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📅 Thu, Apr 20, 2023 10:56AM ⌚ 38:15

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

mandela, nelson mandela, life, nelson, world, tired, man, work, law, stay, hours, cousin, care, 1000s, closet, johannesburg, walk, oliver tambo, african national congress, houston

## SPEAKERS

Buddy Johnston

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Buddy Johnston 00:07

Hey, tell me that story again about our friend that his his hateful companion at Kroger what was it hurry?



00:16

While he was being harassed by a supervisor, work, he called us for advice. Yes. And we told him to tell his supervisor and to complain about it. And he did. And the supervisor who was harassing him, it was just wasn't just him and some others. And the store was subjected to disciplinary action for harassing the queers.



Buddy Johnston 00:43

So what happened to the boy that was harassing him or the co worker that was harassing him?



00:49

That's what happened. He the, the, the supervisor who is harassing him had was subjected to disciplinary action and was



Buddy Johnston 00:56

suspended. Just disciplinary action. He was suspended for three weeks. Yes, you do. Now they took him to the rook card and they let those boys after. Now you do talk about that stuff. Because if you don't talk about it, it continues. That's right. So you do talk about it. As George

Bush said, Mary, read my lips. Right. Here we go. Are we going anywhere? Yeah, we'll go on Jimmy Jimmy Somerville. Brand new KPFT used to 90.1 FM. After hours radios celebrating live from the heart of Montrose five to six 4005 to six KPFT we just want a kinder gentler nation



02:00

talk to you about love that's why we're here isn't it? May I remind you that love is against the law. That love as we know it is a criminal activity. That lovemaking involves illegal acts. We are here because we have committed them and we enjoyed them enormously.



02:43

We are an army of lovers. That is a fearful thing. We are the only minority group also that you can join overnight



03:04

in the twinkling of an eye in fact



03:14

we who have committed the crime of loving we are freedom with more risks than servitude ever offered. We dared to no pleasure. May I say pleasure again. I don't think it's been mentioned much today. We had guts enough to love. They tried to cover this with guilt, shame, dishonor. They made it as awful for us as they could. But it was wonderful. It is getting more wonderful. Fellow criminals. Never forget your knights in the days of your fighting for their freedom. Remember this experience. It is the tenderest finest moments of our lives and in the clamor for our civil rights. Always remember that they never granted them nor withdrew them. They only stole them and remember most of all, that we have so much more to give them than they have ever taken from us. We have been places we have known things, scenes suffered, feared, felt experienced ecstasy hell wonder all through our illegal act. They have brought us the full richness of the human experience our freedom finally, when they understand it, it last is theirs. So keep loving keep making love, and soon there will be enough. Thank you



05:26

Are you ready for a story? Story?



05:37

April 119 87, my friend Mike died passed on, went somewhere else. I don't see him anymore. He left no arms, no legs left to walk beside me. Pass dogs concrete and trees. Why did he leave me? I wanted to smile the way you touch your hair that glimmer in your eye. I want it you and whole body. I want you not to die.



06:36

April the 11th 1987 passing through the pain missing you. I keep hoping that you will walk in and tell me about a great new song. Or maybe we'll talk about the international politics of AIDS. The killings of gay men, while they're murderers walk free. We were from the same class. We were gentle together. But you had to go. Leave pass on. You just died. I wanted to be with you work with you have one last good time. But you didn't stay you left past and died. I take your death one day at a time. I think dying is like reading a book. It will end the pain will end in the joy of it all will become clear. We will remember your love the beauty of your spirit, the lessons of how to live your humanity, your quest for life. After the pain the last page in the book, we will all know what you have left.



08:06

Your friend he Taiji April the 11th 1987 2:30am.



08:21

Some symbols in Des Moines or San Antonio is a young gay person for all of a sudden realizes that she or he is gay knows that if the parents find out to be tossed out of the house, the classmates would taunt the child. And the need of Ryan's and John brings are doing their bit on TV and that child had several options. Stay in in a closet suicide. And then one day that child might open a paper it says homosexual elected in San Francisco and there are two options. One option is to go to California



09:16

they in San Antonio in might. Two days after I was elected I got a phone call. The voice was quite young was the male Tula Pennsylvania. And the person said, thanks. You've got to let gay people so that that young child and the 1000s upon 1000s Like that child know that there's hope for a better world his hope for a better tomorrow without hope that only gays because blacks The Asians disabled seniors the essence essence without Help Us Get up. I know that you cannot live on hope alone. But without it, life is not worth living. And you and you, and you got to get



Buddy Johnston 10:18

to 36 and you're listening to KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. This is getting close to what's going to be one of the last after our programs with me anyway, because I've had it kids. I've had it walking on eggshells and trying not to offend the FCC and Jesse Helms and the police and Kroger and Randles and every other goddamn person in the world. I've just had it KPFT something really special. And you don't understand that we try to tell you that you don't listen. Or maybe you hear you hear it and you don't care. Maybe you just don't give a damn. Tony wrote a letter and said he didn't know what you would do if the show wasn't here. I don't know what I would do

either. But I'm just about ready to find out. I had to ask Jimmy to leave the studio because I don't know if I could say this. If you were sitting here. I'm tired. I'm tired of spending every Saturday night down here in the dark talking to myself. Getting one letter here and one letter there. Knocking myself out. Do you know I spent my last \$20 today to plot to buy that soundtrack to Cry Freedom. So I could play it for you the song that you just heard. Do you think anybody gives a damn that was my last money. I did it because I wanted to do it. I did it for you. I did it because I thought you got something out of this. Did it because we hope that when we say write us a letter, you write us a letter. I'm tired. I work real hard, just like everybody else. I'm just one little man. I'm not gonna live your life for you, you're on your own. You don't care enough to help yourself? Well, to hell with you, I don't care enough to help you either. I can't help you. All I can do is help myself. That's what I'm gonna do. I'm gonna go to work and try to make it I'm going to try to catch up on my bills and live my life. I used to spend every dime I made to keep this damn show going, I'm not going to do it anymore. Not when you're spending hundreds of 1000s of dollars every month that the bars and the bowels and the bookstores and calling every 976 number in town just to get off and tired of sleeping by myself and tired of looking at faces of young people struggling trying to find themselves in a community that just so busy trying to get drunk and get off it doesn't have time for nobody but itself. Tired of watching the Gay Pride committee talk about Pride Week and all this crap and they're so busy trying to decide who's going to be in charge and nobody's in charge. Now the things just about fall apart than they want us to come in here and lie to you and tell you everything's rosy. Everything's not rosy the world stinks. But you got to fight you got to keep trying you can't give up you got to get mad gotta get mad enough to fight back if you don't fight back. They're just gonna walk all over you. I mean, my God, the Berlin walls coming down. Hava was in prison for years and now he's the president of the country over there. Like valenza went to jail. The now he in the Solidarity union are leading the world and Poland. Nelson Mandela said no, I am not going to sell myself out. I am not going to sell myself short. I am not going to do it. I would rather go to jail and he did for 27 years. He's going to walk out today a free man with his pride and I'll hear from queers is oh I can't come out of the closet I might lose my job we might lose our family we might lose our friends will so what if you don't have your pride you don't have nothing? And if that's what you want, well so be it. Have it I don't care. Really don't where was everybody at? And when they came in at eight and repossess my car. I had to payments to have the damn thing paid for Do you think anybody cares? Nope. Didn't ask you to make my car payment. I asked you to take care of yourself. Don't worry about me baby. I'll make it on my own. I've made it on my own for 35 years going on 36 don't need your help. I mean wants your help. I'm not gonna stand around and watch your life go to hell. Just sit there and be scared and be in the closet and closet. Sit there and just feel sorry for yourself. I don't care. I don't give a damn, who knows that I'm gay. I don't care who knows that I'm queer. I don't care anymore. I told my boss at work the other day he said, all you want to do is bitch and I said, No, sir. All I want to do is get what's mine. I just want to be treated like everybody else in this crummy world. I want to be able to fall in love and have a family and care about somebody have somebody to look forward to to see when you come home from work. After a lousy day at work, everybody's job is lousy. I want to have somebody to come home to I don't want to have to come home to an empty bed every night. Have something to do on my days off I look forward to rather than sitting there and flipping through 42 some odd channels on a cable converter. Just because nobody ever calls somebody to care. I want somebody to love me. I don't want to be alone. I want to cry at night holding my teddy bear by myself. We're all in the same boat. That's what I'm trying to tell you. Right now Mad. Mad because Roger wanted me to talk about a young man that stood up to his boss and then said, Oh, no, we shouldn't mention the company. We shouldn't mention the boss. I don't want to get him into trouble. I'm tired of walking on eggshells. Just go ahead and let the world dump on you. Don't come out of the closet. Don't bother to care about yourself. I'm gonna care about myself. I really am. This

wacko from the Pride Week committee came down here and told me I was the voice of the community. I'm not the voice of nothing. All we've done is come down here every Saturday night and given the community something that listened to we've tried to entertain you and tried to make you feel good about yourself. That's all we can do is try you're the one that has to do it. And right now I'm tired. I could go home I cannot leave right now but I can't. Because the show goes to four tapes have to be wrong. Phone calls have to be answered. One of our dear friends died last week. Straight lady. She had an aneurysm in her brain. I told somebody at work. I said a friend of mine died of AIDS, no child people die of other things. Aid safe sex makes me crazy. Safe sex. That means there's something wrong with sex. There's nothing wrong with sex. All these religious people that shove all this garbage at you they're they're just a bunch of homophobic bastards. They're not Christians. The Jesus I was taught about is not the one they're talking about. All I want those people to do is go back in their church and close the door. I'll stay in the closet if they'll stay in the sanctuary. Quit throwing your Bible at me I have my own copy. Quit trying to push all your beliefs on me. That's that's what's run in your life right now some religious idea that because the Bible says Well, that's To hell with them. I live in this country because of what the Constitution says We the People. That's us. They don't like that. But that's us. If you don't believe that ask Ray hill when he sued the hell out of the city of Houston. When he tried to stop a Houston police officer for beating the garbage out of a kid down here on Westheimer. They arrested him for interfering with a police officer right took them to the Supreme Court and they wrote him a pretty hefty check maybe it took the Supreme Court to tell him to stay out of gray Hills business. Right now I'm tired and mad. Hungry my puppy dog has got a rash on his back. The poor thing is You in the hair off his back. I take him to the vet on Tuesday because I just got paid on Friday. Thank God. Look, I can't straighten out your life. I'm sorry. It stinks. It's tough. But you can't give up. You got to fight. All we can do is give you some ideas give you a little push. Everybody is looking for a magic solution or somebody to blame or somebody to help them over the edge. It's not gonna happen, kiddo. You're the answer. You're the solution. If it wasn't for Roger, and Jimmy and Richard and Bill and everybody else, I wouldn't even be here. There were times that Jimmy has come to my house and put clothes on me to get me over here. Why? Why do we do it? Because we care about ourselves. We care about our lives. We're gay and lesbian people. We're not some bastard at a child reunion at a family reunion. We're people, neighbors, sons, daughters, brothers, fathers, mothers, sisters. And we've had it and just like the Berlin Wall, came tumbling down. And just as the Communist Party in the Soviet Union is getting ready to come tumbling down if it doesn't get out of the way, just as Nelson Mandela is getting ready to walk free. About five hours or so. The clauses that can find the 30 or 40 million gay and lesbian people in this country is getting ready to fall apart. If you don't like it I'm sorry. Your your worlds pretty screwed up. Why don't you give us a chance. Gamma has been people have been some of the brightest talent. So the brightest energy that this this world has ever had. Or we're tired or tired of being pushed around and stepped on and crapped on and every other thing. We're tired of living in relationships that aren't going to work. We just grabbed the first thing that comes along because that's the best we can do. I don't believe that. I really believe that life's gonna be perfect. I really, really do. I really, really do believe that. If I didn't think it would work I wouldn't be here. It scares the hell out of me sitting in here in an empty control room without Jimmy I don't know what I would do if he wasn't here. So you think about it. You think about what you would do if we weren't here. Send us a card or a letter or something. It's after hours and carob KPFT 419 Lovett Boulevard Houston, Texas 77006 Or you can call the after hours Hotline at 5294636 Don't feel sorry for me. I don't want your sympathy. I want you to get mad. I want you to get angry I want you to keep fighting. Don't let the bastards get you down. Come on get mad baby. They're killing babies in the name of freedom. We been down that sorry rose Kris Kristofferson from his new album, Third World Warrior and don't let the bastards get you down from the Pacific archives. We've got a program for you now. All about Nelson

Mandela was recorded live in South Africa this past fall and it's called Nelson Mandela the Nobel is sun. So listen and learn if you can five to six 4005 to six KPFT after hours KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.



24:50

South Africa has been home for African patriots for over 11,000 years according to archaeologist when the Dutch bowlers arrived In 1652, they discovered developed African societies. The sun and KhoiKhoi people were Mining and Smelting copper, iron and tin. The Celso and SWANA had built stone towns, but with the Europeans came encroachment on the land and the culture. And so South Africa's history is filled with tales of heroic warriors, like mambacita Didn't gon makhana hintsa and such wayo who fought valiantly to protect their nations from settler invasions. That lineage of African patriotism continues today.



25:56

Steven Roberts, Bob Campbell, the thing about the great leader for sales we have had glorious times glorious in the sense that the struggle has produced some wonderful men and women. I have in mind people like Helen Joseph, in the use of Dr. Mountain, like Moses got to be max. Nelson Mandela



26:36

is the man who loved his fellow men.



26:40

He was very popular and used to have many friends, even all people



26:45

you'd never say is the man of such great stature.



26:50

I haven't met a warmer human being a more understanding human being,



26:57

he would never give you an impression that he is someone that's above you.





27:03

He is born of a royal house. So that is nothing that elect he would get anything



27:12

is always been down to us with people. And that's what his greatness is all about.



27:17

Africans retire want to franchise on the basis of one man one vote, one political independent, one political, political, independent, political, independent, political independent.



27:33

Nelson Mandela, that Goodman is one of the noblest sons of Africa.



27:39

Nelson Mandela, one of Africa's noblest sons is easily the most celebrated political prisoner in the world. sentenced to life in prison plus five years in 1962. Mandela has forfeited the privileges of royal status, the compensation of a successful law career, his family life and everyday comforts to dramatize the horrors of apartheid. His crime is being a committed leader, his injury to South African society, wanting it to be a country free of oppression, where all its citizens are treated equally without regard to race, his life and that of many, many South African patriots is a story of sacrifice.



28:29

Nelson Mandela was born in the royal family of a Tembo tribe, July 18 1918, in the trans sky and groom to be achieved,



28:38

will usually call him poodle that's brother nails. Nail, almost everybody at home calls him nail. But the older people, they call him Polish does his African name is Sasha is a branch. When you say polish as it means you are pulling that branch along with you, Polish



29:02

Zodwa that one is Nelson Mandela's younger sister.





29:05

He is to 10 kettle he used to plow into everything. Like all the other points that we have many lands, you've got big gardens, we've got a lot of cattle. That is what we used to have at the time.



29:20

Life was traditional and sheltered the head of the Mandela household, Henry godly Mandela, counselor to the paramount chief had four wives. Nelson Mandela's mother, Nasir Kenny, a staunch Christian was the third South African parents skill and insight in suggesting the destiny or career of their offspring is uncanny. Mandela's father asked his brother chief of the Timbo to assume responsibility for raising Nelson when he was 10. The ailing senior Mandela made the prediction. Nelson was going to help the nation. Nelson was 12 when his father Henry Mandela died. By tradition, he became his uncle's son.



30:04

He was brought up by my uncle, John Indaba, who at the time was the regent, paramount chief of the timbers. He brought him up with his son justice



30:18

at the grape palace of his uncle, young Nelson spent innumerable hours at the tribal courts. He was



30:25

influenced by the court procedures at home. He used to sit there at the court and the craters and he would leave listen, he will know exactly what law was all about. I think that is one of the reasons he had to take up law.



30:48

Mandela was also fascinated by the tales told at night around the fire. The chiefs would sit for hours recalling stories passed down from generation to generation. The oral historians described how Africans were brutally attacked and tricked out of their land. They also kept the memory alive of what life was like before Europeans came when democracy prevailed, and resources were shared equally. Fatima Mayer recently published a biography on the life of Mandela at his request. She says his experiences in timberland made an indelible mark



31:24

Nelson did not leave his tribal area until he was a grown man. Therefore, the tribal experience is indelible in his psyche. And in that tribal experience, there is an enormous, enormous



amount of humanism. It's the community you are not self oriented.



31:46

So somewhere along the way, I heard that he was at hilltown doing his East High School education plan to three, he was at forte,



31:58

Fort hare, who is the best university in Africa. Winnie Mandela,



32:04

the leading university throughout the country for years before the Nationals took over, was the University of Fort hare, which was the seat of learning for most heads of state in Africa. And most of the leaders who formed the original African National Congress, when in fact ex students of forte



32:29

for her graduate Godfrey picture



32:31

when I entered the University of Florida, in 1942. Mandela was a popular name. He had been a spokesman about outstanding quality, particularly rugby. And he had been very active Institute necess and was then studying law at the University of vet versus one of the few because at the time, you needed ministerial permission, ministerial authority to study in a white university



33:09

at Fort hare Mandela met Oliver Tambo, a science major who was to become his political ally and law partner. Mandela got involved in a student dispute with the administration in 1941. He staged a student protest and was suspended. Upon returning home, he discovered his uncle, chief judge in taba had arranged a marriage for him. Nelson Mandela was 22 In a move that would change his life and the history of South Africa, Mandela ran away he headed for Johannesburg



33:52

doesn't drain that comes from Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana, Namibia and Swaziland and the whole hinterland of this train carries young men and old men who are conscripted to come and work on the gold mines of Johannesburg surrounding metropole.

Deep, deep, deep down in the belly of the name digging and drilling for that mighty evasive stone, or when they dish that mishmash into that iron, iron shovel or when they hear that ginger chain has been in the fall or rise, it always trained



34:45

in Johannesburg, Mandela joined the ranks of many many blacks newly arrived from rural areas looking for work. His first job was at Crown mines. This position as a security guard lasted for less than a week.



35:00

Nelson Mandela is my cousin. Although a distant cousin,



35:06

you know the Democratic Front President Albertina Sisulu describes how Mandela was having difficulty adjusting in the big city.



35:14

When Nelson came up to Johannes Beck. He was staying in Alexandra Township. Now there we had, you know, a lot of gangsters that were fighting spoilers they used to call themselves these groups wanted him to join them. Mica cousin who was a court interpreter, came to the hospital to say our cousin is having a tough time in Alexandria. Can we get a place for me to live? Alexandra,



35:51

a practicing nurse Albertina Tati way introduce Mandela to our fiance a homeboy from the trans guy, Walter Sisulu. The two became fast friends.



36:01

He was staying in this house with Nathan. They stayed together until I got married.



36:08

So Sulu, a real estate agent financed a law correspondence course for Mandela and classes at the all white University of Witwatersrand. So Sue also introduced his friend to affirm where Mandela was hired as a law or article clerk, as it's called in South Africa. The late Ruth first an

anti apartheid journalist recalls one of Mandela's first exposures to prejudiced on the job. I remember



36:33

his outrage at the office in which he was an article clerk, where there was a system segregation of the tea cups, special cups for whites and the worst cups. Put aside for the Africans



36:51

living with this the Sooloos Mandela met a lot of people, including Walters cousin, a nurse named everlean in tow, Kumasi,



36:59

nursing in my wedding photo is on my side is my best mate. Every is onward, because it's the cousin



37:10

Nelson and everlean. Got married in 1944.



37:37

I think really, he's coming in the year. It's then that he started being involved in politics.



37:46

Walter Sisulu was already a member of the African National Congress in 1942. He convinced Mandela and his Ford hair schoolmate Oliver Tambo to join running boy



37:58

Why do you want yellow blue Karnataka man? Somebody's waiting. What do you mean somebody's waiting? Somebody's waiting Yeah, waiting for what somebody's waiting. I can't get away here. Oh, sorry, sir. Sir. Certain rooms also



38:09

blacks fought settler invasions.

