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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

book, ceremony, lesbian, women, talking, photographs, people, lesbian couples, gay, inklings, unions, pictures, nice, masturbating, great, sex, good, photographers, tribes, lover

## SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Jewel Gray

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J Jewel Gray 00:01

There are a lot of things they may not be familiar with and outside organizations and stuff. I make them familiar with it when we go in, I should point out restroom. And this is where you would, you know, go for that and, and, you know, that kind of stuff. It's mostly like a cruise director. Then I get them all into one area and make sure that we can see, you know, went to a conference game last week was really cool. They want yeah, it was a squeaker too. And we were like, these, every single one of the people I was with was screaming and yelling, our whole section was real quiet. So we were really there ruin our hosts like,

J Jimmy Carper 00:34

well, you know, I have noticed an outpouring of support for the common girl.

J Jewel Gray 00:41

I'm telling you, I was having I'm going back that comic game. It was seven

J Jimmy Carper 00:45

places around town that you know, have it televised. And it was heaven. I mean, go.

00:51

Don't just watch it on TV. We've got the common Oh my Lord. It was great. And there was like gay people go lower. I mean, it was gay people gay lower. It was something and there was this lesbians by the millions. It was wonderful. At one point, I was standing outside, because you can't smoke it. Oh, my God, and you can't walk out of the door. Hey, you gotta play by. So it

was like, Oh my God. But I was standing outside wishing I could be outside the door and smoking. And I would just stand there while there was a lull in something and, like 5060 lesbian couples walk past me up. Lesbian couples everywhere.

J Jimmy Carper 01:28

We're everywhere. That's great. I'm glad we have the support.

J Jewel Gray 01:32

Well, you know, speaking of lesbian couples, I read a book. Oh, I read a book you'll meet. Well, I read a couple of books, but I'm ready to talk about this one and really have a good time with the second one. Okay. The first book was called the set with was that a good segue? You know? The first book was called *Ceremonies of the Heart* celebrating lesbian unions. And at first I kind of went, Oh, you're gonna make me read this. Okay, who does this by? It's edited by Becky Butler. And she basically put these little vignettes together who printed it. Seal press. It's published by seal press. And I called both *Inklings* and *a toil* actually, I talked to *Inklings* with *crossroads*. And they neither have either one of these books, but they both are willing to order them. Yeah, I don't know. I guess they're just kind of esoteric. I expected to find this one.

J Jimmy Carper 02:29

Oh, yeah. Sarah crossbar. Yeah, I did. Yeah. We gotta get that into really.

J Jewel Gray 02:34

Sarah was hard. He was one of those books. I looked at it, but oh, this is just too, too girly for me. You know, when you girl your onesie or something? Well, not PC, but much more, you know, romantic. Kind of. That's kind of stuff. I don't I don't really talk much about outside my relationships. But you know, it was just kind of kind of girly. But you know, I took it home and I said, okay, okay, because you had entrusted me, you know, the image or so. Yeah. Exactly. No kidding. That's it. But the other books Yeah, I wanted to I wanted the other. The other book. So bad that I was willing to take this book too. That's how it worked. It was the other book was a real pleasure to look at. But this book, *Samos hearts prize me* Yeah. And what surprised me was the beginning. There's a really wonderful piece on lesbian history. And not just that old stuff about you know, I was gonna say best Truman, but it wasn't Eleanor Roosevelt and hurdle girlfriend, you know, are Emily Dickinson and her SOS tired and worn out Oh, girl stories that really had no teeth to them. But some really serious stories about people in our in the past, from written records. As far back as gone, how far back can I say they went they went back that the Oh. Ancient Western civilization and tribal in tribes and some of the tribes they talked about African tribes and South American tribes and American Native American tribes and lesbian couples were very popular. I was really impressed. Wow. And you know, they have one of the nice things about this is in between this piece and the rest of the book, they have a bibliography in other words in your face if you know, I've heard these religious right wing people always talking about the Liberals never have anything to back up with they say well, this does right. Here's all the bibliographies to references about tribes in particular tribes and

their ceremonies and stuff a lot of tribes had ceremonies if if like for in a Native American tribe, of course, you know, we've heard I've heard I don't know if you have that. lesbianism and couples were okay. Events in American Indian Yeah, groups.

J Jimmy Carper 04:57

But, Shaman

J Jewel Gray 04:58

Yeah, right and then the per day So what what this tells you about dresses, which you may know that, but what it tells you about is how that woman got to this place exactly what she did, who she was, what she was about, and how they live. Now, you know, I've heard, you know, I usually when I read some lesbian history, it's about, well, this woman and this woman, they, they were lovers. And then this woman, and this one were lovers. Well, this book looks at these people and what they had to go through to be, you know, there's a couple in here that were had a 23 years relationship, both married to men, for 23 years living in separate houses, and died within six weeks of each other in one in the arms of the other. Because that's where they wanted to, you know, that's what how it was. But they had talked about tribes. And then they move into early Celtic days where this was back when a probably the same general time is the Native Americans were doing it or in England, right, right. And how it was accepted up until a certain time when the Holy Roman Empire came along Route everything. Yeah, sure did. And then it talks about after the after initial bang with the you know, religious thing in the persecution came with that, then there was kind of a renaissance law where it got to be kind of an okay thing again, and it discusses what was going on and, and it was really deep, it had bite to it, which was something that usually in lesbian history, like I said, they just say, here's the fact here's the facts. Here's, in fact, this was giving you behind the scenes pictures of what the world was like for these women as they as they shared their lives together. And I think that that was an excellent way to move into the rest of the book, which is about 27 lesbian couples, who have had ceremonies of one kind or another. There's an interracial couple that one woman is Jewish, and they intermix parts of Jewish ceremonies and, and parts of the Kwanzaa ceremony Wow. into their ceremony. And there's a couple that go very religious, very traditional with their organization that they chose to do this with and, and in a very Catholic ish, I'm not saying Catholic, but Catholic ish ceremonies. And

J Jimmy Carper 07:19

what what my comment before I didn't want to be little Christianity, because Christianity is very important to a lot of game, right. And evidently, when you're that's what it is. That's what this book really does. In addition, in the ceremonies and rites for

J Jewel Gray 07:33

each of these individual women bring to this you know, their cultures from behind them, and how these ceremonies incorporate those cultures and those mores of each of the individuals into their own ceremony. Some, most of them wrote their own ceremonies and had music and

song and poetry read. And it's really nice, unlike, like, the beginning with the history, it's got bite to it, because you get a picture of these women, they she introduces to them. And these women talk to you now, this woman, Becky doesn't, it's not her talking to you, it's these women that are talking, it's like they've written this, and they talk to you about, you know, the things that were quirky about putting it together the things that they, you know, poured over trying to figure out what to do, and, you know, actually having the ceremony and what work it went through. It's like, you know, talking to the minister, or getting their parents, their family members there. It's really got some biome sorry, Thunder. It really got some bite to it. And I, I really liked this book. I was surprised I liked it. I was surprised I liked it. Yes, I was. Because it's like I said, it's kind of you know, it's one of those things that I normally wouldn't pick up. And that's one and I thought after I do this, I thought, Well, I'm glad that I got it this way. And it was part of the it was part of the back part of the deal. It was part of the package actually. And that I went ahead and did it because it's really it was neat, because having a ceremony for me is as it stands right now, I don't have any religious connection to a church or affiliation. Yeah. And if it's not in front of God, then I don't really have this big need for a ceremony. And my ceremony is from the heart. And it's usually done very private. You know, will you Yes, I will. I will, I promise that kind of stuff. Not that I have a problem with somebody who's having a public ceremony with their friends in and, and stuff like that. But that was what was that also was in this book is the variety of ways these women chose to celebrate their unions, and what kind of unions they had. Some had MCR, some had, you know, clergy from, you know, in their neighborhoods, you know, do it, including in this book is the author I mean, not the author, the editor and her lovers ceremony. There's some really nice poetry in here. Some really nice writing where they you get their whole will hold ceremony. Some really not whole ceremony, but the highlights of their sermons, and some really nice writing between women who are about to make a major commitment to each other and professing their love and their admiration. It goes from Gooshie Browning to, you know, what's your name, Angela Davis radical? It really does it goes the whole gambit, because you know, there's always some little some some lesbian like me out there who wants to make a political statement. And she's in here too. And that's what I liked about this book. Although the greater vault the greater view of this book was, that is kind of wishy washy for me. It's not one of my you know, I mean, the hardcore sex, sex books and pornography and in science fiction, don't buy that. But, and this seemed a little tame, well, but I got off to it. You know,

J

Jimmy Carper 10:50

I've often suspected that growing up, I went to a lot of straight weddings. And they were all the same and all boring. And as a matter of fact, I've heard in some circles, that the wedding is attended by very few people, they go to the reception, right? Yeah, because it's no big deal. But right. For for gay and lesbian people, I have attended a lot of holy union, whatever kind of ceremonies you want to call it, in churches in homes, every single one has been different. You know, their own music, they've written it, and the things they say to each other that are important to them. And that's what makes every one unique. Yeah. And that was one I have always enjoyed every I've attended.

J

Jewel Gray 11:43

Well, and that was pretty neat. You know, I'd like to see somebody do this with men. Oh, yeah. Cuz I do know of several men who've had ceremonies. And I'd like to see, I'd like to kind of compare how men would do a ceremony like this between them. Because to me, and what

really was really special about this was that it was so intimate. You know, you get to know, you get to see a piece of I mean, when you're professing that you will be with someone forever, you get. Here's a piece that I really liked. And I'm just going to read quickly, okay, and you'll see what I mean about intimate, it's from Nancy to Barbara. And she says, Barbara, I promise to love you to remain honest and faithful to you, to be available for you when you're in pain or in grief. And when you're filled with happiness, I promise to challenge you always, to support you and nurture you, and to be receptive to the gift of your love. I love you with all my heart and it will love you for the rest of my life. And of course, this woman responds, but it's, you know, getting an intimate view of people's, you know, how they feel about each other and how, you know, deeply they care and what they've shared so far, because and even like I said, the radical and the in here, the, you know, activist in here who they were very political, their ceremony, even then, you know, they even you know, you could, it was almost a tear jerker.

J Jimmy Carper 13:05

It sounds like it gives you an insight to their personalities. Yeah, it

J Jewel Gray 13:07

does. It does, it does. And, you know, it was great. I was telling a friend of mine about this, and we were discussing that it's great material for anybody who's looking to do a ceremony, because it gives you these women's, you know, it's very each woman story, its couple stories pretty short. And there's a photograph, it's black and white photograph, but some of them are really nice. And so it's not like it's a straight sit down, read through or, you know, a long story, it's vignettes. And the nice thing about it is that, oh, my goodness, I lost my train of thought was I saying, Jimmy,

J Jimmy Carper 13:43

I'm sorry, about the nice thing about it, because it's so different,

J Jewel Gray 13:47

is it it was there was something very charming about looking at each one of these ceremonies. And we were talking about how it would help people who were wanting to put together a ceremony and that's what I was saying, help people, for people who wanted to put together ceremony. And it was the reason that this one will put this book together is because she was planning her ceremony four years ago with her lover, and she found so little information, so little information, so little resource resource on any of it. So she put this together, not as a reference manual, but it really could be very easily there's some really nice writing and very choisi poetry by famous, you know, poets and stuff that could add to significantly to, you know, to a ceremony somewhere great.

J Jimmy Carper 14:35

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So and you know, book is,

J Jewel Gray 14:37

the name of the book is ceremonies of the heart celebrating lesbian unions, and it's edited by Becky Butler and it's by Soufeel Press. That's right. And you know, I was kind of impressed with the entire book is not only is it a nice book outside inside, but it was very delicately done outside. So nice book. Nice book. Unlike, you know, I was telling people the other day on a scale of one to 10, I give this an eight and a half. Okay. And that's pretty good, because, you know, just by the cover of it, and if I was walking down the aisle, this will get a three. I'm glad I read it. And that's why I thought this would be this perfect to do because I think most people would look at it and, and, you know, say, Well, I'm more interested in something else, but it really does have a lot of bite to it. And I really liked it. I especially like the beginning about the history,

J Jimmy Carper 15:27

you know, it and it really is important to say that, because 1015 years ago, whenever a gay book came out, it was great. Everybody bought it. Yeah. Because it was gay. And it was ping pong, you know? Yeah, three or four months got

J Jewel Gray 15:43

I remember the rush on the joy of lesbian joy, gay sex. I remember they were out everywhere. No one could keep them right.

J Jimmy Carper 15:49

But now the gay and lesbian literature. I mean, there's so much out there you cannot keep up with it all.

J Jewel Gray 15:56

probably read it hundreds of publishing houses, right published nothing but game was mean.

J Jimmy Carper 16:00

Right? Right. And it it hurts me almost when I go to Inklings or crosswords, or Lobo, or Half Price Books. Because I look at it all and I cannot possibly read it all. I have to choose. Yep. It used to be. I could take it all. That's right. Because it wasn't that much after Yeah, little.

J Jewel Gray 16:18

Now you had to pick, pick and choose. I like half price and got a good section on gay lesbian

STUFF. ON,

J Jimmy Carper 16:25

I know it. I know what I've talked with John. John used to be the manager of trading books with him gave me books with him for years. Yeah. And he's he has tripled the amount of space that the gay and lesbian section has. And he knows sexual and transgender sure

J Jewel Gray 16:39

knows his market doesn't. Yes, he

J Jimmy Carper 16:41

does. Yes. Well, let me tell you, I have I have to tell you that you're listening to lesbian and gay. You know, you're not listening to lesbian and gay for Oh my goodness. But if you tune in on Thursday nights from seven to eight, you can right now you're listening to after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station on Jimmy Carper. Yay, College Station. Yeah. And Joel gray is here. And now we're gonna get into the fun stuff.

J Jewel Gray 17:09

Well, you know, the reason we got into this was because of this book. Yes, we did. You brought me a little piece of paper one day that said that they were issuing and they want to know if we wanted to look at this and do a review. And I kind of had to it was kind of laying here early on evening. And when I came in the paper and I got to looking at Oh, and Jim, Jim and I were here to interview Kate that day and we were talking about this that's the day I filled it out. I was sitting there talking to Kate I was thinking about this book. Oh my god slapped me now. And you know, what book is the name of the book is? I am my lover. And it's women pleasure themselves. It's edited by Joanie blank and published by the down there press. I like that name barrel. They're one of their from Australia just down. I

J Jimmy Carper 17:56

think they're just down there.

J Jewel Gray 17:58

I am my lover women pleasure themselves. This book was a little uncomfortable, really, but a true pleasure. It was a little uncomfortable. Because not because but because it's such a

J Jimmy Carper 18:15

STUFF. ON,

aia you teeI like you were peeking? I

J Jewel Gray 18:16

did. It's such a private thing. Yes. I mean, sex between two people is more public than masturbation. Yes, it is. And it was such a private thing that I guess there was this internal taboo about looking but after I was after I was after a while. It was okay. It was and you know, there are photographs. This is what this book is a photograph, books of photo collection of photographs by various by various photographers who some really have a spark I saw really a real spark and some others were, you know, the good photographs don't get me wrong, but there was some exceptional sparks. And I saw and I really liked the cover, I think that the cover was pretty cool. You notice his belly button? Hi, yes, actually, it's not the front cover, but it's the inside is as you open it up flips open and there's a nice belly button. And it drifts off into whiteness and the page. And you just have to imagine what you don't have to imagine. No, you don't in the book, or you know, it has a probably six or eight photographs of each woman in this book. And you know, I didn't count of all the things I didn't count probably about 15 or 20 maybe 15 Women in this book and no 246-810-1212 Women in this book who've been photographed and it's probably six or eight photographs of this woman masturbating okay and masturbating with various toys, some with dildos some with

J Jimmy Carper 19:54

vibrant vibrators.

J Jewel Gray 19:55

You know and I had this big talk about this, you know, is there a difference between a vibrator and massager? Yes, there is, by the way, yeah, yes, there is. Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 20:05

And there's there's some tax there. Yeah. It just kind of gives you

J Jewel Gray 20:10

kind of a quote, not really quote, it's kind of a paragraph or two by the person who's being photographed about how she felt about being photographed. It's not really long. And it's not like rocket science, it's just, you know, it's like, probably, they probably asked her just seconds after orgasm, because they're not like, not really, we're not major reading. Some of the photographs are really nice.

J Jimmy Carper 20:36

So this is very, very personal, very vivid, very getting this for a long time, but not nearly millions because sex can be a taboo subject for lesbian. And these are not models. No, no

definitions, because sex can be a taboo subject for lesbian. And these are not models. No, no, definitely not. These

J Jewel Gray 20:52

aren't real read gay women. Yes. And, you know, some are very attractive, some are beautiful, some are.

J Jimmy Carper 21:05

Less than attract, yeah, less

J Jewel Gray 21:06

than attractive. Not Not, not ugly, but less than ordinary women, right? And tattoos, and lace. And 111 woman uses wax to stimulate her nipples. And then there's pitcher that and the each one of them is on a bed or a couch. And it is very vivid pictures. And these aren't just like standing across the room photographs, these are like, around this person photographs. It's not like to standing across the room and you know, on a tripod and taking pictures of this woman masturbating. These photographers have gotten above, to the side, from the foot from the left from the right. Several pictures where people are like draped over, you know, couch or bed and, and the photographer has gotten in certain positions. So they're very artistically done. It's not you know, just lucky see book. It's, it's, it's, it's art. And I would I would quickly, quickly be one to two. It's kind of Mapplethorpe art.

J Jimmy Carper 22:16

I think it's a breakthrough.

J Jewel Gray 22:18

I do. And that's, you know, what was really stunning about this book is that has been published before. It was published before I was surprised I'm keep knocking my glasses into this. It was published before I think in the 80s. Where I read that. Maybe it wasn't this book, it was a book like this. It wasn't the same people in it as a book like this by the same people who did this book. And it disappeared almost immediately. There it was, and like nobody had it. Yeah, it was kind of like the joy of gay sex. It disappeared from the shelves immediately, but nobody had it. And but it's a it's a black and white picture book. This is definitely the book you'd straightened up when your mom comes over. You put that one, definitely the one you put away. Although the front cover is very attractive, I think very attractive picture of a young woman in ecstasy and ecstasy, yes, at that point. And that's that's another thing is that, that that these photographs take you from initial contact stimulation all the way through orgasm, and shows you the way various ways that women masturbate, which, you know, to me, is not unusual. I'm 42 years old, but to a young woman who may think that you know, she's the only one the world still doing it. It may surprise you to know the various ways that women have mastermind,

J

Jimmy Carper 23:48

everyone regardless of their relationships. masturbates.

J

Jewel Gray 23:54

That's right, what was that whole adage and 99 and 100 do it and the other 1% No, that's 99% do it and the other 1% lie about it. Yeah. Well, you know, and like I said, at first it was uncomfortable. And I want people to know that because after a few moments with the book after after I put it down the first time looked at it and put it down the first time and then picked it back up. It was much better. But that first time I guess I was I was beating back at cultural taboo and not just a gay or lesbian taboo but a general human kept taboo female

J

Jimmy Carper 24:25

taboo. Yes, yeah, that's why I think books like this are very important for for lesbians for straight women.

J

Jewel Gray 24:32

And you know, I'm always been really you know, I do say sex workshops and talk very openly and frankly about being gay and lesbian and, and being with a switchboard frankly talking very frank on the phone. But this really was uncomfortable. I was surprised. And like I said, once I put it down after I initially looked through it every page, every page, of course, I was uncomfortable looking at every single page and then put it down and then picked it back up it was much better not just not just better but much better and as every progressive time that I've opened it up I've appreciated something different about it. So on a scale of one to 10 I give this an eight and a half and I was so lucky so lucky I don't I want to say my my tans for something really spectacular okay but I think that's best but at definitely eight and a half this is and when you when you listening to jewel review you have to remember who Julius I'm one who's into like heavy science fiction you know and then the hardcore kind of stuff and very technical stuff yeah philosophy a lot of people are into philosophy and and you know a lot of ethics and stuff like that and to to look at these books you know, I have my my game has been collection most of its nonfiction, you know, reference material stuff like that. But this is just for the joy of owning things both them it's really an I'm really looking forward to this one by Michelangelo's senior rally senior rally that you gave me tonight. The senior rally report on gaming, sex, drugs, muscles and the passage of life you know, and I think the bet I think it's this was really nice, but I think I can find my look at this a lot more object I think you can and I'm looking forward to it because there's more philosophy I have been out of the loop on this subject for some time you know, probably you know, I haven't really run around with my game in friends since in so long now have individuals but mostly I'm doing something very particular when I'm you know, killing time together not killing time. I hate that. Well, you know, hanging out Ron says, you know, kill time hanging out, just hanging out to and goofy things, you know, spontaneous. It's been probably five or six years since I've done that. So I'm really missing that. So I'm really interested in looking at this. So next month, we'll have more of a life outside by Michelangelo sigma. We get more books in I'm going to good I'm looking forward to it. But if I

were a lesbian looking for something for Christmas, for a out, friend, I'm, I am my lover is a great choice. And for someone who might be thinking about doing a ceremony ceremonies, celebrating lesbian humans, some ceremonies for the hearts, so marine lesbian union, so go ahead and get them in. Like I said, either one of the bookstores are several bookstores near and be willing to order if you can't find it, there. Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 27:29

You heard it here. Okay. Let's go to a piece of music and come back and oh, wait a minute, somebody called in. And to let me know that k.d. lang will be playing at the Music Hall October 1, like that. Phone. Tickets go on sale, August 23. At 10 o'clock AM

J Jewel Gray 27:50

who's gonna buy my ticket?

J Jimmy Carper 27:52

I'm k.d. , k.d.'s come in.

J Jewel Gray 27:55

I've loved k.d. since she was in salt and cattle, cattlemen. And they wouldn't play your music will be that video of her, you know, that kind of retrospective of her career. She was back with the reclines and even back before that. Yeah, it is really very interesting. She's very complex person. I mean, you think that just by looking at her but to see this stuff behind her and watch her progression into performer to an entertainer when she was a great singer start with, but her growth into being an entertainer is so vivid on this video if you have an opportunity and you'd like k.d. , that would be something to do because that her new one yesterday had not heard her new one and I am dying to this is

J Jimmy Carper 28:35

this is a beautiful, beautiful album. k.d. lang drag.

J Jewel Gray 28:40

She said this is probably the most of her that she's put into. Yes,

J Jimmy Carper 28:44

because it's all covered tunes. It was all tunes before but she read reduced Drea does them the k.d. languange good. And this I think is my favorite one. It is incredibly romantic. So sit back

and enjoy this when k.d. lang and you can see her October 1 Right here in Houston. They steal my heart. The air that I breathe