxed. I hope it's a sign.

MAN: So do I.

KERMIT LAMB: There's a certain feeling among many younger people of not caring who knows. They have straight friends who know. And I hope this is indicative of something.

ALL: Gay power. Gay power. Gay is loud. Gay is proud.

MAN: June 27, 1969, as recalled in Brett [? Artery's ?] 1970 documentary--

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

[SHOUTING]

Almost every homosexual who was in New York at the time of the Stonewall rebellion has his own private memory of what took place. One of the longtime leaders of the gay rights movement, Craig Rodwell, remembers it this way.

CRAIG RODWELL: The first night was Friday. I was on the way home from the friend's house. And the raid was just starting at that time. And we noticed the crowds. We went over there.

And a crowd was gathering out in front. And there was a paddy wagon pulled up and a few people being taken out. It started with a few coins and tables being thrown at the police. And then the police retreated into The Stonewall.

And then after the police barricaded themselves inside, half an hour later, the riot police started moving up Christopher, breaking up the crowd, which was really become a very angry crowd, with hundreds of bottles and rocks. There wasn't one window left in the whole place after about 10 minutes.

And they broke the crowd up into small groups. And this went on for like two or three hours-- back and forth in the whole area. I think they thought that people would just go home or run, especially since they were gay people. They were not used to gay people standing up at all, especially in front of police. But they would chase people away, and they would go around the block and come in another way. This tug of war went on all evening.

And then on Saturday night, it was much the same thing. Starting about 9:00, a crowd started to gather in the area. And then around 11:00 or 12:00, they started taking over the street, stopping cars, and coming through unless there were gay people in them. Two fires were set.

But generally, there was an angry mood. A lot of chanting, a lot of hand-holding, a lot of assertion of being gay. There was a way of saying we're tired of hiding, tired of leading two lives, tired of denying our basic identity, denying ourselves. Newfound pride, really, a collective pride in their identity.

REPORTER: Another important outgrowth of the riots was the formation of numerous action-oriented homosexual groups in New York and around the country. They're composed, for the most part, of younger and more militant homosexuals.

CRAIG RODWELL: It's still a relatively small minority of gay people who do reflect this new spirit, whatever you want to call it. But I think it's going to affect the masses of gay people in the coming years.

MAN: Gay power is here to stay! And nobody, nobody is going to ignore us any longer!