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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

song, castro, san francisco, pta, cd, honey, houston, country, cowboy, call, jaded, listen, group, performed, gay, patrol, talking, bar, night, harper

## SPEAKERS

Bobby

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00:03

And there's a couple of artists that he got to join us a new group got a minute I'm getting just had it. Yeah, he



00:09

was just just talking that group. Oh really? There



00:12

are three, three part harmony group. Honey, they're going to be stars. Oh, they I wish it will make it a recording. I will be the first one to deliver it to you. Because they did. God What was the name of that song? The bluest eyes. In Texas. They did this song. It's a it was a big country hit, you know, on the radio, but they did this version of it in a three part harmony. That was just the crowd. No one danced. You could not. You could hear a pin drop. Wow for them San Francisco girls to really Stop gabbing for a minute. They were mesmerized. They really were and I was you know, I went when I got there for soundcheck, they were on and this is before the big fundraiser. And I was like outside and I was like, Oh my God, who is this group? I mean, because they were just so professional. And so like just flawless their vocals you know, pristine? Yeah. I like that. No little fancy, you know, background music, nothing. And they were they were just they kept my attention. And for me to be totally impressed. I was like, you know, Doug is gonna listen to this group. Listen, this group, you know, I said work them girl. Yeah. Right. Yeah,



01:26

yeah, get get him in that gay country. Music Association.



01:30

Well, they were cool because they were like, in during their act. They did this choreographed thing where like, you know, the, the lead singer would stare into the audience. And the other two would like turn their faces when we go this way. When we go that way. Then they face each other, then they face him. They were totally choreograph the whole thing. And it was it was great. It was great, handsome, two, three handsome cowboys up there. That helps. I'm trying to get photographs they should be. I'm begging from San Francisco because I told Engel Yan, who. He's head of the Sundance Foundation, who has a Sundance saloon out there. I've already asked him for photographs. So hopefully, all the entertainers and some of the volunteers from that event, there'll be posted on my website at some point. Yeah,



02:15

I'll let you know. Okay. You have a website, right?



02:17

www www dot cyber. wolves.com. Backslash Castro, cowboy. There you go. If all y'all can remember that.



02:27

Well ask you again. Later. Okay. We're gonna play some music. Cool. What do you I don't have anything queued up, give me something. Okay,



02:37

let's play God go this is. I'm gonna give you one of my very first, the very first time I was ever in a recording studio. This was done on Halloween night of 1997 in San Francisco, that I went in there. And I did this little four song demo, we're only gonna play one of them. It's track number two on there. And I listened to this earlier tonight, and I just was like, Oh my God. It's weird how you develop you know, your vocals change over the years.



03:18

What's the name of it?



03:19

Just call me lonesome.





03:21

Here we go. And you're listening to it on after hours. Queer radio with additude KPFT Houston and ke O 's college



03:38

you still got that triangle there to that twang like that. It sounds like a different person. Yeah, you know, I'm



03:47

telling you, I hadn't heard that in a while since I did it. Really? I never listened to it. And tonight, I thought let me just listen to it to make sure before I take it. And I was like I was you know, just sitting there and going oh, my No,



03:58

but I like that. I do like that. It's just different though. It's different from from anything on your first album? Oh, yeah.



04:05

Yeah. I mean, so many things were going on at that time. My lover had just died in 96. And I was like, when that's when that when I recorded that I was like a little lost boy in San Francisco. I mean, nobody knew who I was. I didn't know anyone. I was just starting to like, get out and socialize. You know, and still going through a lot of grief. And it's weird how like tonight when I heard that, I was just remembering where I was emotionally. When that was recorded. It was like one o'clock in the morning and in the in the warehouse district in San Francisco. We cut this for Song thing got out of there at like 230 in the morning, and could not get a cab and had to walk all the way to the Castro honey and downmarket Street. I



04:54

have done that during the day though. No, this was this was late.



04:59

Drunken devil costumes. Okay, and I was taught as you said, it was Halloween, it was Halloween, you know, and people were out in the street downtown all the way through the Castro solid costumes. Okay, and it's a couple of miles. And here I was in a cowboy hat and all that and they thought I was in costume. Okay. You know, a good trigger tree,





05:19

or whatever. walked by. And I was so over it because I was tired.



05:28

I couldn't imagine it was a great song. It's a nice song. I like that.



05:31

I'm glad you liked it that was recorded by a guy here. From Del Rio by the name of Radney Foster. He did it in I think in 91 or something. He cut it. My versions better. Of course, of course. Now, it was fun. I liked that song, too.



05:51

So what kind of stuff are we going to have on that second album? I mean, you know, you've given us the tease with Harper Valley PTA.



05:59

Harper Valley.



06:00

That's like, you know, you're talking about the openly gay lyric and if you're singing Harper Valley PTA, then that's kind of isn't that kind of like, a very gay lyric coming from a man. Well, how do you how do you sing that? You sing that



06:18

change it to you? Well, you change the gender of the little boy instead of the little girl. Okay, that's a little you know, you the I can't remember right now how the words are but yeah,



06:27

but I mean, are you you're talking about the your. What's the line in there about talking about that? She wears her dresses much too, to wait. Oh, hi. wait to have



06:43

the first time that when I finally decided I was going to record that song, because I did Phoenix Gay Pride three years ago two years ago And Fred Phillins they were they had been

say, I was three years ago, two years ago. And Fred Phelps, they were they had been protesting. And they, me I wasn't. I was in the gay parade there. They had me honey, a candy apple red Cadillac convertible. Like the Miss Jane Hathaway car from the Beverly Hillbillies. That was my car. They had my name de Castro cowboy plastered on both sides, you know. And I was just being a country rodeo Queen sitting on the back and I was waving. And the crowd. The crowd was just San Francisco. They were getting up and just getting wild when they saw Castro cowboy. You know, I was having a wonderful time. Honey, when I went by Fred Phelps and all that game, this woman, she was this Redneck woman with rotten teeth carrying a sign that said, facts are gonna burn. And she saw me and she started pointing at me, she started screaming that I was gonna burn in hell. It was like, Thank you. Thank you. Thank you so much. And such a joke. We'll see. Then, then I went on that afternoon. And when I pulled up from the hotel, I get out and I had to go to the back gate. There. They all were, and they were protesting, you know? So I knew they were back there. They were riding back to the state the main stage. So when I came out, you know, I started my show. And then from my last song, I said, Well, I and I addressed the audience. And I said, Well, I want y'all to know, for some of you that don't know that Reverend Fred Phelps and all his people, they're right here in the back of the stage. And I would like to dedicate my last song to the Reverend in his entire group. And I said, a lot of you are going to understand what this song means. And when the intro to Harper Valley PTA started, the crowd went crazy. You know, I mean, basically, the song talks about, you know, clean off your own doorstep before you come over here and criticize other people. That's right. And I decided right there and my next CD, I'm putting this on my next CD, because it talks about it's really, the song is about diversity, and just leaving people alone for what they are and who they



08:45

are. And people like Fred Phelps. I mean, who just walking hypocrisy. Yes, exactly.



**Bobby** 08:50

The day my mama socked it to the



08:52

valley, PTA you go. There you go. We did it. We didn't. We did. I tried to leave it. A lot of the phrasing and stuff. I tried to leave it like Jeannie C. Riley did because some of them you just couldn't change. Well, that's true. That's true. Yeah. You know, but but



09:08

so you're just a little boy talking about his



09:10

mom. Right? Exactly. Okay, exactly. But we we fucked it up. This version of it is just the band. You know, they came out and they said, Well, we're doing Harper Valley. And I go, Well, yeah.

And we were on break and, and they said, Well, you know, do you want us to do it? Like the way Jeannie C Riley did it you want to leave a traditional? Or do you really want us to get funky and I said I want y'all to get as funky as y'all want to get for this. So that they did a baseline. It's kind of like oh, do Billy Joe. Ooh, remember that baseline? Yeah. Oh, yeah, I do. Yeah. So it's kind of like that. And it's got a lot of like, wailing fiddle in it in the parts where like she's wearing her dresses way too high. And when when she gets to the part where she's telling off the PTA, the the piano player. His name is buzzy Smith. And he used to be re prices piano player. He gets just Little Richard on that piano was just like the pianos just really mad as hell at the PTA, okay. And so it's really cool now, it's gonna be a good it's gonna be a really I'll get I'll get some recognition out of Nashville for this. And that's already cut. The record producer and the engineer. They're like, you know, redneck straight. They've worked with the legends and country music and they really have. They're sitting there and they're listening to the playbacks and I'm listening to the playbacks. And they're just grinning from ear to ear. And then when when we got to the part where it talks about and if you smell surely Thompson's breath, you'll find she's had a little nipple gin. They just lost it. And they started screaming out loud. You know, they really did. They lost it. They told me boy, this song was just born for you. I said, Well, can you perform this a lot of times? So you know, I wanted to tell them, you don't know how many letter bars I performed. But they loved it. Yeah. But they know about me though, by now and so does the rest of the band because they've been on my website. The first time when I when I cut you from the blues, they really didn't know much about me other than I was from San Francisco, and I was over 40 and not married. Go figure. They're not they're rednecks. But they're not. They're not dumb. Over



11:22

40 Yeah. I got you know, I caught that earlier when you were talking about your little brother who was over 40 and I'm thinking way wait a year.



11:35

Yeah, I'm gonna be how am I going to be? I'm going to be 43 Christmas Eve. You're doing good. Real good. I try to live good. Yeah, live right.



11:49

What can I say? But you're still following that dream? Oh, yeah.



11:53

You know, I have I have no doubt in my mind. I mean, not somebody asked me in San Francisco. They were like, well, they kind of some people just, you know, they are so they have blinders on and whatever world that they live in, you know, and they were like, well, you know, they had an attitude with me, like, I guess your career's over. And now that you've gone back to Texas, you're gonna hang it up. And I'm like, Mary, where have you been? I do country

music. My career is gonna take off now that I'm in Houston, not the other way around. But it was kind of on a shelf here other than my leather group, I mean, my I have a very big leather following and a very big lesbian following out there. I can understand, you know,



12:34

but yeah, I don't think of the Castro or San Francisco at all, as being anywhere near country. It's



12:41

not I was the Castro cowboy. And that's where I got that name. You know, I mean, among the mini dump, dump, dump disco beats you would hear a fiddle and people would say, Honey, when you hear a fiddler, a steel guitar coming out of a bar, you know, Charlie's on stage, you know, because I was I will say this there are people I they actually began to have a country night which I kicked off nice. Some of the other country artists who never performed in the Castro before me. Started after me because I made country cool in the Castro, you go.



13:13

Well, I know that Doug Stevens. First time I heard him was at the what 93 March on Washington. And then he was in New York, right? And with his band, and then he went to the west West, right.



13:28

But he never performed in the Castro really until well, he did. But he didn't like it at Chelsea's juice. Juice joint. Yeah. Which was they had everybody. But I mean, I was like, in the trenches, I was the first bar that I ever sang out in the Castro was the old Elephant Walk. Which was what it wasn't when I sang there that was closed already go. But it was what used to we were Sylvester used to perform. Yeah. Okay. Which was one of the when the white knight raids went in there, it was the only gay bar that had windows where you could see through, you know, we all know the gay history about that. But I go is Harvey's What is his name of the place? It's still open. Honey, it's a slacks and sweater Queen bar, where people go in and they have wine and they hear contemporary jazz, okay, Chardonnay, Queens. What's nothing wrong with that?



14:23

Fern bars,



14:24

but I decided, you know, hanging ferns everywhere, you know, and it kind of



14:28

stuck when I just when I first decided to start doing country in the Castro. I thought, honey we're gonna go with they're gonna just totally be in shock for me to go up there. So they had like, a amateur night or whatever, a karaoke night or whatever. And so I donned my cowboy hat and my little cowboy outfit, you know, and they call me up there on the little stage in there. And, I mean, they were like, horrified when I got up there. I mean, they were looking at me like I was from outer space,



14:53

cowboy. Oh, yeah. Wow. You



14:58

know, until I did what I did. Edie? I did in fact, I've, it's on this demo, but it's not non gender specific. Okay. But I did a song called if tomorrow never comes. And I dedicated it to anyone who would ever lost anyone to AIDS. You know, and the song talks about, you know, being awake at night and your partner laying there asleep and you're watching them asleep. And you're wondering if you died right then in there would they know you loved them. And it was like you could not hear, you could hear a pin drop in the bar, they just shut up. And they listen to the words and like, people were just, they were just crying.



15:41

They were just tears, you know, I can understand that. Yeah, but



15:45

understand that when I did this, I was still really heavily grieving over my lung. So I was really into doing these kinds of songs. And I was passionately about wanting people to take time out to, first of all realize their losses, and to really feel the losses, not to just, you know, suppress them. Like I saw a lot of people doing out there. I wanted people to realize because it was what I was, I was doing it. And I was trying to express it to other people that it's okay to lose and to feel.



16:17

And that must have been tough, too. Because I know from from my reading, I know that the Castro crowd can be kind of jaded. Yes. Especially with the AIDS epidemic, because it hit San Francisco so hard, right, that that people just kind of distance themselves from all of the the emotional part, right?



16:36





16:30

Yeah. Oh, yeah. Yeah. Because it's so many losses, that people just became like, oh, you know, well, he died, you know, but Oh,



16:45

yeah. Well, I, the last time I was in San Francisco, actually, the first time I was in San Francisco, which was 10 years ago, I just, I was looking around, and I'm thinking, you know, there's a whole generation gone. There were people older than me. And people younger than me, but very few people my age, right? Yeah, it's kind of eerie. Well, we'll



17:11

see what Well, when I was doing this song, and I did it like, I would go to leather runs and do it. Yeah. And people would come up and thank me and they'd be crying after the show. And they would say, you know, thank you for reminding me. Thank you for reminding me to remember. Well,



17:24

you know, that's kind of what you do for a living.



17:30

This was at the time when right on my street, I lived on Hartford one block from 18th and Castro, where the AIDS hospice was one block from where I lived. And I would see this one particular man when I first you know, was caregiving my lover at the time before he died. And he would sit in a wheelchair outside the hospice. Well, and I would say good morning to him every morning, I would say a prayer for him that he would just get to that day without being in pain. And one day, I'm coming home from work, and the wheelchair sitting out there empty, and there's some there's some flowers in the seat of the wheelchair. And there's some candles lit at the foot of it.



18:03

Oh God and you knew?



18:06

Yeah. And then like, you know, maybe a week later, there'd be a new man in the wheelchair. For me, that was always a reminder to me, to never become jaded, that every death counts. And every death should be every every, every soul should be remembered.



18:32

Speaking of remembering. I first heard this on hand net. But there's there's an article in the November 17 issue of the Houston voice that Jeff Cohen, Born May 11 1962, died at home on Wednesday, November 15th 2000. Jeff was well known for his community fundraising with the with the camp troop, the SAM Buka sisters, who raised 1000s and 1000s of dollars I can I can attest to that because the switch gay and lesbian switchboard was the recipient of one of their shows, and it was that one show raise \$3,000 And he was also with the group called nuns on the run and nuns with guns. As the manager of decades bar on Richmond Avenue, Jeff was always there to lend to shoulder or amuse you with his quick and sharp wit. He had also worked at many of the have Montrose area bars he will be sorely missed by hundreds of friends, customers, his peacocks love birds, ferrets and the rest of his Zoo. Memorial Service spending, they'll let you know. And with that, I think I am ready for Emmylou Harris.



19:55

Me too.



19:56

Yeah. Yeah. This is from CD you brought in Destiny. trails, right, and Emmylou is singing with them. Jimmy? Yes. Before



B

Bobby 20:04

you I was having a conversation with somebody earlier today about people that we've lost and how it was so easy to become jaded and, and sort of numb to it all.



20:17

That's probably speaking to you. Yeah.



B

Bobby 20:19

Sorry. This is Bobby. But you know, as many friends as I've lost the one thing I hope that I never become so numb that I can't that I don't feel something for everybody that I've lost. That's right.



20:38

Free Music Okay, that was Emmylou Harris. Called order coffee Well, I took it off of program and I'm used to when you have it and program it stops. Oh,



20:53

okay, good. Yeah, ya know, anybody that's a real Emmylou Harris fan. Yeah, definitely have to add this CD to their collection.



21:01

Oh, kidding. That's his off a Dusty Trails, their self titled CD that you wrote in. And of course, before that, was instrumental called regrets in border town, which actually went pretty, pretty nicely after the opiate that we Yeah, I thought that was cool. Yeah. Even though it was a mistake, but



21:24

it was Dusty Trails and cons there. Yeah.



21:27

That's what we got here. That's the trails and guns are all due to Charlie PJ. Oh,



**Bobby** 21:32

what can I say? Oh, special. Oops, moment.



21:38

Oh, gosh. So what's in the future? I mean, you're working on the new CD halfway



21:43

done, you know, and I'm just like, I got to start doing photographs, stuff for the new CD and the graphics and all that, and it's a lot of work, but it's gonna get it's all gonna come together by the end of the year. Good. And we'll do a CD release party here in Houston. Probably in January. And already start planning that. We'll do a big deal. Try anyway. Hope



22:09

it's the last part in June. Oh, it'll



22:11

be the last part. I don't think we're doing no New Year's Eve.



22:15

No, no, no, no, because we just can't do that. I'm gonna be on vacation. On



22:20

Saturday, though. New Year's Eve. I don't handle that real well. I stay home.



22:26

Yeah, you know, I'm kind of that way to. The last thing I think I did for New Year's Eve is let the last couple of New Year's Eve. I think I've done some Q patrol stuff. You know, because Yeah, cuz I don't know. I'm not a celebrator of New Year's Eve.



22:46

At last. That's where that you said that. Because like last year in the Castro, I did. Security. Really? Yeah. Me and my mate. Well, my roommate was the one that got me into it. And he was like, you can just hold the microphone. I said, Girl, if I see somebody getting stabbed, I'll be like,



23:04

That's right. You know, right. While



23:06

I'm running. Okay. I said you can stay there and investigate. But I said, I'm gonna be screaming and running down 18th Street.



23:13

It hardly ever happens like that, though. You know, that was one of the one of the wonderful things about Q patrol is that since we've, we've had it for years and years and years and things are safer and safer and safer in the Montrose.



23:28

Thank God for Q patrol.





23:29

I will say that, yes. And the problem that also causes the problem, because since things are safe, it's hard to get volunteers out. Because volunteers want you know, you want to go out and patrol and you want to do stuff some of them when nothing happens.



23:44

They're bored. Yes. They need to plant me out there. But board is a good



23:49

thing. Is a Good Thing board because



23:52

things aren't so I can act like I was raped and thrown out by a dumpster over there by Pacific street health.



23:59

And Chris has just walked in and he is he's some big muckety muck with what are you president of the chairman chairman of the whatever's



24:09

Okay, chairman of the board. I see. If you do want to volunteer some time with our organization. You can call us at 713528 safe that 7233 Or you can email us at q\_p\_callouts@hotmail.com. Call the number or the or the other. The other email address is Q patrol. inc@aol.com That's that's a matter that that gets you to Glenn. The other one goes to me, okay.



24:45

Okay, Charlie, we've only got about five minutes left and I want to got out time I know it and I want to close out with a song of yours. I cannot



24:54

believe we're gonna do my we're gonna do my title cut. Okay, no one ever heard Ah, so if you have this CD, if you've bought this CD, this is a song you didn't buy, okay? It's number one. Okay? This my record producer wants me to redo this tour, I'm happy with it, and then they

want to do a second issue of the CD and put it out. Okay, so we might, you might, you might, he wants me to, he really does want me to do this song. So we still have a little bit of time.



25:29

You're gonna you're gonna be here now forever, for forever. On the third weekend of the month.



25:37

I'm back. Now I had, I had I had some family problems. My dad has been ill. And, you know, I but but I'm here now. Okay, I'm not gonna like take off. I know what's going on. What happened was that first show, it was just a big emergency and I had to leave town. You know? But that's what happened.



25:56

Okay? No, but I want everyone to know that you're going to be here and we're going to be doing country music stuff. You know, whatever we you know, if you want to drag in some local talent, if you want to talk about Doug Stevens and his group and you know, whatever



26:09

the next show, I want it we're going to interview Doug Stevens. Oh, good, because he got a sponsorship with Coors beer, which has caused some kind of controversy in the gay



26:18

community. And I don't know why that just drives me crazy. Yeah. Well,



26:22

we're going to talk to Doug Stevens and we're gonna get the lowdown on what he has been going through pros from the gay community and total ridicule from the get on another side of Yeah, I mean, I know they have attacked him personally. Doug will not speak about it, but I'm going to speak up for him and say, You know what I said, So be it that he got cores. Thank God that they're giving gay artists a chance said okay, you bet when some of our own community are not giving gay artists a chance. I think that it's fabulous that they are that's what I have to say about it. That's just my opinion. Probably get stoned on the way home but



27:00

I'm just kidding. Generally. Thanks for being here. Oh, thank you. I enjoy you the same time

next month thirds. That's



27:06

third Saturday. You've been



27:07

listening to after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station coming up at the top of the hour. Will be oh he There he is. The man in charge. Rob love with early morning grooves and listen to this. This is a good music show. One of my favorites, not the Fade. See you next week.