

PATRICK: Ours is coming up on the 1st.

HUNTER: Our seventh-month anniversary--

JIMMY CARPER: Seven months?

PATRICK: Seven months.

HUNTER: --anniversary on the 1st of April. No, just kidding, April Fools. April Fools. No, I'm kidding.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, now you are the couples, and everybody else is kind of single?

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Yes.

SPEAKER: We're outnumbered.

SPEAKER: David drives an Acura.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: Which David?

SPEAKER: Lee is available.

JIMMY CARPER: Lee, are you single?

LEE: Excuse me?

JIMMY CARPER: Lee, are you single?

LEE: Yes, I am.

JIMMY CARPER: OK. And--

LEE: Very single.

JIMMY CARPER: --Steven is single.

SPEAKER: Y'all need to come down to the station and catch him while he's leaving.

LEE: Recently single.

STEVEN: Recently, a couple of days ago single.

SPEAKER: Ooh.

JIMMY CARPER: Uh-oh.

SPEAKER: Ouch. Ouch.

SPEAKER: We can discuss part of that.

SPEAKER: I'll shut up.

SPEAKER: Yeah, and David next to me--

SPEAKER: I'll be quiet.

SPEAKER: David-- my David--

SPEAKER: [LAUGHS]

SPEAKER: Dun, dun, dun.

JIMMY CARPER: David, you are single also recently.

DAVID: Yeah, kind of. He moved away.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, yeah that--

DAVID: And I went there, and he's like--

SPEAKER: He's quasi-single.

DAVID: --let's be boyfriends, just not--

SPEAKER: Now.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

DAVID: --boyfriends. Oops, in a few days. I'm feeling guilty. I got to go with my boyfriend right now.

SPEAKER: He did a repertoire or something?

DAVID: We broke up when we moved away.

SPEAKER: Oh, Jesus.

HUNTER: If interested, please call 713-526-KPFT.

SPEAKER: Ouch.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: But ain't that a fling or something right there?

SPEAKER: Right? Thank you for standing by.

SPEAKER: Settle down in there.

HUNTER: If interested, call 713-526-KPFT. Operators standing by.

JIMMY CARPER: No, Big Roy's sitting by.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER: Oh, yeah.

SPEAKER: I need all the help I can get.

SPEAKER: Standing by? That would take energy he ain't got at this hour.

SPEAKER: Drawing pretty pictures.

SPEAKER: Well, we'll take calls and screen people for you.

HUNTER: Are you a psycho?

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: No psycho stalkers.

SPEAKER: Yeah, I've had enough of those.

SPEAKER: Oh.

SPEAKER: Haven't we all?

SPEAKER: So getting back to the topic.

SPEAKER: As we're running away from the topic, we can find a way back.

SPEAKER: Let's just stay on topic.

SPEAKER: Youth couples.

SPEAKER: Yeah, we're talking about love and stuff, so come on.

SPEAKER: Well, what this originally started out was age and relationships and the differences between couples in their age. I know Patrick and Hunter are different age-- are quite a bit difference in age.

SPEAKER: Quite a bit? Really?

PATRICK: Six years-- seven, six, seven.

HUNTER: When he was seven, I was just born.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: That's exciting. When my lover turned 21, I was born.

SPEAKER: Oh, my God.

SPEAKER: Wow.

SPEAKER: So yours is definitely separate.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: You're two different generations.

JIMMY CARPER: No kidding.

SPEAKER: Holy cow.

JIMMY CARPER: And we've lasted 24 years.

SPEAKER: Amazing.

SPEAKER: That's great.

SPEAKER: What is your secret?

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: Half the time, he lives in Seattle.

SPEAKER: That's what it is.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah.

[LAUGHS]

I'm serious.

SPEAKER: He's not kidding. He lives in Seattle.

JIMMY CARPER: He lives in Seattle and here.

SPEAKER: I heard a joke. It's just like, so I divorced my husband so I could live with him.

SPEAKER: And it's scary. Sometimes you have to do that.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, well, yeah-- we're not like other people because, many times, men together-- well, first of all, we're pigs.

SPEAKER: Amen, sister.

JIMMY CARPER: Many times, you get two people together who have very strong personalities and it can be a clash.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: How do you work things out like that?

HUNTER: Well, actually, we usually have knockdown, dragout fights, and then we forget about what we were fighting about, and so it just ends. And we never really come to a decision, unless it's something really important or major.

JIMMY CARPER: Like rent?

HUNTER: Yeah. [LAUGHS]

PATRICK: It usually goes around a Circle. And then we figure out we lost where we were and--

HUNTER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: I love you.

HUNTER: And we spend an hour fighting, and then we look at each other and-- what were we fighting about again?

PATRICK: Things come up that just was no relative to it at all.

HUNTER: Yeah, it's something he did last week, and I bring it up. And then the fight goes downhill from there.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, that's so female.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Rule number one to fighting-- don't bring up past--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HUNTER: Yeah, but, see, I'm the type of person that-- ever since I met you I keep a little logbook of everything you did wrong because the second you piss me off, I use it against you.

SPEAKER: Ooh.

PATRICK: Well, see, all I wait for is just for him to ask me, why did you do this? And I'd be like, well, this is the reason, right here, right here. I'm like, I'll give you the reasons. Just ask.

HUNTER: Yes, but you're supposed to tell me that beforehand, or at least ask me before you do it.

PATRICK: I'm not a mind reader, though.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, so I see we've got a an analytical mind with a very emotional mind here in that couple. Hunter and Patrick?

SPEAKER: Next.

SPEAKER: That's pretty much the way ours was. We would bring up the past, and then we would fight about it and just say, you know what? I'll go my way. You go your way.

SPEAKER: But then when it got down to it, it was like, I can't leave him. There's something just wants me to stay, and I just can't.

JIMMY CARPER: It's called love.

SPEAKER: Say if I was to walk out the door-- before I get to my truck to leave and go back to my hometown or something, just forget about him, it's like, I can't do that. I have to go back. We'll talk and cry and then--

SPEAKER: Aw.

SPEAKER: And then the inevitable.

SPEAKER: Yes. Yes.

HUNTER: Can I tell them what happened today?

PATRICK: Yes.

SPEAKER: Bow chicka wow wow.

HUNTER: Well, like today, we were getting into a fight. It's just a big, big, big, big fight about stuff I had done that was not a big-- was not good for me to do and I regret every bit of it.

So today we were fighting about it. And to me, I felt like I was telling him that, yeah, I won't do it again. It won't happen again. And I knew he believed me, but something was telling me that he wasn't paying attention to me and that he wasn't getting it.

So I told him, fine, I was going to leave, and I drove off hoping that I'm looking in the rearview mirror-- and I'm like, please, follow me, please? Please run out after me?

And he ran after me. And I went out of our apartment complex, through the gate, and down to the stop sign. And he comes running after me, and I'm like, oh, thank, God, please.

[LAUGHTER]

Then I turned around and he just told-- when we sat down and talked about it, my mother-- thank God-- she helped us deal with it because, if it weren't for her, we probably would not be here, but she helps us a lot.

When we talked about it, he's like, you stopped at that stop sign. And I just sat there and I was like, if you turn-- you need to turn around. If you don't turn around-- so when I turned around, he was like, that was the good thing.

So we argue about things. But when we argue about them, we try and get right to the point. It's like, why are we arguing about this? And what can we do to not argue about this anymore?

JIMMY CARPER: Patrick, did you do you notice that you fight about things that-- he may do some things that--

PATRICK: That are irrelevant?

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I think what I mean is a teenage type of thing or something you've already been through.

PATRICK: Right. That's the way I look at it know. It's hard for something like this because I was like-- I want to settle down because I've been through it, and he wants to explore more stuff that he hasn't seen.

JIMMY CARPER: But you've already done that.

PATRICK: Right. And I understand that sometimes, but it's like, I want someone that's going to settle down with me now because I've already been through one bad relationship. And I got out the first two weeks because I knew it wasn't going to work.

SPEAKER: Wow.

HUNTER: And I understand that. Bobby's known me for almost a year. And when he first met me, he was like, you're the most annoying little crap on the face of the Earth.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: I can see where someone would think that now.

HUNTER: Since I met Patrick, Patrick has changed my point of view and changed my attitude so much. And because of him, I totally think differently. And I do see myself settling down, and I'm not as I guess nelly as I used to be, and I'm a little bit more down about it.

PATRICK: Well, I don't know about that.

JIMMY CARPER: But you are very animated.

HUNTER: And like he says, some things I just feel like most teenagers would do-- I don't want to do that. I would rather be with my boyfriend, who I plan to marry. I plan to marry him.

So regardless, even though my mom's like, just don't just don't move to Florida because they don't let you adopt. I'm like, OK.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: That's cute.

JIMMY CARPER: Yeah, but who wants to go to Vermont?

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: It's cold up there.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Just take your honeymoon to Vermont.

PATRICK: Hunter, dear, I'm going to say this, and I'm going to save this on air to whoever-- for whoever is listening.

SPEAKER: Whatever is listening.

PATRICK: When I first met you-- to most other people you are just an annoying little pain in the--

JIMMY CARPER: Butt.

PATRICK: --who was trying to run with the big dogs and trying to be 25 before he ever got to 18.

JIMMY CARPER: Yes?

PATRICK: And I was probably one of the few people who didn't just see you as an annoying little--

SPEAKER: I totally know about that.

PATRICK: I have never seen you as just an annoying little--

JIMMY CARPER: Yes, we got that.

HUNTER: He's just like, move on, God.

SPEAKER: Y'all, quit dancing around this word.

SPEAKER: Please continue.

PATRICK: Anyhow. But you've grown up a lot in the last year of your life, and you are not the person I met a year ago. You're a lot better than that.

JIMMY CARPER: You see, that's the problem I had with my first lover. I was 18, I had just turned 18. He had just turned 21. And I had just been kicked out of the house. So we were together for four years.

But in that time-- by the time I was 21, 22, I was very different, and he was the same. And we weren't working together anymore. And that was a problem.

SPEAKER: Well, I think, in every relationship, that you go through changes after you get into the relationship, not only yourself but also along with the other person because you either end up growing together or you end up growing apart from differences in the relationship, differences in age. You could be the same age as a person, and you'll still have differences that you'll eventually come up with because you're in a relationship. Sorry.

You have to just keep running with the relationship, or you have to come to a decision that it's mutually best for both parties that you move on, that it shouldn't be-- one person decides they want out of the relationship and just devastate the other person because, once you get into a relationship and you get attached to someone, it's really hard to give up on that person and to give up on your relationship. And everybody should try and give it a chance at some point in time. And I just went on a tirade, didn't I?

JIMMY CARPER: No, you're right. You're right. That is a good point. And I'm looking here and I'm seeing three single men.

SPEAKER: Four, actually.

SPEAKER: It's a foursome.

JIMMY CARPER: --who may have just come out of some not so good relationships here.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER: There's two couples. Maybe we can talk about that one.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Hey, Lee.

SPEAKER: Steven.

SPEAKER: Hey, now.

SPEAKER: Pick who you like and go home.

SPEAKER: I'm going to run now.

SPEAKER: Quick, lock the door.

SPEAKER: I'm going to do it to you, Steven. I'm going to do it to you.

STEVEN: Go ahead.

SPEAKER: I want you to talk about what was going on. I don't mean to do that to you. That was interesting. When we talked about--

SPEAKER: This thing is intimidating right here.

SPEAKER: I'm going to put you on the spot, right?

JIMMY CARPER: No, no. We're talking about our lives. So this is what we do here. We talk about queer lives and what's going on in our lives. And we've got two really good relationships and a couple maybe not so good relationships here, and maybe we can--

SPEAKER: Do you mind me asking you about it?

SPEAKER: --find something out about.

STEVEN: No, not at all.

SPEAKER: What happened to it?

SPEAKER: Merlin knows quite a bit. We've both ran to Merlin on different occasions to-- I guess-- get the advice and support that we need, and he's helped out a lot on both our behalfs, I'm sure. My ex-- his last boyfriend mentally did a lot for him, did a lot of bad for him. And it's gotten a blocker, a wall.

And this is the way he explained it to me, so I'm just relaying it to y'all, is I approached the wall and started climbing to get over. And it started scaring him, that things were moving too fast, and he wasn't ready for someone to cross that wall again because he let Ryan in and he got abused, and he wasn't ready for that.

SPEAKER: He couldn't handle somebody so close?

SPEAKER: Right.

SPEAKER: And the fact that they may accidentally or intentionally hurt him like Ryan did.

SPEAKER: And that's what I told him. I was like, I am not Ryan. And he knows that I would never hurt him. But it's that whole--

SPEAKER: His memories.

SPEAKER: Yeah, it's still psychologically there.

SPEAKER: If you talk to anyone that has gone through a relationship like that-- because I went through it wasn't mental abuse; it was physical abuse. I didn't get out of the relationship until he actually got arrested for almost killing me. And that was the culminating moment when that police officer asked me, do you want to press charges? And I told him, yes.

SPEAKER: And I'm still waiting on the address.

SPEAKER: This is an interesting thing.

SPEAKER: And whenever you get into the next relationship-- I had a whole series of really bad relationships after I left Kenneth and after he went to jail. And thank God he's still in jail, and he will be there for a very long time. So he can never do what he did to me. But still, it's a lot of trust to--

SPEAKER: That's gone.

SPEAKER: --gone, that you can't let someone in that close because I loved him a lot. And he beat me to the point that some people didn't recognize me. And it got to the point where he had to be arrested to get him away from me. I tried leaving him. He'd find me.

SPEAKER: And whenever you go through a situation like that, you have to give the other person-- when you get into that relationship, you have to give that little extra bit to that person so, that way, you don't scare them because there's a lot of damage done when somebody goes through that kind of abuse.

SPEAKER: Right.

SPEAKER: Yes.

SPEAKER: But the other thing is-- like me, that was one that was like the first relationship I really committed and put everything to. We were together almost five months.

SPEAKER: I know how committed you guys were.

STEVEN: I still care for him dearly. But he was going through a lot of things. I know, beyond a doubt, he was, and he was trying to make it work.

But on the other hand, he was-- I was going along thinking everything was fine. And then, boom, nothing. Steven, we need a break. And I'm like, why? What happened?

SPEAKER: Well, maybe needs to do is just let it cool off. Just be friends with him keep in contact with him, he'll probably come back around.

SPEAKER: Steven? Can I ask you a question?

STEVEN: Absolutely.

SPEAKER: You you said something interesting, and I picked up on one little thing that you said. , You said he knew that you would never hurt him.

STEVEN: Right.

SPEAKER: That's the thing. You can say it 100 times to somebody who's been hurt.

STEVEN: Yes.

SPEAKER: But they don't know that you won't hurt them.

STEVEN: Right. Because I'm sure Ryan told him the same thing.

SPEAKER: I've been single for four years, afraid to get-- to some extent, yes, afraid to get into relationships. Now, I grant you I'm older than everybody sitting in that room--

SPEAKER: Together.

SPEAKER: Not collectively, thank you.

SPEAKER: And I wonder, from your points of view, as far as your age group, what is it-- as gay teenagers-- most of you-- and gay 20s and whatever--

SPEAKER: I got the second part.

SPEAKER: Yeah, early. You know what I'm saying, though-- but younger gay people. what is it like to go through those years dealing-- having to deal with relationships-- of wanting a relationship or being in a relationship and having somebody-- and dealing with the whole self-esteem thing that we all, at some point, have to deal with as being--

SPEAKER: That every teenager goes through.

SPEAKER: All the time.

SPEAKER: --every teenager and certainly every gay teenager has to deal with.

SPEAKER: It's emphasized and magnified because of the peer pressure.

SPEAKER: And how does that affect the relationships that you get into?

SPEAKER: I wonder what you would say about how that affects the relationships that you get into.

SPEAKER: It affects a lot to for me. And the other thing that I would say that affects a relationship more, along those lines, would be if one of them is out and the other one's not.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: And in our situation, that puts a lot of stress on things.

SPEAKER: You aren't out, Steven?

STEVEN: Yeah.

SPEAKER: But in certain places--

SPEAKER: Oh.

SPEAKER: Yeah, it wasn't there.

SPEAKER: Well, see, when I was in high school and when I went through high school, I was very fortunate to actually be dating someone all the way through high school. But I know, before I started dating him and really got to know him and the whole self-esteem thing and trying to deal with the fact that I was even gay, I went as far as trying to kill myself three times.

SPEAKER: I tried twice, so yeah.

SPEAKER: I tried hanging myself, cutting my wrists, and popping pills. I, at least, didn't stay in the same one. After the first one failed, I went to another form.

SPEAKER: But it's really hard, especially for teens these days, to go through because society pumps them with, constantly, this perfect image that you're supposed to have--

SPEAKER: Abercrombie.

SPEAKER: Abercrombie and Fitch image. Yeah. The A&F phase.

SPEAKER: And for most teenagers, I was anything but a god when I was in high school. You have to go through the self-esteem issue, and plus, trying to get into a relationship, plus it being a different relationship-- it has a tendency to really stress your relationships.

SPEAKER: And me and Doug actually worked through high school. He was still in high school after I graduated. And he managed to work through going to high school, dating me, living with me, and everything. It takes a teamwork effect in a relationship to keep it going.

And I think that's why a lot of teens don't have relationships is because they don't want to put that much effort into it. I'm not saying, all of them. I saw Hunter give me a dirty look.

SPEAKER: Oh, yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: OK, OK.

SPEAKER: I haven't heard from David.

DAVID: Oh, God.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Because you don't usually talk about emotions without putting a satirical edge to it. And I know you have been through a relationship with someone, and that someone moved away. And it seems like you tried to do a long-distance relationship. And then you went out there and things didn't turn out the way you thought they were going to be. So what really happened?

DAVID: Well, comments on what they said before-- it was a loss of innocence that he was describing, not so much-- I don't know-- the loss of like trust and everything.

And also, commenting on the relationships, you don't see many if any mainstream present gay relationships if you're not in a community.

SPEAKER: That's true.

DAVID: So you don't know what to do.

SPEAKER: Any role models.

SPEAKER: It's like, am I the man? Or you're the woman? Are we both men?

SPEAKER: Do you know how many times I've been asked that question?

DAVID: Do we reinvent this? Whatever.

JIMMY CARPER: Well, I've always thought that we were blessed that we can create our own relationships. We don't have to follow somebody else's model. And then we can do it-- we can gear it towards our own personalities.

SPEAKER: Exactly.

SPEAKER: Eric and I did a talk about gay relationships for the San Jacinto South Campus psychology department. And one of the questions was, which one was the girl, and which one's the boy? And our answer to that was-- is on certain things, we switch off. It depends on what it is.

Cleaning the house, do that, do the kitchen the-- all that-- that's me. And the makeup and stuff like that-- that's Eric. It's a backward, back and forth thing. And little things, we just we teeter back and forth on.

SPEAKER: Well, things kind of get blurry when you're a same-sex couple. There aren't any "women" things and "men" things.

SPEAKER: Yeah, because somebody's got to do it in the relationship. And so either one of you, it's got to be done.

SPEAKER: Yeah, the one that's better at it or the one that likes to do it.

SPEAKER: It's like Steven will work on the dinner and work on the truck.

STEVEN: And he takes the garbage out. I don't do that. He takes the trash out.

SPEAKER: I love it.

SPEAKER: Steven?

STEVEN: Yes.

SPEAKER: The monster truck boy, and won't take the garbage out.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY CARPER: I don't want somebody making my dinner and working on the truck at the same time.

SPEAKER: No.

SPEAKER: No, that would be bad.

SPEAKER: But don't you know that extra grease adds to the taste?

SPEAKER: Jimmy, have you ever had a steak cooked off the engine block?

SPEAKER: I don't--

SPEAKER: I never--

SPEAKER: It's something I would like, man.

SPEAKER: It's actually not bad. Cooked in foil, it steams well.

SPEAKER: Good when you're a chef and you work on trucks. Steven, quit giving my husband ideas.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, now--

SPEAKER: Off track.

JIMMY CARPER: Off track is right, and David tried to escape my question.

SPEAKER: Yeah, you tried to dance out of that one.

SPEAKER: Guess what? Doesn't work on this show.

JIMMY CARPER: I'll pin your ass down, so to speak.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

SPEAKER: Mm, wrestling.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER: Getting somebody started there. Turn off his mic.

DAVID: It was more my ex-- that's weird. It was the first real relationship that I ever had, at all. Everyone it was just like, you dated too much.

All these other people-- just like, I met them. I didn't like them. I didn't go back out with them. It wasn't a relationship. I don't know their last name.

SPEAKER: I have so many like that.

SPEAKER: Hey, I'm in a relationship, and he doesn't know my last name.

SPEAKER: Yeah, I do.

SPEAKER: Really? What is it?

SPEAKER: You already said it earlier.

SPEAKER: So this is really the first one.

SPEAKER: Now he's seeing it on the air again. Somebody he missed it.

SPEAKER: This is the one you opened your heart to.

DAVID: Yeah, well, it was weird just because-- it was the first few weeks, and it was like, he asked me to be his boyfriend. And I was like, OK.

And I had that feeling because, when I picked him out of his house, he was all doing his hair and wearing nice clothes. I'm like, uh-oh, I think something's going on. So he asked me in the car. I'm like, OK.

JIMMY CARPER: And how did you really feel? Was this something you wanted?

STEVEN: Well, for the first week or two, I was just like, how do I really feel about it and everything? And I was searching. And I said, yeah. I'm not all in the crush mode anymore.

When I first met him, I was like, aw. It's weird, because we used to be in Cub Scouts together when we were itty bitty.

SPEAKER: Aw, that's cute.

SPEAKER: Running around, playing around in the dirt and stuff.

SPEAKER: And with each other.

SPEAKER: Yeah, that happens.

SPEAKER: Rats.

SPEAKER: Yeah, seriously.

SPEAKER: I was in there.

SPEAKER: Oh-ho.

SPEAKER: That explains a lot.

SPEAKER: All right. Hold it down in there.

SPEAKER: Next topic.

SPEAKER: And they think it's the scoutmasters.

SPEAKER: Hey, hey, hey.

SPEAKER: Oh.

SPEAKER: Cork it. Let him speak.

DAVID: We were together two, three months-ish. It was either October 6 or 27. I got my car on one Saturday and we got together on another Saturday. I don't remember which happened first.

But it was two or three months. And then January 5, he had to drive to Albuquerque with his family because his dad got transferred. And it was more like a-- not really-- it was like a goodbye, but not-- later, chunk a deuce, as they say.

SPEAKER: Chuck a deuce?

DAVID: Hey, that's what my peeps would say. And for the first month, it was just like, we would call and talk for hours on the phone and everything. And he would, like, I miss you, and the crying and everything.

And then I think it's his personality that he was lonely and he found someone and attached. I slowly began to deterioration of romantic feelings, kind of.

JIMMY CARPER: It's something you saw coming?

DAVID: Not at all. He said, I met this person, and blah, blah, blah, blah blah. And then I was like, how old is this person? 31. Huh?

SPEAKER: Chico, what?

SPEAKER: Heart attack.

SPEAKER: Same age as my daddy.

SPEAKER: Wow.

DAVID: He and your dad can go to bars together and talk about the '70s.

SPEAKER: Oh, man. Not quite.

DAVID: Yeah, he was 10. And then I go there. Three hours after getting off the plane, it was just like, bow chicka wow wow.

SPEAKER: What does that mean?

SPEAKER: The sexy music started.

SPEAKER: Don't you understand porn music?

SPEAKER: That's the universal porn music.

JIMMY CARPER: Oh, OK.

SPEAKER: We know you've watched those.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, that was '70s X-rated movie music.

SPEAKER: Yes.

DAVID: And then the next day, again. But I guess being around his boy just made him feel guilty or something. And I later found out. It was just like, oh, I was thinking about him at this time when we were together. And I was like, oh, really? That's why you stopped. Oh, OK.

JIMMY CARPER: You're hurt.

DAVID: Yeah, and I'm like stranded in this-- I'm sorry, but I hate New Mexico. It's one of those-- well, let's add, new, to another word to name it.

SPEAKER: I have to agree. I've been to New Mexico.

SPEAKER: Hey, it's a beautiful place.

DAVID: It's like New Germany or New England. That's nice. But New Mexico?

SPEAKER: It's more like New Desert.

DAVID: It's beautiful.

SPEAKER: Well, really old desert.

DAVID: And so I'm stranded there. We had an argument and a reconciliation every day. And then, at lunch at the Ore House-- O-R-E-- in Santa Fe, with some really bad steak. I found out he was emotionally dating someone while we were together.

SPEAKER: OK.

DAVID: Yeah, there wasn't anything physical, but they just went on dates and everything. And this is retrospect for him. But at the time, I was like, you are so dating him. He was like, no, I'm not.

SPEAKER: So you had different ideas of what dating somebody else was-- meant.

DAVID: It wasn't so much that it was the truth that hurt. It was that he didn't tell me at the time, or he was trying to protect me and everything.

SPEAKER: And that hurt.

DAVID: People call me a mean person and everything. But I do not lie to them and everything. I'm not going to pretend to be your friend. I'll be nice, but I'm not going to lie to you about--

JIMMY CARPER: It sounds like he was keeping you in reserve in case things didn't work out.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

DAVID: It's just like, don't lie to me about it. Tell me the truth, OK?

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Let me know what's up.

DAVID: Yeah.

JIMMY CARPER: Two people can make the relationship whatever they want it to be. It doesn't not even have to be monogamous. But they have to be honest about it.

SPEAKER: Exactly.

SPEAKER: But monogamy does help in a relationship.

JIMMY CARPER: No, it doesn't.

SPEAKER: Yes, it does.

HUNTER: I have a question.

JIMMY CARPER: Go ahead, Hunter.

HUNTER: Do you think that the place where you meet your companion, relationship person, husband, whatever, boyfriend-- does that make a difference in your relationship? Do you think that-- if you met a person at a club, that would make a difference. But as opposed to if you met that person at, say, a dinner party or like the mall--

SPEAKER: Kinko's.

HUNTER: Or Kinko's or something. Is that maybe different?

JIMMY CARPER: I think it still boils down to who you personally are.

SPEAKER: Yes.

JIMMY CARPER: And two people that love the club-- they're going to meet in the club, and then that's one interest they're going to have together. So it all boils down to you individually-- what you like.

SPEAKER: The two personalities have to meet, and you have to connect.

HUNTER: Where did you guys meet? Where did David and meet?

DEVON: I'll we let him do this.

DAVID: It's a long story, so I'll give you the abbreviated version. I'm originally from Colorado. My family found out I was gay and excommunicated me from the entire family. So I ended up living on the streets, and that's where I met Devon. And we've been together ever since.

You want to come home with me?

DEVON: I guess I'll pick it up from there. I was working and I had a place to stay and such like that. And I got hurt at work and ended up with no money-- no money and no place to stay. I ended up at the same spot. So we met and found us a place and got together. And it's been working out pretty good ever since.

DAVID: We have our ups and downs, and we have our fights. Oh, do we ever have our fights. But it's something that a relationship has to have. And when you have two people trying to live together, much less be lovers and live together, it takes a lot of work and a lot of effort to stay together.

SPEAKER: David? Go on.

DAVID: Oh, I thought somebody was interjecting. I was like, what did I say? [LAUGHS]

JIMMY CARPER: See, that was the odd thing. Eric and I were together for almost five months, and we never had a fight. Every once in a while, we had a little disagreement, but we never had a fight. And I always thought that was odd.

SPEAKER: It's getting--

JIMMY CARPER: Close to the time.

SPEAKER: Fairly close to time.

JIMMY CARPER: Ooh, time flies when you're having fun.

SPEAKER: There's somebody in there who we haven't heard a whole lot from.

SPEAKER: Oh, hey.

SPEAKER: Yes, please speak. We're trying to get you a man.

SPEAKER: I've talked to you outside of here a little bit. And what's your take on all of this, as far as-- how do you feel about relationships, dealing with things from your point of view?

SPEAKER: Oh, one of the weird things about young gay relationships is that we're going through right now what guys before us are-- they had to deal with coming out at older ages, around the 20s or 25s or even in their 30s. And we're going through stuff like right now-- 14, 15, that they're barely going through right now. And I thought that was really crazy.

And now that it's more out in the open and more kids are coming out and it's in the media everywhere, there's also like an image being put out to us, just like teenage girls, where we have to be this perfect, hard body, and we have to have fabulous taste in clothes, and girls have to love us.

SPEAKER: Yeah, we're all interior decorators.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: And we all know how to dance.

SPEAKER: We love hair.

SPEAKER: It's really hard to live up to that.

SPEAKER: I'm a walking contradiction.

SPEAKER: Oh, yeah. Me, too, in my rock music.

SPEAKER: So you feel like you have to live up to that to be part of something.

SPEAKER: Yeah, it's worse than the heterosexual girls. Even now, if you find out in our community that-- if you slept with more than five people, you're like, oh, that guy's a slut. It's worse than girls in the 1950s.

SPEAKER: Of course, in the 1950s, if they showed too much leg, they were considered sluts.

SPEAKER: Heaven forbid, cleavage.

SPEAKER: Oh, no, not that. You'd show too much neck and you're in trouble.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Well, in my opinion, it's just like worse for gay teenage boys now than it is for like girls right now.

SPEAKER: Exactly.

SPEAKER: Females are accepted more to be gay than a male.

SPEAKER: Exactly.

JIMMY CARPER: Two women--

SPEAKER: Lee, you're still in high school, right?

JIMMY CARPER: --can hold hands and go through anywhere--

LEE: Yeah, I'm still in high school.

JIMMY CARPER: --and they don't think anything of it. Two guys hold hands, and they're going to get mugged.

SPEAKER: Lee and I are both in high school. What are you?

LEE: I go to Reagan High School.

SPEAKER: But what grade are you in?

SPEAKER: There are thousands of women becoming lesbians right now.

LEE: I'm a junior.

SPEAKER: And I'm a sophomore. Are you in a straight-- predominantly straight one in town? I did live in Tomball, so that's a predominantly straight part-- area of town.

SPEAKER: And I grew up in a very Roman Catholic, very white town.

SPEAKER: And Tomball is predominantly white also. So when you go down there in school-- it's a little strange to see lesbians or girls going around. But at our school, they're only gay because it's cool.

SPEAKER: Oh, it's trendy to be gay.

SPEAKER: Like, hey, I'm bi. And they're not gay. They're bi. So for me, there's like--

SPEAKER: Who ever knew it would be trendy to be one of us?

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Hey, I was gay before it was trendy.

SPEAKER: For all I know, there's only two people at our school that is gay. There's only two people. And it's me and this other guy. Those are the only people that I know so far of, even though I know many other people in our school that are gay that just don't come out because they're like, oh, this is Tomball. And I'm like, what do you-- what is there to be scared about? If you are honest about who you are--

SPEAKER: Getting beaten the crap out of you.

SPEAKER: And I deal with that, too. I'm like, you can go ahead and hit me, but then I'll just-- you ain't got to answer to me.

SPEAKER: You wanted to say something?

SPEAKER: Oh, I find that it's easier for kids where I live-- I live in an urban area, and it's a lot easier for kids to come out. I don't know why. And in suburban urban areas, where it's supposed to be all nice and cool and everything, those are the kids that get verbally abused.

SPEAKER: Because urban people are exposed to more things than people outside of certain areas. We're exposed to more cultures and more variations in life in more urban settings.

JIMMY CARPER: OK, one last thing.

SPEAKER: We got to kill.

JIMMY CARPER: Go.

SPEAKER: Oh, hi. Well, I can one-up that because someone from my high school was just-- would verbally harass me and my friend and everything. It's just, like, anti-gay epithets and everything. And then we see him around Montrose now with boyfriends.

JIMMY CARPER: Of course.

SPEAKER: He's still not out at his high school, and torments people there.

JIMMY CARPER: Sure. It's the protective covering.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

SPEAKER: Lash out to protect themselves.

JIMMY CARPER: I hate to close this up, but we're right at the end of time. But this was fun.

SPEAKER: I love doing this.

SPEAKER: We'll have to do it again.

SPEAKER: You bet.

JIMMY CARPER: You've been listening to *After Hours: Queer Radio with Attitude* on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

Coming up at the top of the hour is the early morning groove. And Bobby Fats is here, and he's ready to give you what you want.

In the meantime in the background, you're hearing Janis Ian, who was here this evening at U of H downtown. And this is one of her songs that I really like. She's the queen of the protest songs, but this is really erotic. Ride me like a wave.

SPEAKER: Ooh.

SPEAKER: Love you, baby. I love you.

SPEAKER: See you next week.

SPEAKER: Love you, baby.

SPEAKER: Bye.