

MAN: The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature which may be considered objectionable by some. Listener discretion is advised.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN 2: Oh, yes. You've tuned in to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of *After Hours* is ready to bring you news, interviews, dialogue, and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people and their friends. Here at *After Hours*, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common, We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets.

That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life, and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age, job, or frame of mind. That's OK. We're here for you, too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of *After Hours*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Hello, Houston, and welcome to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude. And let's see. I want to get in there, all of New Hampshire in Sarasota, Florida and other parts in between in the world. And this is the November 17th edition. Before we get to Jewel and Jim-- they are like already there. They're staring at me like, OK, why doesn't he turn on our mics? Well, give me a couple of minutes, folks.

We're going to kind of have a roundtable with Jewel about, I think, current events and political stuff tonight. And on the second half of the show, we're going to have another little roundtable about current events and things going on in the community. So you're going to hear your Sunday, Sunday, Sunday in the second half of the show. That's right.

But one thing I do want to get out there early is that the Community Center is going to have Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving. So this is the second year in the row. The Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center will serve dinner for the GLBT family on Thanksgiving day, Thursday, November 22nd. There's no charge for the dinner, which will begin about noon at the Center. And that's located at 803 Hawthorne. The Center's board of directors will provide the main dishes for the meal, including turkey and holiday favorites.

Individuals who plan to attend are encouraged to bring food items, potluck style, but such contributions are not required. We invite everyone to join us even if they want to stop in after other family celebrations, Tim Brookover says, who is the Community Center president, last year, about 50 people drop by for dinner and fellowship, which is really kind of good for their first time out. So if you plan-- if you'd like to go, he'd asked that you give the Center a call at 713-524-3818 and leave your name.

That way we can make sure we have enough turkey for Turkey Day. So on that note with Turkey Day coming up--

MAN 3: [INAUDIBLE]

MAN 2: Yes. I'm going to get Jewel and Jim in here.

[? JIMMY] What?

CARPER:

JEWEL: Are we on now?

MAN 2: Yes.

JEWEL: Oh, God. We're just looking--

MAN 2: You hate when I do that.

JEWEL: Yes, I do.

MAN 2: Don't you? Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

[? MAN 3:] And we were just looking at this picture on the cover of *OutSmart*, the animated character.

MAN 2: Ah.

JEWEL: Oh.

MAN 2: Hello. Yes.

[? JIMMY] Hey, how are you been?

CARPER:

MAN 2: Hello. This is the third Saturday of the month, so we have Jewel--

JEWEL: [INAUDIBLE] Jewel in the town.

MAN 2: --and Jim.

JEWEL: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Yep.

JEWEL: Country dyke and her bi male friend Hop along. Hip along. That's what we call him hip along.

JIMMY CARPER: The golden retriever, someone else called me.

MAN 3: There you go.

JEWEL: Hey, that's not a bad thing.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: More people ought to be like [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: As the mayor's liaison called me the golden retriever.

JEWEL: Hey, that's a compliment from her.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Yeah, that's cool.

JEWEL: Oh, yeah. People can count on you.

JIMMY CARPER: Actually, I took this test once about what kind of animal are you? And you answer this big long list of questions. And it came out golden retriever.

JEWEL: Ta-da.

JIMMY CARPER: [CHUCKLES] So she was right on there.

JEWEL: And ask you like things you wanted to eat. And you said, dog biscuits or anything.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: [INAUDIBLE]

JIMMY CARPER: Hey, it's ALPO or nothing.

BOBBY: Yeah, I hear you, man.

JEWEL: Well, yeah, I mean, [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: I've seen him fix dinner.

JEWEL: And I've imagined it, which is probably worse.

JIMMY CARPER: He like cringes sometimes. Ah! What are you-- oh, never mind.

JEWEL: Yeah, just, OK. OK. Here's an example. Just the other night, I walked in, and he's got this large bowl of corn that he's eating.

I mean, very large. And I said, oh, we're having corn for dinner. And then I hear the ding of the microwave, and he brings out this kind of the frozen food thing of like lasagna. It was like a lasagna bake thing or--

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, Yeah.

JEWEL: And I said, oh, OK. And so he sits down, and I'm watching TV. And I look over just in time to see him dump the entire contents of the lasagna into the corn and mix it up.

[? MAN 3: ?] [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: And then he ate it and probably not sharing it.

JIMMY CARPER: No, which was fine with me.

JEWEL: It was fine. Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, he missed the cottage cheese. Yeah. Yeah, I'm sure there's cottage cheese in there somewhere. No matter what he needs, cottage cheese is involved.

JEWEL: This is a "bi diet."

MAN 2: Yes.

JEWEL: This must be a "bi diet."

JIMMY CARPER: No, it's just me.

JEWEL: It's too--

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS] I wouldn't. I wouldn't blame the whole community on what I eat. [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Good thing.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it's not their fault. They wouldn't. Oh, gosh. It's-- it's--

JEWEL: You know, I drove [INAUDIBLE] so I could complain, and I could fuss about this election and how disappointed I am and--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh my goodness.

JEWEL: --how I've just kind of felt really blue since the election day. So I want to talk about that some tonight, the election and about who's running where and what we should be doing and maybe even a little soapbox a little bit later just-- you know, we would discuss on hand that periodically the last couple of weeks about people being less involved, less people. I mean, the last election, major election, only half the country voted. Only half the country voted. That changed me.

JIMMY CARPER: Isn't that the way it's always been?

JEWEL: No, no. There was a time when people took this as an honor, as a privilege. It wasn't this odorous problem where they had to stop their day and go do something. It used to be something they look forward to. Everybody made allowances for.

There used to be some pride in voting and being able to-- but I think people have lost the feel that they can do anything. They put Republican. It does the same as put a Democrat in. They do the same. I mean, one way or another, it's a buy and sell thing.

You get one salesman better than the other. That's all it is. But they're both buying and selling. And we're the one they're buying and selling to.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, revolutions have been started because people wanted to vote.

JEWEL: That's one of the reasons they came here.

JIMMY CARPER: And they wanted-- yeah. [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Those puritan fathers of ours.

JIMMY CARPER: Ryan is here. Ryan and Bobby by the way.

[? MAN 4: ?] Hello.

JIMMY CARPER: And he's chomping at the bit here.

JEWEL: What kind of makes me question something is you see everybody driving around with these flags all over their cars. And yet only half the country votes. And it's so patriotic to carry a flag, but it's not patriotic at all to vote?

MAN 2: I find myself wondering when I see those flags.

JEWEL: Yeah, no kidding.

MAN 2: How many of those flags.

JIMMY CARPER: And actually, it was like 30% or less in Houston voted in this last election.

JEWEL: I know. I-- I don't have any flags as a matter of protest. I felt as bad as anybody else about what happened, yeah.

[? MAN 3: ?] --car and your person if you're not going to vote. Please.

JEWEL: I don't believe in public prayer, and I don't believe in that either.

JIMMY CARPER: I hear you.

JEWEL: Did that makes sense?

BOBBY: Yes, it did.

JIMMY CARPER: I hear you.

MAN 2: There's a political cartoon that I--

JEWEL: I'm just uncomfortable with that whole thing.

MAN 2: I don't know if it was on [? Handnet ?] or I just got it from somebody else. But one of the political cartoons of a guy walking down the street with flags all over the place sticking out. And right next to him is the voting booth. But he doesn't have time to vote.

JEWEL: He's too busy with those flags, too busy looking good instead of doing good. And that's what I was saying. We're getting bought and sold. That's all there is to it no matter who's in office.

All we can do is try to elect those who will do the least amount of damage. Unfortunately, it's not an ideal world. We don't live in the world where we put a good guy in office and he's going to do great things. It's not going to happen anymore. It's a business.

And business people don't operate that way. The way that business operates is I win, you lose. That means if you're on the end of one of those deals going on, the buying and selling of this country, there has to be a winner and a loser. There's no win-win situation. That's because it's a business.

And that's one of the things I think that--

MAN 2: In years past, I've heard people say, oh. Well, my vote doesn't count. I'm just one person. And lately, we found out that yes, your vote does count.

JEWEL: 264 votes counted. 264. Can you imagine that? You can go to a store and be more than 264 people in the store. I mean, you can go to the ballpark out your Sunday afternoon.

And there are more than 260 folks out there. It's ridiculous how low count it was that--

MAN 2: Well, not only that, but I saw an email tonight that mentioned that when Orlando Sanchez, not "Sahn-chez," Sanchez.

JIMMY CARPER: I know. I keep wanting to say "Sahn-chez." [LAUGHS]

MAN 2: First got elected to City council. He won by only 127 votes.

JEWEL: See, so 127 people who thought their vote didn't count did count very much.

MAN 2: It did. Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, local elections is where your vote really, really counts.

JEWEL: And that's why I decided-- I've decided to start focusing in on the local stuff. I've watched the other side of the aisle, shall we say, start-- many years ago, all of a sudden, we're involved in school boards and county commissioners and start making it politics. And these things were never supposed to be political. We're going to vote for a Democratic mayor, for a Republican mayor.

MAN 2: For a county that's, for the most part, Democratic. All of the judges in Harris County are Republicans.

JEWEL: Yeah, and it's a bought and sold thing. Don't think it's not. It's bought and sold, let me tell you.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, but OK now-- with a judge having a certain political affiliation, doesn't that imply that they have a bias?

MAN 3: Yes, it does.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, judges are not supposed to have that.

MAN 2: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: Are they?

MAN 2: No, they're not supposed to. But then they have to get elected.

JEWEL: They're judges. They're supposed to--

MAN 2: They have to get elected, too.

JEWEL: They're supposed to be objective, and that's the premise that we put them in office for is because we expect them to be objective. But surprise-- [LAUGHS]

MAN 2: Yes.

JEWEL: --they never are. When are we going to wake up and learn? What is that definition of insanity? You do the same things over and over--

JIMMY CARPER: The same action over and over and expecting a different result. Right?

JEWEL: We keep doing it, and we keep expecting them to be--

MAN 3: Well--

JEWEL: --Kennedys. Well, not even Kennedy anymore.

MAN 3: Judges that are appointed are one thing. I know, Bobby, you want to say something.

BOBBY: Oh, I'm sorry. I just don't understand. After what all we went through during the presidential election and to the point where you don't even want to hear that somebody's name is Chad.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

MAN 3: I know.

JEWEL: I mean, and how close that is. You would think that people would have gotten the message, that yeah, guess what? If you vote, it actually matters.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

JEWEL: Well, half of the nation didn't vote that day.

MAN 3: No, that's true.

JEWEL: It's just anywhere.

MAN 3: And it didn't matter who voted in Florida.

JEWEL: If more people had voted in other states, it could have made a difference. He could have taken more states, would have made those points, not just Florida. I mean, everybody looks at Florida, but there were other places in other parts of this country--

MAN 3: That was very, very close.

JEWEL: --that were very close. He could have easily taken with 2 or 300, 400 votes in that state. So I've seen a lot of state pointing lately, where everybody's pointing at Florida and Florida and Florida. But let's be honest, I'm sure that he could have-- if we could gotten enough people to vote--

MAN 3: Yeah, but that was the last--

BOBBY: Hell, if he'd have gotten his own state, we'd have--

MAN 3: Yeah. Well, that was the last holdout and with the brother as governor. Anyway-- Those elections-- Let

JEWEL: Me just say there was collusion. This was a conspiracy. I believe it was a conspiracy from the day one.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah. No doubt about it. No doubt.

JEWEL: From day one, Brother Jeb was in office. This was a conspiracy.

[? JIMMY ?] Anyway--

CARPER:

JEWEL: And if he'd been in New Mexico, it would have been in New Mexico. If he'd been in Montana, it would have been Montana.

[? JIMMY ?] Yes. Well--

CARPER:

JEWEL: First and foremost, Cheney should never have been the VP. He was a citizen of Montana, and he registered in Texas. He should never have been-- hey, he should never have been-- that's what they say. You can't have a president and a vice president to come from the same state.

[? JIMMY ?] Oh, I didn't know that.

CARPER:

JEWEL: And he'd lived here 30 years, worked here, and been here for beaucoup years. But he maintained residency in Montana. So right when they were going to run him, suddenly, he goes up and gets his voter registration card in Montana. He's suddenly a Montana citizen again.

[? JIMMY ?] [LAUGHS]

CARPER:

JEWEL: Now let me tell you, that's close enough that people should be looking into it. Yeah?

JIMMY CARPER: What think tank actually puts this stuff together.

JEWEL: The Heritage Foundation.

JIMMY CARPER: Huh? Oh, yeah?

JEWEL: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

JEWEL: You should see their website. It's grotesque. It is grotesque.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, what is that one with all the conspiracies on it?

BOBBY: Oh. There's several like that.

JIMMY CARPER: There's several?

BOBBY: Yes. Several people, yeah. That's where I'm at all the time. You know that, don't you?

[? MAN 3: ?] Oh, I know.

MAN 2: You know we're being invaded tonight. You know that.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Oh, the meteor shower's tonight from [INAUDIBLE]. And it's going to be the biggest one that's going to be seen for 100 years. So if you're out tonight. I was looking on--

MAN 3: Clears up enough to see it.

JEWEL: Where I was at it was clear enough to watch the stars. It had a low ground fog, but it was clear enough to watch the stars. And it's supposed to be like hundreds an hour. Hundreds.

JIMMY CARPER: When does it start?

JEWEL: It's probably going on as we speak. So don't--

[? JIMMY ?] What the hell are we doing in here?

CARPER:

JEWEL: Don't run off and go see it.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. Yeah.

JEWEL: It's probably going to peak around at 2:00-- yes, and 3 o'clock.

MAN 2: And if you're in your car, pull off at the side of the road if you want to--

JEWEL: If you really want to see it, it'll peak. The supposedly peak time will be 2 o'clock, 2:30.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, so. Well, the last one-- I was out at the-- oh, what is that big park. It's down the 288 going south.

JEWEL: Brazos Bend?

JIMMY CARPER: That's it.

JEWEL: Brazos Bend Park.

JIMMY CARPER: Brazos Bend. Yeah, it's down there with Scott the beautiful and laying there on the ground, looking at the shooting stars and all. It was very, very nice.

MAN 3: That's not what I'd be doing with Scott the beautiful. I'll tell you that.

JIMMY CARPER: It was cool, though.

JEWEL: Laughing over here.

JIMMY CARPER: It was cool, though. We were constantly, oh, there goes one. There goes one.

JEWEL: This is supposed to be more intense than any they've seen in the last 50 years, and there won't be one like this for another 100 years.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

JEWEL: It's just a certain kind of way we are in the time of our year and in the position we're at. And we're also crossing that path. I mean--

JIMMY CARPER: The path of a comet tail--

JEWEL: Tail, right? It's left all this debris.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, Big Roy just walked in.

BIG ROY: Oh, I just want to say-- but if you're here in the city limits of Houston, you're not going to see much anyway because our city lights blot everything out.

MAN 2: We are so bright.

JEWEL: Yes. That's something else I'm going to start paying attention to. This is getting that city to dark down. There are certain things they can do to eliminate a lot of that. And we need to think about that.

There's more conservative ways to use electricity and to use light. Light is not just something flick on in your backyard. It's all over.

MAN 2: Yeah, but one--

JEWEL: It's a shame there are people in the city who can't see the stars who grow up and never see the stars.

MAN 2: There was one evening. There was a power outage in our neighborhood. And even though that we're two blocks away from the freeway, it was really dark. I mean, there was nothing. And I thought, ooh, this must be what it is out there with Jewel. I mean, there was nothing.

BOBBY: It's nothing.

JIMMY CARPER: Nothing.

BOBBY: Yeah, guys. There is something called light pollution. It is a real thing.

MAN 2: I like it. I like light. I like it. Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: No, man, at night, I like to look up and see that in the--

BOBBY: Light is a good thing when you're walking along at night.

JEWEL: Well, no one wants you to stop the light. We just want to better conserve it and put caps on it so it doesn't just get away for places it's not needed.

MAN 2: True.

JEWEL: So that it's focused on the ground and in certain areas instead of it escaping.

MAN 2: That's another one of those silly things in Montrose. You know, we have--

JEWEL: I'm going to talk to Annise about that.

[? BOBBY:] --these big, tall light posts, right? Montrose is an old neighborhood. We've got lots of 30-year-old oak trees. None of that light gets through. So I mean, it's dark up there, and light up there and dark on the ground.

JIMMY CARPER: Dark on the ground.

MAN 2: In our neighborhood, they've installed shorter kind of--

BOBBY: Cool. Darling, don't [INAUDIBLE]. They'll cut down the oak trees before they mature.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, you're right.

BOBBY: As it is.

JIMMY CARPER: But the light is down closer to the ground where you need it.

BOBBY: Imagine that.

JIMMY CARPER: Imagine that.

JEWEL: That's a solution to a problem, you know.

JIMMY CARPER: But we digress.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BOBBY: --what we were talking about. Let's get back.

JIMMY CARPER: We were talking about politics and--

JEWEL: Oh, yeah--

MAN 2: Well, actually, I didn't get a chance to talk about the music I played in the beginning. I got all excited because you two were in there and I wanted to get you on the air. Yeah, right. So--

MAN 3: The fickle finger award.

[? BIG ROY: ?] No, it's Jewel. It's Jewel and I. Nothing is going on. [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: The fickle finger award.

MAN 2: That's right, Rose. Nothing's going on. OK.

OK, that last-- that last--

MAN 3: She's going to be giving you hell because you played Horace.

MAN 2: Why?

MAN 3: Because she thinks I'm having this thing with Horace.

MAN 2: What?

MAN 3: I don't think-- God, she must think I am just--

MAN 2: Oh, OK. Well--

JIMMY CARPER: So half the country--

MAN 2: --she's probably listening right now.

MAN 3: Half the world away.

MAN 2: OK. So first of all, [? Jeannie Kaufman, ?] that was the last song that you heard called "Humpty Dumpty," which is off of her brand-new CD that she just sent to me. She was at the Houston Women's Festival and blew me away. I mean, just really good, good music. And she's got a CD with like 17 songs on it, almost. So you get your money's worth there.

And, of course, before that started out with a new Horse song from her new album *Hindsight, It's a Wonderful Thing*.

JEWEL: It sounded like the ones she played here for us.

MAN 2: Yes, it's very similar. It's called "And Ever, I'll Be Yours," which I thought-- very nice romantic song. And well, I've been playing "Starfish" the last couple of weeks. That is the song that she and her long-term partner-- actually, Horse wrote it, but it was for their new daughter.

BOBBY: New daughter?

MAN 2: Yes. Yes, they have a daughter. So--

[? BOBBY: ?] Aren't you disappointed?

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS] That they didn't ask me?

[LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Yeah, really.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

MAN 2: Yes. So Rose--

[? BOBBY: ?] I'm in trouble enough. If I just think--

JIMMY CARPER: For a few minutes of totally blissful work. [LAUGHS] Oh my goodness.

MAN 3: Oh, well. I'm trying to get you out of trouble there but I think I got you in deeper.

MAN 2: Anyway. So what is this crap about [? Alex ?] [? Marua ?] leaving PVA?

JEWEL: That guy has done one of the most outstanding, underrated jobs--

MAN 2: Oh, I know.

JEWEL: --in this city. I mean, he's pulled together a couple of people in a room to an organization that is going to be a major effect in Houston politics from now on. And that's not a simple thing. He and Grant Martin and the board over there who've managed to do things that-- just almost miraculous.

MAN 2: Yes. I read it in the *Voice* tonight.

JEWEL: Oh, the miraculous part? I thought I just made that up.

MAN 2: Well, no, no, no. No, [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, she wrote that.

MAN 2: Oh, I see. [? Alex ?] [? Marua ?] executive director of Progressive Voters in Action, a gay-friendly political group, has announced that he will resign that post in order to rest. Well, I--

MAN 3: That's what I was going to say. He deserves a break.

JIMMY CARPER: The Progressive Voters-- yeah, I remember they had that little petition a long time ago.

MAN 2: Oh, man. Yeah.

JEWEL: But everything is running after the election. He did everything before the election.

MAN 2: Yeah. He's been he's been at it for two years. I'm extremely "plow"--

JIMMY CARPER: Plowed? [LAUGHS]

MAN 2: I'm still thinking about Horace. Yeah.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

MAN 3: You too?

MAN 2: I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of PVA over last two years, especially regarding the no on, the against on city Prop 2 campaign in the Ada Edwards for Houston City Council District D Campaign. But after two years of 50- to 60-hour weeks, I'm ready for a break. Well, duh.

MAN 3: Really?

MAN 2: Hey, everybody involved with PVA deserves a break.

MAN 3: Oh, yeah.

MAN 2: Unfortunately--

MAN 3: And our accolades, you know, our thanks forever.

MAN 2: Yes. Unfortunately, we have another election coming up. And we seen

JEWEL: Let's not [INAUDIBLE], moan, and carry on like the last one.

MAN 3: We already had the election. We picked a couple of guys.

JEWEL: Let's go on with our lives.

MAN 3: That's what we ought to do.

MAN 2: But this is very important. This next one is very, very important, folks.

[? MAN 3: ?] We ought to put Sanchez's head on Brown's shoulder. You ever see that movie?

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Yes, with Rosey Grier and what's-- the brother with two heads, what?

BOBBY: I want to know why Sanchez looks like a guy who's had way too much plastic surgery.

MAN 2: It was Rosey Grier and Ray Milland.

MAN 3: That's right. It was Ray Milland.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, Ray Milland.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BOBBY: And it was like he has had too much plastic surgery and had a makeup job done by RuPaul.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: Honey, well, yeah, I've always said he wears more makeup than any drag queen on Saturday night. But hey, you know, that is only my opinion.

BOBBY: He's got beautiful eyes.

MAN 3: I don't like his politics. I've never really had any-- somebody asked me earlier. Somebody said something earlier, and I said, I've never laid eyes on the man. I've seen a couple of pictures and some bites on TV, so I don't have any idea. But he just looks too sharp.

[? JIMMY ?] He is a Cuban Republican.

CARPER:

JEWEL: Everything is angular and sharp.

MAN 3: [INAUDIBLE] in the background.

[? BOBBY: ?] Yeah, Yeah, pulling these little puppet strings.

MAN 3: He did these things on [INAUDIBLE], you know, with the hands.

BOBBY: The access channel. There was this one show, this access channel show, that used to have him on all the time.

JIMMY CARPER: Who?

BOBBY: He was like-- Sanchez.

JIMMY CARPER: Really?

BOBBY: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Doing what?

BOBBY: Talking. I mean, just running his mouth about politics here. And I was like, OK.

JIMMY CARPER: Missed that.

JEWEL: Well, and I'm an outsider. I'm an outsider. I live outside of the city. Well, I live outside of the city. I have no say so in city politics. I cannot vote. OK?

So when we voted on the 6th, I got to vote on a couple of-- I mean, I got to vote on the state amendments. And I did. But I didn't get to vote for the mayor or for Annise, which would have been one of my greatest honors to get the vote for Annise. And I've been out of town the whole time.

JIMMY CARPER: Annise was on the show last

JEWEL: Yeah, I heard. I heard. I was really impressed.

JIMMY CARPER: It was a great show. I had a really good time. And she stressed that she won, but it was like 51%. And that was really, really kind of close. And she attributed it to her backing of Proposition 2.

And in a half-page ad that she has in the *Houston Voice* this week, she says, thank you to all my loyal supporters and friends. You have stood by me throughout my career in politics. And your votes, volunteer time, and money are the reasons we won this election. The outcome was closer than I was comfortable with in large part because of my active and public involvement in the no on city Prop 2 campaign.

I am proud of that effort and would do it again without hesitation. Although this was my last campaign for Houston City Council, it is certainly not my last election. I look forward to calling on you for support in two years.

MAN 3: Mayor Parker.

JEWEL: No, city controller. Controller.

MAN 3: Right. But Mayor Parker.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, that's the goal.

MAN 2: Well, that'll happen.

JEWEL: [INAUDIBLE]

BOBBY: Governor Parker.

MAN 2: That'll happen in our lifetime.

[? JIMMY ?] Well, yeah. Why not?

CARPER:

MAN 3: Senator Parker

[? JIMMY ?] Yeah.

CARPER:

JEWEL: We need a good senator. Senator Parker,

MAN 2: We do. We do need a good senator. Yeah, and probably a senator would have even more power than governor actually because the governorship of Texas is a very weak position.

BOBBY: Yeah, it sure is.

MAN 2: It's actually. As we know, because of those damn 19 amendments that we had to pass--

BOBBY: Really?

MAN 2: --which is something that the governor should be doing, but.

MAN 3: I'm intrigued by the fact that in a state, this huge that the governorship of this state doesn't really amount to a--

MAN 2: Reconstruction.

[? BOBBY: ?] Yeah, I know.

MAN 2: One word, reconstruction.

[? BOBBY: ?] Yes. This is true.

[? MAN 3: ?] Yes. Yeah. Yes.

JEWEL: Those are the days. I've been so depressed about this whole situation. I stood out in front of some [? Briar ?] something school, put their--

JIMMY CARPER: [INAUDIBLE]

JEWEL: Over on San Felipe for 13 hours on election day, handing out flyers against Proposition 2 and for Annise Parker.

[? JIMMY CARPER: ?] That was a very good email you had about that because you had some very good takes on the day and the people that you were involved with.

JEWEL: Yeah, it was an interesting day. It had its moments where I stood there and wondered, what the hell am I doing here? And why the hell aren't I leaving? [LAUGHS]

MAN 2: [LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS] Why am I still standing?

JEWEL: But you know, I can't stay. You made a commitment.

[? MAN 3: ?] [? You know ?] chances and gets drunk? Yes.

JEWEL: I kept saying you made a commitment. You made a commitment. It's important. You made a commitment.

MAN 3: It is important.

JEWEL: But I got-- let's see. What's his name? Bert Kelly showed up.

MAN 2: Oh, boy.

JEWEL: I tell you he's a strange little fellow.

MAN 2: Oh, yeah. Let's see.

JEWEL: He stayed for about an hour, maybe two, and met people and tried to talk him into voting for him as they went in the door

MAN 2: Bert Kelly or Bert Keller?

JEWEL: Keller. That's it. Keller.

MAN 2: Keller. Now he's the one-- let's see, Rob Todd was screwing his wife.

[? BOBBY: ?] OK, very good.

JEWEL: Well, I couldn't tell that by looking at it.

[LAUGHTER]

MAN 2: Well, all those religious right people who scream about how--

JEWEL: Rob Todd that he wrote to the religious--

MAN 2: Yeah, the horrible lesbian. But when you get down to it that Annise and Kathy have one of the strongest and longest-lasting relationships of anyone on council.

JEWEL: Oh, talk about pressure to not be together after all this time and all the pressure and stuff--

MAN 2: Yeah, that is pressure.

JEWEL: --and hold together. That is one relationship that I used to point people, you know? But it is. Don't say you can't. Don't tell me about serial monogamy. I'll tell you about this person and these people and these people and these people. So I tell people that all the time.

MAN 2: That's right. That's right.

JEWEL: We need to tell each other those things because we forget-- we get to cosmopolitan and we forget this is all play time. Real life starts when you stop playing. When you stop hitting those bars on a nightly basis, then real life hits you. And you need-- and you start maintaining relationships. And we're learning how to deal with people.

And then and only then do those people come to you. I have a good friend who's been complaining--

MAN 2: Wait a minute now. OK. But I jumped in there, and I got you off track.

JEWEL: Well, you know, it's--

MAN 3: Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans.

JEWEL: Right, right. So now I'm really off track.

MAN 3: So you had a friend who was going to do what?

JEWEL: Well, I had a friend who-- he's a strange kind of little guy. He's somebody I've known for many years. I love to death. I really do. I love him like a brother.

He's a gay guy who only has relations with straight married men.

MAN 2: Oh, God.

JEWEL: And that's all. And then he complains to me he can't find anybody. [LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: My God. He must be going to the wrong bookstores.

JEWEL: And so do you think these guys are going to leave their homes and their wives and-- it's not going to happen. You're not looking at the right places. Stop looking there and start looking with people who's single who wants him back.

MAN 2: I know many men like that who are only interested in seducing supposedly straight men.

JEWEL: Well, he's convinced there are no straight men.

MAN 2: Now--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah. I've heard that before, too.

JEWEL: The thing of it is once they seduce a straight man, then they don't want them because that's the psychology there. And it's a vicious circle, and it's-- I mean, you can get--

Well, he's got a little older lately.

MAN 2: Grow old and lonely.

JEWEL: He's got a a little-- and he's starting to thin. His hair is starting to thin. He's aching in places he didn't ache before. He's a contractor. He's a self-employed contractor. And he's aching in places he didn't use to ache--

MAN 3: I'm familiar with that.

JEWEL: So it's like thinking about things like that. And I tell him to stop going at-- find someone like Jim here.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Find someone like Jim there. Come on.

MAN 2: So Bert Keller was trying to get people to vote for him.

JEWEL: Yeah, and you know-- oh my God, I forgot his name. What was his name? Mark. I'm sorry, keys.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh my goodness. Yeah, it's like--

JEWEL: Marc-- what was his name? Oh, I can't remember his name. Somebody Marc Whitehead. Marc Whitehead's mother was there all day, and she was most pleasant lady. I mean, she was funny, and she was Delta Burke-ish. And--

[? JIMMY ?] Oh, really?

CARPER:

JEWEL: --she was real, which was really interesting because there were a lot of people there who weren't real. They were down there while they were having a 15-minute break. And they were leaving as soon as they were just not going to be here too long around these people.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JEWEL: --which were interesting. But she was one of the most pleasant surprises. And he showed up for a little while. He didn't impress me too much. I know the Caucus endorsed him.

And I think it was because he's standing there with his mother. You're different with your mother than you are in real life.

MAN 3: Absolutely.

[INTERPOSING VOICES].

MAN 3: And all of a sudden, you're a little boy

JEWEL: And she's patting him on the head. And I thought--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh my goodness.

JEWEL: But he's a grown man. He's like 38, 40.

MAN 2: Not when you're with your mother. But she-- that's right.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, that's true.

JEWEL: He was-- but she was really a pleasant lady. I don't want to infer that she seemed like an old lady. I looked at her, and she looked. I thought, my God, she could be me. I thought she was my age until he showed up and called her mom. Mom. And I thought, God, am I old enough to have a 39-year-old child?

MAN 2: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: What the hell. Oh my God.

MAN 2: [LAUGHS]

[? BOBBY: ?] That's getting me.

[? MAN 3: ?] That's funny.

BOBBY: That's going to be when it hits me.

JEWEL: But then there were some Sanchez--

JIMMY CARPER: Sanchez

JEWEL: --people down there who were less than enthused to be around "those kind of people." And there was one lady who actually told me she didn't believe in lesbians and queers. I kind of waved in her face. I said, it doesn't matter. I'm here anyway. [LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Because you don't believe in me, don't make me go away.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: I'll go way down here and give out my paper. OK, bye.

MAN 2: Oh, that is too much.

JEWEL: Oh, it was something, but she made a couple comments.

MAN 2: Those people.

JEWEL: Yeah, those people.

[? MAN 2:] ?] Where the hell does she live that she doesn't interact with gay or lesbian people?

JEWEL: And then I heard she made several comments that were borderline ugly but definitely rude. And other people from-- there were like 18 people out there handing out leaflets to everybody. There were people running fast.

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS] Running the gauntlet just to go vote. [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: That's so bad!

JIMMY CARPER: It's like running past the perfume counter at the--

[? MAN 3:] ?] Yes That's hysterical.

JIMMY CARPER: No, don't spray any of it on me.

JEWEL: It was like that. It was like that. But other people in the line came down and apologized for these people when you know-- even I get that feeling. And it was kind of these-- when I went to vote, it was in the afternoon, and there wasn't much going on. And so I parked the car, and I just kind of-- I got out of the car and looked and saw the people standing there outside on the sidewalk.

And I sort of like-- now I understand what it means when you gird your loins. You just, OK, this is--

MAN 3: Hunker over and go like hell.

JIMMY CARPER: Then it's like, man, there is no back way into the Lovett Inn. It's just like, how do you get in this place without being seen? You can't.

JEWEL: We have to think about that because it was not a pleasant thing. There were people. I mean, I'm not talking about one lady who ran. I'm talking about bunches of people who ran past us.

MAN 3: Because they don't want to--

JEWEL: They don't want the paperwork. They don't want that. They know who they're going to vote for. And most of the people who are going to vote know who they're going to vote for.

MAN 2: Pretty much.

JEWEL: I just cannot believe that you affect anything handing those papers out after standing there for 13 hours doing it. I do not believe it affected anything. And that's a terrible waste of money. I think that's a silly thing to do. People who go to vote are the ones who know what they're going for.

JIMMY CARPER: Sometimes not, sometimes--

JEWEL: Even the little old lady who can't remember her address who shows up to vote because her husband told her to or her father, her son told her to and to pull this button and this button. Even that lady who doesn't know she's going in it to pull this button and that button. She doesn't need no paper to confuse her. That's all that's going to do is confuse.

[? MAN 3:] I walk through there with my staff on voting day, and I'm like, don't come within 10 feet of me.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JEWEL: Being on the other end with them.

[? MAN 3:] I'm like, don't come near me with all those silly papers. Being on the other side of that for a change. Because I've done the same thing where I say, no, thank you. No, thank you. No, thank you. I know who I'm voting for. I know who to vote for.

MAN 2: I say thank you, and I take everything. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

JEWEL: No, I tell them no. I tell them no. I know who I'm voting for. I said, don't waste your money on me. Give it to the next person.

JIMMY CARPER: You practically need a defensive line just to--

JEWEL: But it was like that. There was like 18 people where you came from to go vote, was around the corner completely where you parked. So they had to go around the corner, where they were like--

[? JIMMY CARPER:] Oh my God.

JEWEL: --to walk down the sidewalk. There was like 18 people on this sidewalk lined up trying to jump out and give them the-- then there's this wonderful transsexual who showed up, was with me for about, oh, I don't know, probably a total about six hours.

JIMMY CARPER: Wow.

JEWEL: She came early in the morning, stayed about four hours, and then came back in the afternoon, stayed about two hours. Her name was Jennifer [? Poole, ?] nice, nice, nice, lady and just as cheery. She had everybody except for the Sanchez people in [? little cubbies. ?] She was talking about designing and decorating.

And these people were going, uh-huh, Uh-huh. And what do you think I should do with this wall?

[? MAN 3: ?] [LAUGHS]

JEWEL: Even Marc Whitehead's mother was-- and they were comparing colors of shoe dye. And I thought, I couldn't do that. I couldn't relate to those ladies like that. How do you relate to ladies your age who come from Republicans? Boy, Jennifer was right in there.

She knew what to get decorating her shoes. She had just to talk. She gave her card out, want to know where they can keep in touch with her.

MAN 3: And that's the point.

JEWEL: Yeah. And those people were much more friendly after that than they were prior to that.

MAN 3: Jennifer probably changed the minds of the people who were there and the people [AUDIO OUT]