

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

[THEME MUSIC]

(SINGING) After hours. After hours.

JIMMY CARPER: 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 College Station in Huntsville. And welcome to *After Hours*, Queer Radio with Attitude. I'm Jimmy Carper, and this is the first show of the new year. It's January the 6th, 2001. I can't believe how fast 2000 went. It seemed like it took forever to get here, and then all of a sudden, it's gone.

Anyway, we've got a show for you tonight. We're expecting all of the nominees for the Office of Emperor and Empress from the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star, a group that we promote very heavily right here on *After Hours* because of the wonderful, wonderful things that the court does throughout the year raising money.

And a couple of things before then. Since we've got a little time-- oh, and Bobby's here.

BOBBY: Hello.

JIMMY CARPER: Hello. Good to see you.

BOBBY: I had to work late.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

BOBBY: Long story.

JIMMY CARPER: Got you.

BOBBY: Everybody's got the death flu except for me.

[CHUCKLES]

If that's not an irony, nothing is.

JIMMY CARPER: I got you. [LAUGHS] Happy new year.

BOBBY: Happy new year.

JIMMY CARPER: Happy, happy new year. I was just talking about the court nominees who are supposed to be here tonight, but we've got some other things going on. How've you been?

BOBBY: Oh, so far so good

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BOBBY: Like I said, the extreme irony that I'm the healthy one at work--

JIMMY CARPER: [LAUGHS] Because those of you who don't have the visual-- there's only a very few radios that have the visual here tonight, but Bobby has spina bifida. And so if you are a--

BOBBY: I have spina bifida, and I'm HIV positive. And I'm the healthy one.

JIMMY CARPER: I just have the-- I'm just HIV. It's all I have. Bobby is a well-known Montrose denizen. If you're in the Montrose at all and you see this guy walking down the street with curly, long-flowing locks, lots of silver jewelry, and a five foot staff, that's Bobby.

BOBBY: That's me.

JIMMY CARPER: That's Miss Bobby.

BOBBY: That's me, the colorful one, the one they all look and go, OK, what's wrong with that boy?

[CHUCKLES]

JIMMY CARPER: There ain't nothing wrong with you, baby.

BOBBY: I look at them and I go, keep staring. Better yet, take a picture. It'll last longer.

JIMMY CARPER: Nothing wrong with you.

BOBBY: Well, there's plenty of things wrong with me.

JIMMY CARPER: Well-- let's see. Let's see. Let's see. We'll talk about--

BOBBY: So what's going on?

JIMMY CARPER: --a few things here later. Actually, I want to start out--

[COUGHS]

--and cough.

BOBBY: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: I want to start out and talk about something that has happened to the community, something that is not so good.

BOBBY: Ooh.

JIMMY CARPER: Sometimes, we have to do this. And it's wonderful that we haven't had to do a whole lot of this lately, because it used to be weekly.

BOBBY: Yeah, it is.

JIMMY CARPER: But now--

BOBBY: And multiple weekly.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, we're talking about death and dying, and that members of our community do die. And here lately, we've begun to realize that people can die of things other than AIDS. And that happened this week with a Montrose doctor. Crad Duren died this week, very suddenly, of heart complications.

BOBBY: Heart?

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

BOBBY: Yes, we do die of other things.

JIMMY CARPER: We do die of other things. Crad was very well know in the community in lots of different ways, in the leather folks and AIDS folks. Because he's one of the first doctors to take on AIDS patients here in Houston. He also is a former owner of the *Houston Voice*. He bought it-- I don't want to say, for his lover, but, I mean, his lover was already working there and Crad bought it. And his lover became the editor before he died. Tad Nelson, who was also a well-known Montrose denizen because he had this mustache that was incredible with this--

BOBBY: Mustache.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, it was huge. And plus, half of it was white.

BOBBY: Only half?

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BOBBY: That's bizarre.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Very-- yeah.

BOBBY: That's colorful. You couldn't miss him in a crowd.

JIMMY CARPER: I know. I know. And he also did a lot of other things in the community. Mary's denizen. Crad was only 64. These days, that's a very young age to die if you don't have AIDS.

Here in *The Voice*, there was 3/4 of a page right up on them. And one of the things his friend, Ron Papa, says, "Crad was more than just a friend. He was probably one of the most important people I've ever known for all he's done. And that means for the AIDS community, for the leather community, for a lot of areas in Houston. We are a poorer community for his loss."

BOBBY: Yeah. It's amazing how there are certain people who are just involved in so many different sort of areas.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. And amazing that he has time to--

BOBBY: Do it all.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Yes, he was also involved as one of, I believe, because I recently talked with folks over there at the community resale shop, he's on the board of the community resale shop also. So he had his fingers in many, many different pies. And you know, who knew he was on the board? I just found that out recently. It's not something that he promoted or said, hey, look at me. Because he wasn't that kind of a guy.

BOBBY: Well, it's nice to have some people who aren't that kind of person who are just out to say, oh, look at me. Look at what I'm doing for people. It's like, give me a break. Nice to have people who don't do that once in a while--

JIMMY CARPER: That's right.

BOBBY: --particularly in this community.

JIMMY CARPER: So I have a little piece of music. You know, I always have a little piece of music--

BOBBY: Of course.

JIMMY CARPER: --for times like these. It's by a-- oh, gosh. She's been around a very, very long time. Meg Christian. And she did this probably for other reasons, but this song seems to fit when we have a loss in the community. And this is Meg Christian with *The Ones Who Aren't Here*.

BOBBY: Oh, I love it.

JIMMY CARPER: And you're hearing it on *After Hours*, Queer Radio with Attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

[MUSIC - MEG CHRISTIAN, "THE ONES WHO AREN'T HERE"]

OK. There's some music there because I'm the music guy. And for me, queer music is very, very important. As a matter of fact, I thought long and hard about the first song that I was going to play this evening because that was kind of-- the first song of the new year, to me, is an important deal. And I selected *Sweet Playa* by Rainbow Flava, which is a queer hip hop song, because I think there's a big future in hip hop, and I think it's going to expand dramatically in the next several years. We're going to see a lot more artists who do queer hip hop more than just Rainbow Flava, or Morplay, or Duality, or Tori Fixx, or Cyrus, just to name the big players in queer hip hop right now.

The second song that I played is brand new to *After Hours*. It's by a group called Jonas Pride. It was called *Chinese Whispers*. This is a group from Australia who contacted me and said, we want to send you a CD of our music. So that is the power of the internet, folks. And when you're on the Listserv like OUTvoice, and you're a DJ and you're dealing with queer artists, this is what happens. This would not have happened five years ago because I would have never had a way to discover Jonas Pride.

And then after that was, of course, we went into the Meg Christian for *Those Who Aren't Here* in memory of Dr. Crad Duren who passed away this week. And after that, we had-- oh, where is it? *True*. OK. Off of his album *True*, Dave Hall, a new one, and that was called *His Was*. If you listen to the words, that is really a sweet, sweet song. And after that was new from Matthew Cloran from his album *Finally Free*. It's called *Heaven on Earth*. And that brings us to where we are right now, and which is right here on *After Hours*.

It's 37 minutes after the hour. I'm Jimmy Carper and I have a host of people in here. I've got Big Roy.

BIG ROY: You know it.

JIMMY CARPER: I've got Rainbow de Klown.

- Hey, hey, hey.

JIMMY CARPER: I've got Whitney.

WHITNEY: Hi.

JIMMY CARPER: The lone female--

WHITNEY: I'm the princess.

JIMMY CARPER: She's a girl friend.

PARTICIPANT: Princess Whitney.

WHITNEY: I'm princess.

PARTICIPANT: Princess.

JIMMY CARPER: I guess so. If I'm an old queen then you must be a princess. OK. We got--

WHITNEY: We got the same directive

JIMMY CARPER: We've got Jim. Hello. Hello. And we still have Bobby.

BOBBY: Hello.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

BOBBY: I'm still here.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, Bobby, is like-- you're the-- what? The fill-in co-host for the most part? When somebody doesn't show up, I grab Bobby.

BOBBY: He grabs me.

JIMMY CARPER: And I'm--

WHITNEY: Can we watch?

JIMMY CARPER: --so glad--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

--that I have someone here.

PARTICIPANT: It just won't go away.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. Well, not quite.

BOBBY: Love you, too. You're so special.

JIMMY CARPER: So what are some thoughts on the new year?

WHITNEY: It's going to be a good one. It's going to be a good one. I hope it doesn't go as fast as last year.

PARTICIPANT: Oh, please.

JIMMY CARPER: Tell me. Tell me we're--

PARTICIPANT: As last week, we finally get the math geeks satisfied about, was the millennium this year? Was it last year?

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, Yeah. Yeah. Who cares?

PARTICIPANT: Who cares?

BOBBY: Because now, it doesn't matter anymore.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, we're there--

BOBBY: We're there.

JIMMY CARPER: --whichever you believe. Oh, I want to say hello to Q-Patrol who drove by the parking lot with a full car.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

Yeah. Yeah, waving and carrying on. I mean, hey. That's good news for the new year that we're able to get a group for Q-Patrol together. And I hope that continues every weekend of this year.

BIG ROY: Actually I would like to see something like Q-Patrol in every major city.

JIMMY CARPER: You bet.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

BIG ROY: I would like to see someday Q-Patrol New York, Q-Patrol Chicago, Q-Patrol LA, Detroit, what have you. It is needed in our gay communities throughout the country.

PARTICIPANT: I think so, too.

JIMMY CARPER: Further than that, I'd like to see not have to have a Q-Patrol some day.

BIG ROY: It would be nice not to have, but--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

--that there are always going to be haters.

PARTICIPANT: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure sure,

BIG ROY: No matter what we do.

JIMMY CARPER: Ask the Jews.

BIG ROY: No, it's the truth. Ask Jews.

PARTICIPANT: Ask anybody.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. There's always going to be hatred out there. For some reason, why is that? Is that just because we have it in our human nature that we must look down on somebody to make ourselves feel better? Is that it?

BIG ROY: I hate saying it but I think that might have a lot to do with it.

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, I hate to say it, too.

BOBBY: There's always got to be someone who feels like they're better than somebody else. And in order to feel better than somebody else, you have to put somebody down.

BIG ROY: Well, you know, it is kind of like that one car commercial that there is no such thing, really, as a gracious winner. Because while they may be gracious on the outside, inside-- and this is the way people really are-- ha ha ha ha ha, I am [INAUDIBLE].

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah. I hate that commercial.

BIG ROY: But it's so true. People are like that. People are like that.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, and I think that's why I hate it, because I'm embarrassed.

WHITNEY: Yeah, it come to that.

JIMMY CARPER: That little piece of humanity, you just didn't want to know about.

PARTICIPANT: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: I wanted to keep pushed down. But, yeah.

PARTICIPANT: OK Well, Susan Lucci was so gracious for 17, 18 years as runner-up.

BOBBY: Oh, please. Forgive me and have a love and break Sure, she was. Yeah, she was, like, oh, it's OK. It's nice to be nominated. Back home, she was probably swearing a blue streak.

JIMMY CARPER: You got it. Rainbow!

RAINBOW: Yes, girl.

JIMMY CARPER: I have heard on the internet that you have suffered a loss, also.

RAINBOW: God, don't remind me [INAUDIBLE]

JIMMY CARPER: Not quite like Dr. Crad Duren leaving us, but you lost your car.

RAINBOW: Yes. It'll be in pick-apart cemetery next week.

[LAUGHTER]

Oh, that's funny.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, for--

RAINBOW: The viewing is tomorrow afternoon at my home.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Is it true that Volvos go somewhere off to die? I mean--

RAINBOW: They usually that--

JIMMY CARPER: Volvo graveyard that's out there?

RAINBOW: Usually a Volvo--

PARTICIPANT: Are you sure that's not his backyard?

RAINBOW: --withstand, you know--

JIMMY CARPER: Rainbow, you need to back away from this mic. I'm sorry.

RAINBOW: An accident-- if an accident happens, a Volvo usually survives. Or at least the people--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

But mine sort of caught on fire. Well, it did catch on fire.

PARTICIPANT: Sort of? Sort of?

[LAUGHTER]

RAINBOW: It's kind of like--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

Yeah, that'll do it. Well, the thing of it is, Rainbow, automobile or transportation for you is very necessary for your job. You are the Eastern Onion person. And the Flamingos by the Yard person.

RAINBOW: I'm the delivery driver, basically.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, so what happens to your livelihood?

RAINBOW: Yeah. It is rough. It is rough. But--

JIMMY CARPER: And with all those plastic signs in the back, you had plenty of fuel for that fire to--

PARTICIPANT: I'm telling you.

JIMMY CARPER: --to eat.

WHITNEY: No, I like the hat on the top. It must have looked good.

BOBBY: It was all the toys he was hiding.

JIMMY CARPER: No, no, no. It was only in the engine. I saw the aftermath. I saw pictures.

RAINBOW: The hat survived. The three-foot hat on top of the Volvo survived--

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, it did.

RAINBOW: --the fire.

JIMMY CARPER: What's it made of?

RAINBOW: The bow ties, when the fire was underneath the engine, it looked like the Wicked Witch of the West melting.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

PARTICIPANT: Aw.

WHITNEY: I'm melting.

RAINBOW: But it was-- I don't know how I describe it. When you lose something like that in a fire, no matter what it is, whether it's your house, or whatever, you got things in there that is worth something--

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

RAINBOW: --to you.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

RAINBOW: I mean, the car value was not that much. I never had full coverage insurance on it because it wasn't-- the Blue Book value, wasn't it? But it was all the work I put into it. I mean, there's a lot of painting and a lot of pride.

JIMMY CARPER: So your year is not starting out very well?

RAINBOW: No, it didn't.

WHITNEY: So if you have a car that you can donate--

RAINBOW: No, no, no, no. What I'm going to do is resurrect the Rainbow van in three days.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh. OK.

RAINBOW: Hopefully, in three days, it will resurrect.

WHITNEY: It is the epiphany tonight.

JIMMY CARPER: It would be. That's right, the 6th.

WHITNEY: [INAUDIBLE]

RAINBOW: It would--

JIMMY CARPER: The 6th.

RAINBOW: --be on the road again. And there is more room in my van to put signs than there was in the Volvo.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BOBBY: Volvo, not vulva.

JIMMY CARPER: That's entirely different.

RAINBOW: Vol-vo.

[LAUGHTER]

I enjoyed the car when I had it.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

RAINBOW: It was a lot of fun.

JIMMY CARPER: Good. Good. Because I thought maybe--

RAINBOW: Because in my life, nothing was ever handed to me. So--

JIMMY CARPER: That's true.

RAINBOW: --ups and downs--

JIMMY CARPER: That's true.

RAINBOW: You go on and survive. That is life with anything.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, so you won't be working at the tubs next week or anything to pay the rent, is that it?

RAINBOW: No, but I would love to. Is there a job opening?

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: Speaking of which, is it club bath like building this giant building next door, like three times as big as the old place? Have you seen that going on?

BIG ROY: I thought It was the bus station

PARTICIPANT: Oh, it's not--

JIMMY CARPER: No. Wow. But it's very close to the bus station. How convenient.

PARTICIPANT: So a lot of people are going to park.

JIMMY CARPER: They're coming in on the bus. They don't need to.

BIG ROY: Talking about what most-- well, never mind.

JIMMY CARPER: Whatever. OK. What, Big Roy?

BIG ROY: OK, talking about new erections and stuff--

JIMMY CARPER: What?

[LAUGHTER]

WHITNEY: We jumped into that, didn't we?

BOBBY: I knew somebody was going to go there.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

BIG ROY: Oh, you're on lower Westheimer. Is there a new apartment building going up?

JIMMY CARPER: It looks like a strip shopping center going up. Two of them, as a matter of fact, on several blocks.

BIG ROY: I know it looks like there's going to be one building where the old chicken poop-- I mean, chicken coop used to be.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

BIG ROY: And just on the same side of the street further down--

JIMMY CARPER: Further down. Two blocks down on the right, there's--

RAINBOW: Well, 1986--

JIMMY CARPER: So where is that? So where is he talking about?

BIG ROY: That'd be Westheimer in Whitney, I think.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

PARTICIPANT: Oh.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes

BOBBY: Please tell me they're not building an actual, like, loft or something on those spots because I would just have to hurt someone.

RAINBOW: In '86 when they tear down the chicken coop, there was supposed to have been a shopping area

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I remember that.

RAINBOW: And it's been vacant-- it's been a vacant lot for about 13 years.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-huh

BIG ROY: Well, about all these big, highfalutin yuppie lofts and stuff that went up here, well, the economic people--

JIMMY CARPER: They've all sold.

BIG ROY: Yes, but you know what though, Jimmy? What they always say, what goes up must come down,

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

BIG ROY: And the economy is getting ready to take a dive. And we're going to see a repeat of the mid '80s again. And those wonderful lofts that were going for-- that were way overpriced going for a million dollars apiece, and I'm talking about overpriced

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY CARPER: --into apartments.

BOBBY: No, you see, they all sold-- yes, all those buildings sold. And we have just one really bad summer storm.

PARTICIPANT: [LAUGHTER] They're all gone

BOBBY: And they're all be sold again by the same people.

JIMMY CARPER: I see. Yes. That's lots.

BIG ROY: Really.

BOBBY: Back to the [INAUDIBLE].

BIG ROY: And we are due for a good summer storm. It's been--

JIMMY CARPER: Please don't say that. I know. I know. Although, we haven't had a hurricane in a long time.

PARTICIPANT: Well, mine here started out fantastically, and it's just been great ever since.

JIMMY CARPER: That's because you got-- that's because you got laid New Year's Eve.

PARTICIPANT: Well, yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

Yeah.

WHITNEY: Oh, we can talk about that.

PARTICIPANT: I've had no complaints since. Life has just been wonderful.