

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, that was King Missile with *Wind Up Toys*. Now, a guy called in just a few minutes ago and requested a Melissa Etheridge-- and I forgot which one he requested. Can you call back? Because I've got it and I'll play it.

In the meantime, I've got a new band called Element OP. This is a band who puts out baby sue comics, if you've ever seen them. And they're out of Decatur, Georgia. I'll give you some information when we come back. But they're going to do a couple of tunes, *Captain*, and *From Where I'm From*, and I don't know, maybe another one. We'll see. Element OP, new band.

That was Element OP doing *Captain* and *From Where I'm From*. And I'm thinking about spending bucks to buy the CD. What do you think? Give us a call at 526-5738 and see if that would be a good investment. Now by request, Melissa Etheridge from her new CD, and it's called *Come To My Window*

[MUSIC - MELISSA ETHERIDGE, "COME TO MY WINDOW"]

Elton John. Yes, indeedy. One of his old ones called *Elton Song*. I dug that out of the archives because that was a pretty song, talking about this pool player hustler that he was in love with. And the stay with Elton, our favorite gay man here this week. One of his tried and true good ones. It's from live with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Elton John live from Australia, *Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me*. That's just a great song. It just gives me a good feeling. It's just-- I don't know. You have been listening to the *QMZ*, the *Queer Music Zone* heard every week on *After Hours*, a continuing tradition right here on KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM, the queer radio program for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgenderals. And that's the kind of music you hear right here on the *QMZ*.

We're going to go out now with somebody we haven't played in a while. And it's a song of empowerment for a lot of people, from one of my favorite bisexuals, Nona Hendryx. And it's called *Through The Wire*.

I want to dedicate this to Buddy Johnston who just happens to be the originator of this show *After Hours*, premiered on April 6th, 1987. And last Friday was Buddy Johnson's birthday. So happy birthday, Bud. This one is for you.

MAN: That's one small step for man.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MICHAEL That was the ending flourish--
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, electronic flourish is what it's called.

MICHAEL For the key-- excuse me, go ahead.
CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: For QMZ.

MICHAEL *Queer Music Zone.*

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, I'd do-- I'm going to--

MICHAEL Oh, I'm sorry. I would see how they would-- yeah.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I don't want to start sounding like those commercial stations.

MICHAEL Oh, boy. Because they all had their mothers on with them, because it's Mother's Day.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, I forgot about that.

MICHAEL But you're listening to KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM. Thanks.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Very good.

MICHAEL Cool. What are we going to do now? Let's see. [LAUGHS]

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, we have every minute of this show planned out, folks.

MICHAEL OK, well, actually, we could go to a song. Just a-- well, because you did the QMZ and that last-- what was it? Nona

CRAWFORD: *Hendryx Through The Wire* from the album *Skin Diver*.

JIMMY CARPER: It's not new, but she's cool.

MICHAEL Well, she's Nona Hendryx. [LAUGHS]

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I think-- actually, I think this is her best album. She tends towards the dancey stuff. It's vapid music, but she's got some songs that really say something in here.

MICHAEL [LAUGHS] It's nice.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I know it's not exactly new music.

MICHAEL No, I didn't mean that. [LAUGHS] I mean, no, it's great music.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Boy, I won't even discuss Elton John there.

MICHAEL Yeah, but he's been around so long. I mean, I--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: He's just now, I mean, owning up

MICHAEL To being a fag?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, 100% fag. He did the bisexual thing for a while.

MICHAEL Because it was chic.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes. And so he's over that and it's like, hey, now I'm really 100% gay.

MICHAEL Now, of course it's OK if you're 100% bisexual if you're that way. They're not--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: There are a lot of bisexual people.

MICHAEL But it's not OK if you're doing it just to be fashionable because it ain't a fashion. It ain't a lifestyle. It's the way we

CRAWFORD: are.

JIMMY CARPER: Now, talk about prejudice. Bisexual people get it from not only the straight community, but they get a whole lot of prejudice from the gay community.

MICHAEL They just don't know what they want. [LAUGHS] I mean--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, they do, baby.

MICHAEL Haven't you heard all those fags and dykes running around? They just don't know what they want. They're just

CRAWFORD: confused. It's like--

JIMMY CARPER: No, they're not confused.

MICHAEL No? Because my friend Sal, the bisexual, he knows what he wants. And he wants it from pretty much everybody.

CRAWFORD: [LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: Well, there's a-- there's been more writing-- literature writing and education going on about bisexuality here lately.

MICHAEL That's true.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And it runs the whole gamut. From being evenly liking both sexes and wanting everybody see to wanting-- just sleeping with specific people because you're close to them. It's regardless of sex.

MICHAEL Well, but don't you have to be close to somebody to sleep with them?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: No.

MICHAEL I didn't mean close emotionally.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, no. I mean close emotionally.

MICHAEL OK because-- OK, I'll admit it. I'm the kind that sleeps with the person, well, before the first date. And so that's

CRAWFORD: what I mean.

JIMMY CARPER: Let me tell you, when you know somebody for a long time and you care about each other, boy, it's a whole lot better.

MICHAEL Is it really?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah. And this is coming from a reformed whore.

MICHAEL Reformed?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Well, as reformed as you get. I have slept with a lot of people in my lifetime, a lot. Whole bunches-- like a small town worth of people. [LAUGHS] And just recently, it's just the idea of sleeping with someone you really, really care about sure beats all of the gratuitous and anonymous sex I've ever had.

MICHAEL Well, I've been thinking. Maybe we should do a show on how to get a date or-- wait, maybe that's not it. What if

CRAWFORD: we did it like TV tabloid talk show style? And the topic can be something like, if I'm so fabulous, why don't I have a boyfriend [LAUGHS] or a girlfriend if you're a woman?

JIMMY CARPER: There you go.

MICHAEL I mean, and then we can have, say, Sharon Stone or some other therapist psychologist type person that come on

CRAWFORD: to talk about--

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that Sharon Stone.

MICHAEL No, we wouldn't want that other one. No. I dated a woman, but we never slept together. That Sharon Stone. But

CRAWFORD: anyway, we want the coolest Sharon Stone. The one who says she's a lesbian. And she'll come on and we'll talk about queer relationships and how to get them. Because I think one of my big problems is I'm too easy.

JIMMY CARPER: I don't know what that means.

MICHAEL It means, Hi, I'm Michael. Do me.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: What's wrong with that?

MICHAEL Well--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: --in a way.

MICHAEL Then you wake up the next morning--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And you say like, ooh.

MICHAEL --you smoke? [LAUGHS]

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that's it. That's the big-- that's the big break. You're 20 years behind time.

MICHAEL And that's just the--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: That's the big thing. You sleep with somebody, and then you find out what they're really like. And you go, oh, my god. I can't believe I slept with this person. They're horrible. I hate them. I would never be friends with this person.

MICHAEL You find out they're Republican and everything.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: So now we're dating. We're finding people.

MICHAEL Well, I'm hoping to date.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Where you hang out at a radio station and meet people or meet somebody at the laundromat or--

MICHAEL Wait a minute--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: --the grocery store.

MICHAEL I've been doing this for a little over a year now, and I have not gotten laid in connection with the radio program

CRAWFORD: yet.

JIMMY CARPER: Why not?

MICHAEL I don't know. Maybe because Scott's been doing them all.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: See.

MICHAEL Because you see this-- he's with this young boy now.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Is he?

MICHAEL I swear he's like 12. Maybe he's really 18, but he just looks 12. And it's--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, brother.

MICHAEL Hi.

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN Hi, Matt. It's Brian Bradley.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: What about her?

BRIAN He's on the phone.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: Good for her.

MICHAEL Can we get him on the air? [LAUGHS]

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN Just a minute. Let me see if we can do this. First of all, go on.

BRADLEY:

MICHAEL We're working the buttons now, Brian.

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN Work it, girl.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: We're trying, but we don't have any women here to push buttons.

MICHAEL Exactly. We only have men.

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN Oh, wait a minute. Wait a minute. Wait a minute.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: Brian.

BRIAN Yes.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: What's up, honey.

BRIAN Well, honey, I just want to know how big that small town was Jimmy was talking about.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: 6,000. 6,000.

BRIAN How are y'all doing tonight?

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: Great.

MICHAEL Great. How are you?

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN Well, fine. I'm just beeping down the freeway, looking at the rednecks with their girlfriends. They all have a date.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: Where have you been, girl?

BRIAN Let's just say out on the road. That's where I'm still at. Oh, here comes a cop and you know how I feel about

BRADLEY: them.

[LAUGHTER]

Well anyway, I'll let him in, badge and all.

MICHAEL Did you go to the ACT UP demonstration today?

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN I did. It was very good. It was very well-attended. It had about 80 people there. We had a Republican party

BRADLEY: precinct, chairman, judge, whatever she was. Came and apologized and said that the Republican party had been taken over by the religious rights as if she needed to tell us that. [LAUGHS]

And it was real good. We informed them that when they come to get us, we're going to take some of their skanky tales with us too. Well, y'all just keep playing that good music and not talking about folks, and I'll listen to you until I get to the house.

MICHAEL Take care.

CRAWFORD:

BRIAN Bye, Jimmy.

BRADLEY:

JIMMY CARPER: Bye.

MICHAEL That was--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Brian Bradley.

MICHAEL --Brian Bradley, gay activist--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Gay activist.

MICHAEL --queer activist, AIDS activist. Brian--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: He used to hang around this-- hang around this show. And now, he's a semi-regular, I hear, on *Lesbian and Gay Voices* that you can hear every Friday night from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

MICHAEL Oh, I see.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: No, Brian and Susanne Anderson do a bitch session.

MICHAEL Oh, good.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I've heard them. It's very good.

MICHAEL If they're bitching, it's good.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, yeah.

MICHAEL And I'm wondering if Brian--

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: And the two of them together. Can you imagine?

MICHAEL And the question I have is, has Brian gotten laid in connection with KPFT?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, no. No, not in connection with KPFT, because he was never-- he never really hung out here. But while he was associated with KPFT, I think because of hanging out with some KPFT people or *After Hours* people, he did loosen up. And I heard about--

MICHAEL You said heard?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: So to speak. I heard about an incident that had something to do with dirty knees and the Montrose Mining company. But don't quote me on that.

MICHAEL And Brian speeding down the freeway to come to KPFT and blow up Jimmy and I. [LAUGHS] So let's go to a phone

CRAWFORD: [LAUGHS] so we can-- we can come up with new people to dish about. And the song should be, assuming everything works right, Green Day. And the song is going to be, *Welcome to Paradise*. Although I want to play-- I'd actually want to play *Longview*, which is a single. But if you've seen the video on MTV, it has all those little bleeps. That's because of words you can't say on the air. So let's try it now.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Wow. Boy, you push the wrong button and all hell breaks loose. But that was Green Day with the song *Welcome to Paradise* from the album *Dookie*. Really cool band, really cool video. Although we couldn't play the song I wanted to play because of all those blinking words. I'm going to read from a book. In fact, it's--

JIMMY CARPER: Excuse me.

MICHAEL Hi.

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: Hi.

MICHAEL How are you doing?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: There were a lot of the same. In the lobby saying goodbye to our visitor.

MICHAEL Yes, as he sticks his tongue out. What's up? How are you?

CRAWFORD:

JIMMY CARPER: I'm great. That was-- that was a really rocking song.

MICHAEL And just like I described the Nine Inch Nails concert earlier, the Green Day concert was similar. Although there

CRAWFORD: was air conditioning. And well, I wasn't-- I didn't get really close to any guy. But I think I'm going to read something now. Is that OK?

JIMMY CARPER: Sure.

MICHAEL And it's a part for-- the first part of a queer manifesto from Michael Signorile-- Michelangelo Signorile's book,

CRAWFORD: *Queer in America*. And it says, "To all queers, there is no right to the closet. If you're in it, it is not by your choice. You were forced into it as a child and you're being held captive by a hypocritical homophobic society.

Now is the time to plan your escape. The power to do so is inside of you, and only you can unleash it. Stop sitting around, blaming your parents, your school, the government, the media. Stop whining about your existence and wallowing in self-pity. Stop wishing yourself dead.

If you're already out of the closet, it is your obligation to help all those who are still being held prisoner. If you are not yet out of the closet, if you are a teenager dependent on your parents, if you're trapped in a homophobic town or a rough city neighborhood, where they beat up queers, if you're in any way in danger, hold on and plan for the day when you're older, when you save some money, when you can leave that place, when you can stand up on your own two feet and take charge of your life. No one can keep you where you are except yourself, but you must come out wisely.

Everyone must come out of the closet, no matter how difficult, no matter how painful. We must all tell our parents, we must all tell our families, we must all tell our friends, we must all tell our co-workers. These people vote. If they don't know that we're queer, if they think only the most horrible people are queer, they will vote against us.

What was done to us when we were children was nothing less than child abuse. Our psyches were tampered with, our personality stunted. Now, we have a responsibility to speak out when we witness such crimes. If a child being viciously beaten by his parents and fighting another child, would we expect the second child to respect the privacy of the other child's pain or what we praise him or her for speaking out?

Liberate yourself and all others who are locked in the closet. Don't be codependent with those whose dysfunction enables the bigots who bash us. Badger everyone you know who is closeted, your friends, your family members, your co-workers to come out. Put pressure on those in power whom you know to be queer. Send them letters, call them on the phone, fax and confront them in the streets.

Tell them they have a responsibility to themselves, to you, to humanity. Tell them they have to face the truth, and tell the truth yourself. Tell them that you will not stop until they're out, until their closets no longer affect your life.

Remember that all those in the closet blinded by their own trauma hurt themselves and all other queers. The invisibility they perpetuate harms us more than any of their good deeds might benefit us. As the demagogues of the religious right puts ahead with their campaign of hatred against homosexuals, the moment of truth is upon us. Now is the time for all queers to come out and be counted."