

JEWEL GRAY: It was written by Sarah McLachlan, called *Angel*, and I thought they did a very good job of it. The two women are named Mary, and the man, John, is one of the former members of The Flirtations.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

JEWEL GRAY: And so they have a wonderful--

JIMMY CARPER: Good to know they're still working. I mean, a group loses somebody like him and sometimes they just kind of die away too. And I'm glad to see that they continued working.

JEWEL GRAY: Yes. Yes. They have a wonderful CD out called *The Three Marys*. [TAPPING] What is doing that? [LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: I'm so sorry. I'm so immature.

JEWEL GRAY: I don't know. This whole week has everyone's nerves frazzled, absolutely frazzled. I know I could not tear myself from the TV to do anything this week.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh.

JEWEL GRAY: And after a while, it became numb because the news reporters were just looking for things to talk about.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh man, in a gross way.

JEWEL GRAY: Oh yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Really desperate, reaching. They stopped just people walking by to talk to somebody. Then they find that well, I don't know anything at all. Oh OK. Well, thanks for being with us.

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah. Yeah. I know. I know.

JIMMY CARPER: It was terrible.

JEWEL GRAY: But I watched MSNBC and there was a lady there-- I can't remember her name. She was there when the buildings collapsed, and I watched her all day long. She was there in the morning went right after, I guess, the initial explosions. And she was there while the buildings collapsed, all of the buildings, all three of them. And I can't think of her name. I want to say Andrea something. She's on MSNBC.

And every time I saw her that day-- they go back and forth, back and forth-- she was a little dirtier, a little sootier, a little roughed up, a little mussed up. And I noticed something different in the shine in her eyes throughout the day. It diminished all day long, the shine, that inner peace that people have. You know ones that are real attractive and have that inner peace that everybody wants to be around them?

And she had that in the morning. But by the evening, you could see her eyes were really dull. And I thought, well, maybe she's tired. But then I got to thinking, she's pretty close. She's pretty close down there. She's probably seeing things that they can't really talk about and--

JIMMY That people aren't really meant to see.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Right. And it's not really anybody's business, but she's down there, and she's seen it. And I thought maybe what I saw that day was this woman gradually losing her innocence from the shine, the bright, perky thing she was in the morning. And it wasn't so much her being tired in the evening. It was kind of a glow that she'd lost.

JIMMY VAUGHN: At work too, just not seeing the importance. You go through the motions of--

JEWEL GRAY: Picking up the trash.

JIMMY VAUGHN: Doing all that. And it just doesn't seem important.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: You know, I do want to say something before we--

JIMMY CARPER: Peter Jennings was the same way, I noticed. From early in the morning and towards the afternoon, the tie came loose and came unbuttoned. And then he lost that sparkle.

JEWEL GRAY: And I saw Cronkite do it when the guys were in the Apollo 13.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JEWEL GRAY: I knew the minute Cronkite didn't think they were coming back. I could see it in his face that he, who had privy to information that he couldn't give us. I mean, to be down there, just witnessing what was going on and to give us even an hour's worth of reporting, we couldn't get what he had. And I recognized it at my age that Cronkite, at that moment, didn't believe they were going to make it back. And I saw kind of it in her eyes in watching it.

JIMMY VAUGHN: Oh, and talking about him--

JEWEL GRAY: Cronkite?

JIMMY VAUGHN: Yeah. When I was a kid, I believed everything that man said. I don't know what it was--

JEWEL GRAY: You should have. It was right.

JIMMY VAUGHN: I don't know what it was about him, but you could just look at him and just everything that came out was, like, yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: With authority. He was very godlike to me as a child, very godlike. I mean, he pronounced the news, and that was very godlike around my house.

JIMMY VAUGHN: Yeah, and that's the way it is.

JEWEL GRAY: Anybody who had an IQ over 70 was godlike to me. [LAUGHTER] But I do want to say one thing here before I forget. Immediately after this happened, people around this country, some people, hate mongers, started looking at Arab-Americans differently.

And I would like to remind everybody who's listening that just because someone looks like someone else doesn't make them the person who-- and that's the basis of prejudice. Oh yeah, you're going to pin a whole nation's life on the actions of a couple of thousand people. And we can't do that. And we have to be very careful not to do that with the Arab-Americans here.

JIMMY That's right.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And we have to be vigilant about this.

JIMMY We cannot forget the horror that we did in California--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. With the Japanese internment camps. That's right.

JIMMY That was horrible.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: That's something I wanted to mention because I have several gay Arab friends and some of their families are paranoid whenever they come out into the neighborhood--

JEWEL GRAY: I don't blame them.

JIMMY CARPER: --because they're so afraid something's going to happen.

JIMMY It already has.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: It already has, a bunch of attacks around the country. And that's why I want to say anybody listening to my voice, anybody has any respect for what we say down here or any value in what you hear on the radio, please think about this before you act. These were individuals who happen to be of the same ethnicity, that's all. It doesn't mean that everybody of that ethnicity agrees with those individuals. So we have to be real clear.

I mean, jeez, there's a big gay and lesbian population out here, and we fight amongst ourselves all the time. We don't agree with each other. So just because someone is the same ethnicity or background does not mean that they're responsible for the actions of a few rogues. So we have to be very careful. And we have an obligation to protect as well as inform these people. So if you are aware that somebody's talking ugly, stop it. Don't let them talk like that.

Don't let them make statements that-- or you don't have to stop them, but let them know that it's not appropriate for you. If you can't do anything else, leave them. Leave them alone. Back away from them. Let them by your action that you don't want to be around them, that is not OK. Any talk, I mean, these derogatory remarks. I mean, I've been listening and looking on the net, and people are saying, kill the Arabs and blah, blah, blah.

Kill the Arabs that's? 30 million people that you'd kill for the actions of 2,000. Now, that doesn't sound OK to me. And that's just not all right. We have to differentiate amongst these Arab-Americans from these terrorists.

Now, this is how I do it. This is what Arab-Americans sound like, Arab-Americans. This is what terrorists sound like, terrorists. So let's make the distinction. Leave the Arab-Americans alone and let's focus on these terrorists.

JIMMY Let's please, please remember what's gone before. I remember my late landlady, who was born and raised right here in Houston, talked about how during World War II, no one in Brenham was German. All of a sudden, people in Brenham, they were from Switzerland, they were from Austria, they were from anywhere but Germany.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Right. Britain, Little Germany.

JIMMY Yes. And that is so sad. These people were German-American--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Americans

JIMMY --and proud to be Americans.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And we're all slash Americans.

JIMMY Yes.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: There's some ego, some arrogance about some people who think their family came over on the Mayflower, which makes them Americans. Well, no. We came from England. We came from Portugal. We came from Spain. We came from Sweden. We came from everywhere else. We came here so you are a slash American whether you like it or not.

JIMMY The only Americans that were here--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: --were the Native Americans.

JIMMY And look what we did to them.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. That's right. And that's something else I've been thinking about too. It's time we made up for that too. It's some imperialism that our governments did before we had our government. Why not let's fix these things? These are things that were done before our time. Who it was trying to blame-- oh, some people say, well, you're responsible for, slavery because I'm white.

Well, no. That don't work. And now you can't group me in with that people. If I had been alive during that time, I would have just been as opposed as I am now. And I would have done whatever I could do just like I'm doing for my community now. I'm opposed to the way that we're treated. I would have been opposed to the way anyone else was treated, but that they link me in and that's not OK. It's not OK to have this prejudice based on histories.

JIMMY Yeah. I mean, I'm Irish and Cherokee, none of which enslaved anybody.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: Don't touch me. Don't touch me.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY VAUGHN: And they were both pretty much worthless. I mean, Indians you couldn't enslave them because they can't--

JEWEL GRAY: Wait a minute. The proudest people in this country have been the Indians. And let me tell you something about the Irish. This country would not be here if it had not been for Chinese-Americans and Irish-Americans. I'm telling you, it would not be here.

JIMMY VAUGHN: Yeah. The built the [INAUDIBLE]

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. They would not be here if those people didn't break their backs building the foundation of this country.

JIMMY VAUGHN: Who do you think built subways? Who do you think made all of those tall buildings?

JEWEL GRAY: Those tall buildings, the Indians.

JIMMY VAUGHN: The Indians.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. That's right. They were very famous in New York. I can't remember what they're called, but they had a special name and they were revered because they had no fear of heights that's. Right. That's right. So America is not Americans.

Every little letter represents a different nationality that came here to join to be. We all, every one of us, chose to be here by our families choosing to get on a boat and leave somewhere else. And frankly, this thing about, oh we left for religious freedom from blah, blah, blah. Well, why leave a country who's doing what you want to come to another country to do to somebody else?

[LAUGHTER]

That's exactly what's happened.

JIMMY CARPER: That's it.

JEWEL GRAY: They left that country because their religion, because nobody wanted that religion around. They came here so then they pounced on us, everybody. And it's that arrogance that comes from that self-righteousness that infuriates me, that self-righteousness. I was reading some of the-- Ann Coulter just makes me want to puke.

JIMMY VAUGHN: Who?

JEWEL GRAY: She's a conservative pundit who's one of the most vile. I mean, right up there with Rush, only she's a woman, which makes her even viler to me. I can't understand how a sensitive human being, which is a woman--

[LAUGHTER]

--could put herself in that position. I think somebody screwing her somewhere. [LAUGHTER]

JIMMY Or not.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Or not, right.

JIMMY CARPER: Hold on. I got to jump in here and let everyone know they are listening to *After Hours* Queer Radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. I'm Jimmy Carper. Jewel Gray is here as the host. And her co-host is Jimmy Vaughn. We've got the official, unofficial co-host, Bobby Pagano.

BOBBY Hello.

PAGANO:

JIMMY CARPER: And Ryan.

[YAWNS]

That's my boy, Ryan.

JIMMY Boy Ryan.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. He is definitely invited the next time we do nude radio.

JIMMY Oh boy. What? What? What? Are you offended by being called a boy? You're young enough.

VAUGHN:

RYAN: No, no. I was offended by being called your boy. I'm the boy.

JIMMY CARPER: Ouch, ouch, ouch. OK, we were talking about Ann Coulter.

JEWEL GRAY: Yes, Ann Coulter, who's just as vile as she could be, even on that day, about liberals and the partisan politics and all these pundits, these conservative pundits, all tying in their little remarks to what happened.

And it really irritated me when Bush announced a day of prayer and-- what is it? Prayer and remembrance. That's what it was. It really irritated me because that's just another way to appease. No other president would anoint a day for prayer and remembrance. Even when they had the day at Oklahoma City, it was a day of remembrance.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JEWEL GRAY: Even though I agree, it should be a day of prayer and remembrance. I don't think the government should designate a day for prayer. I just don't think that--

JIMMY That is government mixing the religion and the politics.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Exactly. That's exactly right. Now, if he wants to say a day of remembrance or a day of silence or a day of anything like that, that's cool, but that was pandering to the religious people that he just screwed about the stem research stuff. But I wanted to mention--

[LAUGHTER]

Well, they're all mad at him for that stem cell research.

JIMMY CARPER: Did you notice that?

JEWEL GRAY: I wanted to mention that we got a call about somebody who disagreed with my position, my opinion about Israel being and how it started. And I may have made a very simple-- I took a very complex thing and boiled it down to Jewel's simplicity.

JIMMY Yeah.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: I don't mean to infer that everything you heard here is absolute fact. What I mean to infer is that it's time we started looking back and paying attention to what's really been happening. A lot of people did not know how Israel began. A lot of people don't.

JIMMY Well, I knew it was carved out of somebody else's country. I just didn't know whose country it used to be and
VAUGHN: whether they gave it up.

JEWEL GRAY: You were right. It was several countries, but they took a huge piece of Palestine, and what they took were religious sites. And then they decided that whatever they gave back, they were still going to have control of it. These people could run around their country, but Israel would control it. That's what the fighting was about in the late '50s.

And then it erupted again in the '60s when the Palestinians and the people in that area got a little bit brighter, they got oil. And they got a little bit-- not brighter, but a little more educated. And they began to see how they were being used. And that's when we had the other war, but basically, that's how it started. I don't want to infer to anyone that anything you might hear out of my mouth is absolute. You can take it to the bank, truth. It's probably an interpretation of the facts as I read them when I give my opinion.

JIMMY And that's probably the way you to look at any commentary--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Right.

JIMMY --on any media.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: But I did want to say that we appreciate all calls--

JIMMY We do.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: --even if you have a point of disagreement.

JIMMY Yes. And several are calling as we speak.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Irritating people left and right. I do have kind of a distinct philosophy. I was telling somebody the other day, I am a flaming-- I almost wrote George Bush a letter the other day. By the end of the evening, I was so mad like everyone else. The rage was starting to seep. It was like a pressure cooker, and I had to find some way to let go of some of that rage.

And I thought about writing George Bush a letter, telling him I am a flaming faggot. I am a flaming liberal. I am a flaming George Bush gut-hating person, but I'll back you every inch of the way behind this situation.

JIMMY VAUGHN: That's right. You see, that's the way we are. We're like a family. And the family always bickers and fights with each other, but an outside force comes in and you become united.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, I think it was Truman who said that. Truman or Eisenhower said something one time. I think there was a discussion about flying saucers or aliens or something back in the wind, before we were even off this planet, before we were really comfortable flying I believe it was going on where one of them said that that was the only thing that would unite this planet, was the single outside entity coming in from outside, attacking this planet would be the only thing to unite us. And that's exactly what's happened here.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, it has.

JEWEL GRAY: A single entity has come to this country and I said, in one flash has united us like we haven't been united since the day after Pearl Harbor.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes.

JEWEL GRAY: I mean, I think we were pretty damn united after Kennedy and Martin Luther King and Kennedy were killed. I think there was some uniting-ness, but there was no anger, this flare up of righteous anger. And what do you do with it? And it's got to be channeled. And I suggested to several friends in the last couple of days that they need to write something down or pin something out, something they pick up and throw away the next day, but some way to express how angry they are themselves.

Believe, me that was a real edited version of the letter I was sent to Bush, but at the end, ultimately-- yes, at the end, it would have ultimately said, I will support you in your actions. Even then, after I thought about that, I thought, well, that's me telling him, I'll give him carte blanche. And I don't want to give him carte blanche. I'm still little afraid of him.

JIMMY VAUGHN: So maybe you ought to write that letter because--

JEWEL GRAY: Actually I did. I wrote Falwell too while I was at it.

JIMMY VAUGHN: And then seal them and put them in a box and revisit them maybe in 10 years and see how you really felt.

JEWEL GRAY: Well, I sent the one to Falwell where I called him a turd.

[LAUGHTER]

Tell on you.

JIMMY Godless turd, you.

VAUGHN:

[LAUGHTER]

Well, somebody had to say it.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. I pointed out to him several times that I think he's one of the false prophets *The Bible* talks about him and Pat Robertson. *The Bible* talks clearly that there will be false prophets, prophets who tell you they're speaking my word, but that won't be true. And I firmly believe that that's who they are.

JIMMY CARPER: I'm with you on that, yeah. yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: OK, where are we at? It's been an extraordinary week.

JIMMY I think we needed to talk about this. We needed to get it out, and we may be talking about that and getting it out
VAUGHN: in the second half of the show too.

JEWEL GRAY: I'm a little worried. They said they called up 3,500 troops and all that. And then I got to thinking, it's a ploy. They've got to keep bin Laden running so that they can-- if he's sitting still, they can't find him. It's only when he's moving. And if he thinks we're pulling up troops and we're doing that, he's going to have to move somewhere-- keep on the move because he'll figure that we're going to find him. We're going to ferret him out, so that's the idea is to keep him moving.

JIMMY I read something interesting on the internet tonight, and it was talking about Afghanistan and the people there.
VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: The Taliban.

JIMMY Taliban. And that not only bin Laden, but the Taliban are not native Afghanistan.
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: No.

JIMMY Afghanistan people.
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: No. No.

JIMMY These are folks who came into the country and took control. And so--
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: From various other Arabian countries--

JIMMY Yeah.
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: --with one thing in common, their fanatic religious beliefs.

JIMMY And we've watched it happen and allowed it to happen and watched people--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Allowed it? We supported it. I was telling somebody on the internet, we taught bin Laden how to shoot a gun. We just gave the Taliban \$46 million, supposedly so that they would stop growing poppy, but you wonder where that money went, \$46 million. And within three months, we have a major, major big thing that must have cost billions-- I mean, thousands and thousands of dollars to arrange.

You can't just put people in flight school. I mean, what'd they say? This guy handed people \$3,000, \$4,000 \$10,000 around in cash? Where do you think all that cash came from? I'm telling you it's that \$46 million that Bush just gave to Taliban.

JIMMY So that becomes a dilemma because we can't exactly go in--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: It's the Noriega situation again.

JIMMY Yeah.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Exactly.

JIMMY We can't exactly go into Afghanistan start bombing things.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And we have to be very careful because we don't know-- and the same way that they were very careful with Noriega and all the cover ups that happened after that was they weren't sure what Noriega would say and whose cover he would blow and who he would tell was involved.

JIMMY Good point.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And I was surprised they pulled Noriega out of there alive. Truly, I'd thought he had no chance coming out of that situation alive.

JIMMY Right.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: But they did the next best thing. They put him in a federal prison, and he can't talk to anybody from there, but we trained bin Laden. We supported them when they were fighting the real people of Afghanistan, the real government, the real inherited people of Afghanistan.

When they were fighting-- was it the Kurds? The Kurds were the people who ran and really possessed Afghanistan and the Taliban was getting help from us. And the Kurds were getting help from the Chinese and the Russians.

JIMMY Did we know what they were going to do when they got in?

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: I don't think we cared. We wanted the immediate goal. We talk about this delayed gratification kind of stuff in this country. It's big talk. Nobody in this country understands what delayed gratification is. We want things now. That's one of our arrogances. We want it now. And we only care about the now. Let somebody else worry-- let the next guy worry about what's going on. I'm going to be gone. I've got mine now, and I'll move on. Let the next guy worry.

JIMMY What does Afghanistan have that we want?

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Nothing. There is nothing in Afghanistan we want.

JIMMY Why in the hell are we involved?

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: That's why they're there because there's nothing there.

BOBBY They have somebody who has pissed us off right now.

PAGANO:

JIMMY Well, yeah, supposedly.

VAUGHN:

BOBBY So that's the only thing that we want.

PAGANO:

JIMMY CARPER: They have something we want. His name's bin Laden.

JIMMY But other than that.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: But other than that, there's nothing.

JIMMY I can understand--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: There's no monetary--

JIMMY CARPER: I don't get it.

JEWEL GRAY: The thing was we weren't fighting them. We weren't fighting the Kurds who we gave all the money to help support. We were fighting the people who were paying the other side. We were supporting the people who were fighting the people who were supported by the Russians. That's what we were doing. We were fighting a covert war with the Russians.

JIMMY They were fighting a war with us.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Right. They were fighting. And we were using this Afghanistan-- yes, exactly Afghanistan was where we were fighting that battle--

JIMMY See, I could understand--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: --using Afghanistan blood. And then we wonder why they're all so upset with us because these people have suddenly started putting more of this together than the bright and creative Americans bothered. We buy what's on TV, you know what I mean? It's immediate. We see this, Peter Jennings says, they're at war because this, that, and the other. And we don't look beyond that. Peter Jennings said that. That's why it's happening.

Well, I bothered to look beyond. And that's not what was happening. Two people in this country were battling out, and the real war was between the two financial supports of these people. These people were just pawns. And they figured it out.

JIMMY Now, when I talked to Stanley, he keeps up with the news. And I said, out of the clear blue comes this Osama bin Laden person. I never heard of this person before. And he said, oh yeah, I've known about him for a while.

JEWEL GRAY: Since the late '60s.

JIMMY But I never heard about this dude. OK, I don't keep up with the news, obviously. I'm keeping up more with gay news than national news or international news, but to me, and, I think, many Americans have never heard of this guy. All of a sudden, he's the bad guy.

BOBBY PAGANO: I was just thinking, there's a bunch of things on my mind. First of all, it would seem to me that after all these years, we would have learned as a country, all of the people we've tried to help out with all this covert nonsense have been the same people who have come back and bitten us from the Manuel Noriega's to the Saddam Hussein's.

JEWEL GRAY: And we looked down at these puppies, these mutts. That's how we looked at them. And I don't mean we as in the individuals who are listening to us, but as are government. Policy has looked down on these mutts and said, yeah, we're done with you. Now go back. Go back.

I saw the commentary, you put in the han-net-- by the way, I'm going to tell you in a little bit how to get on han-net. I saw that commentary you put on about the Canadian writer who had great things to say about-- and how we'll come back together. I'm sorry. I lost the train of thought.

JIMMY I know it was back in 1973, but it talked about-- he was praising America when everyone else was denouncing us all over the world because of our meddling.

JEWEL GRAY: Right.

JIMMY He was talking about how when catastrophes happen, like tornadoes and earthquakes and stuff in America, nobody--

JEWEL GRAY: Nobody volunteers help or dogs or money or food.

JIMMY Nothing. But if there's an earthquake or disaster anywhere, America is sending money. They're sending clothes. **VAUGHN:** They're sending food.

JEWEL GRAY: Troops.

JIMMY Troops, everything.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Whatever, yeah.

JIMMY Yeah. And so he says, hey, you better look at-- America's a better neighbor than--

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, several countries over there never paid his back the war debt.

JIMMY That's right.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: That several countries, France being one of those, who hates our guts. They don't hate us enough philosophically to have a war with us. They just hate Americans. I don't understand it. There's a funny little thing about France. And it's not that kind of hate where you go out and kill somebody. It's that kind of hate like you turn your nose up when walk around them.

JIMMY Actually, I'll tell you-- I have to tell you this, that the way that French people view us is really very close to the

VAUGHN: way we view people from outside of the country.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JIMMY When somebody comes over here and they don't speak English very well--

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, we're going to get a little snooty.

JIMMY Yeah, and we think that if we talk loudly they understand us more, but yet we feel like, why don't you know

VAUGHN: English if you came here?

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JIMMY And then we looked down on the French who feel the same way.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: But that just brought up to mind about the country's paying off all the debts and all these countries that really do owe us a lot. And it was amazing when I was reading some of that and I went looking for some other things, that it's amazing what Europe and the rest of the world owes us and how many times we've been there to shore them up, how many earthquakes in the last five years in just Turkey alone?

We went in there to try to stop the genocide. Of course, we took a bad rap, but what we were trying to do was stop genocide in Kosovo and the former republics in there. And even when something like the disease that hit the sheep in England, we sent hundreds of veterinarians and hundreds and hundreds of people over there to help them take care of this and stop it where it was rather than let it spread all over Europe, yet we're looked down upon.

There is this ugly American, but there's only one of him. He just gets around a lot. You know what I mean?
[LAUGHTER] I want to tell people, he just gets around a lot. He's not all of us. And that ugly American does exist. I've seen him myself. I've seen those ugly Americans, those people who go to Europe and think it's a third world country. Well, Europe doesn't like us thinking there are third world country and treating people like that.

And it's very important that we start looking at other cultures more than we do now. We need to teach our children about cultures, about-- somebody-- who was it? One of these guys on TV, one of the FBI experts or CIA experts said something that interested me today. He said, the intelligence department is made up of all these young kids who come out of college and they learn languages.

And he said, but we don't have any people who are of Arab descent who come here and partake in the intelligence and who can actually infiltrate these places. They can speak the language. They know the culture.

And when we send people in, they just step on toes. They have this macho, gung ho, gun-on-your-hip, might-makes-right attitude. And it steps all over people. So yeah, there are ugly Americans, but not all of us are like that. And I think that we pay dearly for those attitudes that have run rampant all across Europe in Southeast Asia.

JIMMY CARPER: You know that reminds me of something, very, very big something.

BOBBY Southwest Asia.

PAGANO:

JIMMY CARPER: I remember it was publicized very, very widely on the news, a group of Palestinians dancing in the street at our misfortune.

BOBBY Yes.

PAGANO:

JIMMY CARPER: And that was widely publicized. And people around started thinking that it was--

JEWEL GRAY: Everybody. And it was a small crowd spontaneously before they knew everything that had happened.

JIMMY CARPER: But it took their king telling us that on the news before we would believe it. It was sad to me. I never believed that.

JEWEL GRAY: And there are people who still don't believe it. There's people who still don't believe it, but that's what that woman was telling me. Let's see. Somebody called a while ago and ask how to get on han-net. I can tell you, if you know anything about the internet, you get to a search engine and you ask for han-net. And it'll bring up a web page and on the web page, you join. Otherwise, you--

JIMMY Go to Yahoo.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Yahoo.com groups. Yahoo groups.

JIMMY YahooGroups.com

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: OK. And you just put in han-net into the search engine.

JIMMY H-A-N dash N-E-T.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And you're on.

JIMMY And you're on.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And let's see. The other person said they wanted to know what my gut wrenching feelings of Tuesday morning are. Am I patriotic? Did I cry? Yes, I did. And I'm not ashamed of that. I'm not ashamed to say that I did sit there. And I have many times since there-- now, I'm not talking about bawling.

This was not my great grandmother who left me \$1,000 kind of thing, but it has hit me pretty deeply. And I'm not a tearful person, but I have found myself at various times during the day with a tear in my eye and feeling very, very, very sad. You know what I feel? I feel very little. I want my mommy. I feel very insecure, and I really would like-- not my mommy--

JIMMY We've lost our security.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: --but that bigger person that always took care of you, you know what I mean? That safety, knowing there was somebody who could take care of you while you slept, that feeling. And I interpret it as mom. Mom, I wanted mom. And I felt pretty damn lonely.

I don't know how that fed into it, but I felt pretty damn lonely. I felt like that I was the only one in the world hearing it, like I was going to take-- I don't know. I guess it was like the burden of it was mine, that this was my personal burden. That this happened and that whatever I have done or not done allowed this to happen. And I think a lot of people feel like that.

I think a lot of people looking at politics now are beginning to think, maybe I wasn't as involved as I should be. Maybe I didn't push for the right things because it was going to benefit my checkbook rather than my world. And I thought there was probably something more I could have done. Not that I feel guilty, but I feel like I won't let it happen again.

JIMMY It took me quite a few days for it to sink in because the first day, to me, it was just surreal.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: It was like watching a movie.

JIMMY It's like Hollywood, yeah. That can't be real.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: I actually heard several people on the street say exactly that same thing. It's like it's like a bad movie.

JIMMY Yeah.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: It looks like *Armageddon*.

BOBBY It's like watching *Die Hard*.

PAGANO:

JIMMY It does. Yeah.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Mm-hmm. That's exactly the kind of impact of seeing that airplane crash into that building was just like watching *Die Hard* and the building blow up or that kind of stuff. It did take a while for me to-- actually, I had lots of feelings, conflicting feelings at the same time. I didn't want to believe it, yet I knew that evil of that magnitude had happened. I understood that evil of that mag-- but I just didn't believe it.

I'm one of those people. I cannot believe the worst in people. I just cannot. I'm the type person that I treat you exactly as you treat me. And as long as you don't get ugly and nasty and backstabbing with me, you'll never see that part of me because you give me respect and dignity, and you will always get that back. And usually when somebody stops doing that, I stop being around them. And that's how I handled that.

But I think that it's time we started looking around this world and start giving dignity and respect to everybody, no matter where they're from. And think about situations, our world problems in terms of what's best in the first place for the people who this is applicable to, rather than what's best-- it's just too damn easy for these MBAs from Harvard and Yale and these politicians who have MBAs and lawyers, that kind of people to forget that they're human beings behind those dollar bills and how the government goes over and has a war in the Gulf in Middle East because of our oil stuff. So people died over black goo because it makes money.

And I think it's time we started looking at these cultures and paying more attention and being more respectful and give more dignity to people, give this dignity that we've taken back. We've done it inadvertently. We didn't certainly didn't mean to. We did it out of a certain ignorance of youth.

Every year, you learn something new. Our country learned some new way to deal with things, some new process. So what we did, we did out of ignorance. It was done by people that we have no context, people before Bush, before Reagan.

These kind of things were done little by little so that they didn't mean much as they were done a little at a time until it's your back that the pile of straw is on and that last straw goes on. So we have to open our hearts and start accepting the personal dignities of the cultures around this world, start appreciating them as different, not-- what is it? Not different, that differences are OK. It's OK to be different. It's not something to fear. Yeah hey, I was just rubbing a little beaver there.

JIMMY CARPER: Excuse me?

JIMMY It's an otter.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Well, that's even odder. That's a little odder then.

JIMMY Yeah.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: I'm sorry. He has a cute little T-shirt on, little beavers.

JIMMY Otters.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Otters, OK.

JIMMY Otters, damn it.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: OK. They are otters. There's Adam on me right there.

[LAUGHTER]

But if--

JIMMY It's urgent.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: It's urgent? No. It's-- oh yeah, it is. It's urgent.

JIMMY CARPER: We have a note for you.

JEWEL GRAY: For who?

JIMMY CARPER: For you.

JEWEL GRAY: Uh-oh. Shut the hell up, crazy dike. Don't know what you're talking about.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY Oh my goodness. Let's all pause while Jewel reads the note.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, really. Comment on many radio shows that being liberal is equaling being un-American.

JIMMY No, that's not true at all.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: And that's part of what I was saying, that conservatives are taking their opportunity to equate that we want freedom for everyone. Jeez. It's just it's gross how far these people will go to turn the screws.

JIMMY Well, I can be a liberal and still feel inside that I just want to kick the crap out of somebody for this.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Let's see. Somebody said on national show, there must be a lot of ex liberals since there are now liberals. Ex liberals since they are now liberals. I don't know what that is, but we appreciate you calling.

[LAUGHTER]

We really do. And like I said, whenever we have a discussion like this, we want your opinion. We--

JIMMY Jewel.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: What?

BOBBY Substitute the word "patriots."

PAGANO:

JEWEL GRAY: Substitute the word "patriot."

JIMMY That line there, there must be a lot of ex liberals out there because they're patriots was said on a nationally

VAUGHN: syndicated talk radio show on an AM station.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, duh.

JEWEL GRAY: So every liberal is going to suddenly become a patriot because we agree with this. And I tell, you this is political opportunity. What is it?

JIMMY Patriotism has nothing to do with being conservative or liberal.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. And to try to steal it from us pisses me off. That just makes me madder than hell. Don't it make you mad? Say something.

JIMMY Yeah.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: It irritates me.

JIMMY CARPER: That's right. You're the co-host.

JEWEL GRAY: They're trying to use this to make us un-American because we believe in the freedom and justice for all. Why did they put that in that thing if they didn't intend to live up to it?

JIMMY Yeah. My goodness.

VAUGHN:

JIMMY CARPER: I said in the very beginning of the show, I said you know I am a lot of things. And I am a lot of things. I am a gay man. I am a person with AIDS. I am becoming an elder statesman of sorts.

JEWEL GRAY: Becoming.

JIMMY CARPER: Hey, hey.

JEWEL GRAY: Gently graying.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, I am. I'm close to the retirement age and all kinds of different things, but the first thing I am is an American.

JEWEL GRAY: That's right. We're all Americans under every other label, we are Americans. And that's exactly how I feel about it. And the other thing is that I do feel that these people are taking opportunistic shots, political shots using their hatred

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

JEWEL GRAY: I tell people I'm a liberal. I am. Jeez, I want everybody-- I just think everybody have the same rights I do and I don't want nobody take mine away and that's how I feel. But bottom line, I don't go with the full liberal philosophy. I believe that there should be a death penalty in certain cases. I believe that there should be-- my personal philosophy on abortion is that don't.

JIMMY But I don't want to I don't want to tell you you can't.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Don't. And I wouldn't do it, and that's my choice, but that's what I don't want somebody to take away from me. And I want to make sure that I extend to everybody I deal with. And if that makes me a liberal, then so be it. I'm proud to live and die that way. And this thing about these conservative pundits who go around talking about how people should be stepped on and this and that, have become nastier and lower and more debasing in the last five years that I've seen. And it's disgraceful.

JIMMY Nobody lives up to their expectations, nobody.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Nobody. Not even them. And they won't face that. How many of these Republicans do you see having a sex scandal, having pedophiles and embezzlements and blah, blah, blah, but. You let Gary-- not Gary Hart. You let Joseph Biden borrow four lines from a paper that he wrote 20 years ago. And he's out of the president's run. We were fussing about that at the community center the other night when Joe Biden was talking.

JIMMY Oh, plagiarism. Right.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: He took four lines out of a paper he'd written 20 years before when he was in college or something and they called it plagiarism. And it literally lost him the bid for the president. And there was a man who would have made a damn good president in this country. Now, a lot of people disagree with me, but I'll tell you what. If you look at his history, he would have made-- and I think-- who is it? The little Republican, the POW.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh yes, yes. The one that Bush--

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah. Yeah. McCain. I think McCain would be an excellent president, but I'm still a flaming liberal, so just because I'm a flaming liberal and believe in these basic tenets doesn't mean that I can't see the value in McCain, I can't see the value in insane and--

JIMMY Right.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: That doesn't mean those kind of things.

JIMMY Responsible people.

VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Exactly.

JIMMY And people who are looking to make all Americans responsible. We say this in the very beginning of the show. All
VAUGHN: that we ask-- you don't have to come out of the closet, but just take responsibility for your own life.

BOBBY Right. Right.
PAGANO:

JIMMY That's it.
VAUGHN:

BOBBY Right.
PAGANO:

JIMMY Wow,
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Well, I spent my penny today. Oh, I think it was two cents, wasn't it?

JIMMY CARPER: At least.

JEWEL GRAY: And you haven't said hardly anything.

JIMMY CARPER: I've been trying to stay out out of way.

JEWEL GRAY: I noticed that last couple of shows. You've been very quiet.

JIMMY Well, see, we had a lot of guests.
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: Yeah, we sure did. I expected Bill Agosto here tonight.

JIMMY Yeah, I don't know what happened.
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: I'm disappointed to see that he didn't make it.

JIMMY And somebody else was supposed to be here.
VAUGHN:

JEWEL GRAY: I had an open invitation for grant or Alex over at PVA in the counting the petitions, and I do want to take a few minutes to-- please, please they need people. This is our chance to--