

**PRESENTER 1:** The Puritan aspect that has come down through the American public, who contrasted with, let's say, the European, much more open-minded as far as sex is concerned. Whereas the American, North American, United States is very, very uptight about sex. How can we get around the Puritan aspect, which is basically a religious prohibition of enjoying sex in order to achieve the sacred sex aspect?

**LORAINA** Very good question. I think it's the fear and the distrust and the hatred of the body is very deep. And that it can't be done in direct confrontation. Actually, the best way I've seen it done is lightly with humor and with a lot of reassurance. It can't be done by, like, being outrageous. I mean, I would like to be, sometimes I have been, but I find that it's much better to try to find the one thing in that hypothetical Puritan's own experience that they can relate to and talk to them about that, that is sex positive and start there. Start where people are, not where you want them to be.

**PRESENTER 1:** Yeah, not letting others define what is right and what is wrong.

**LORAINA** No. No, and don't let them inhibit you. I mean, that's the hardest thing. That's the hardest thing.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** I think the other thing that becomes important is setting a safe environment before you even enter that arena.

**LORAINA** Yeah, that's true, too.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Yes, something that enhances trust and builds on communicating on that level that we all tend to be a little bit skittish from all our training. To be able to break down those barriers and say OK, it's OK to touch.

**LORAINA** And that also has to do with the sense of ritual in the sense of what sometimes is called creating a container for

**HUTCHINS:** the energy or creating a circle of safety. So that, yeah these things are sacred. They're special. We don't try them where we don't have a safe place to do it.

**GIGI:** And I also find that doing things that are naturally relaxing right before you go into ritual is a big help. Like, I always take a good, hot steamy shower and then do a little meditation before I go into any ritual.

**LORAINA** Yeah, and put wonderful oils on your body and all that.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Yeah, and burn some incense and-- even if I've got someone that's into it, get a good heavy backrub.

**LORAINA** Yeah, I think what Jimmy is talking about is very important. It's just-- it's somehow not letting ourselves be

**HUTCHINS:** controlled by other people's fears. At least that's my that's my struggle is not taking on their negativity and their anxiety. And if I can do that, I've won a lot of the battle already. If I can find love for them.

**PRESENTER 1:** There's a cliche that says if it's pleasant, it must be dirty. And get over it. That's, yeah. No, no way. God gave us sexuality to enjoy. And you know and from the sacred standpoint of the thing. For us to allow someone else to tell us what we can and cannot do with our bodies, we're basically denying what God has given us.

**GIGI:** Well one thing I do now when I do-- I do what's called the Temple of Aphrodite at some of the pagan gatherings, especially at Beltane. And one of the things I kind of--

**PRESENTER 1:** Pick your God. Yeah, I don't care.

**GIGI:** One of the things I preempt this with is that I say, if the goddess had meant for humans to have sex, she would have given us genitals. And everybody kind of looks at me for a minute. And then, all of a sudden I see it kind of absorbing. And all of a sudden, the light bulb goes off.

**JADE ESTEBAN:** That's a good one. That's a good one. Because I mean, it's true. That's like the first that's the first thing a child

**ESTRADA:** does is learns his or her body and starts playing with themselves and everything. And then the second thing that happens is the parents say don't do that. It's dirty. It's bad. Don't do that in public.

And then from there, I mean, because at such a young age when you're exploring everything, including yourself, and then all of a sudden you're told, don't do that. Don't explore yourself. These harmful feelings--

**LORAINA** But the reason I got a little cynical when I was doing all this studying of sacred sex was because when you look

**HUTCHINS:** at the way it is actually being practiced, it's not always respectful. It can be exploitative. There's sexism, homophobia racism that goes on among people trying to practice sacred sex because that's just who people are and we're all struggling with what we've been conditioned to be.

And I think it's important, when talking about it, to say, just as children learn shame for their bodies, children learn to hate and to use power wrongly. And that comes out a lot of-- I mean, that's why I wrote a queer and feminist critique of sacred sex in the US today. Because a lot of groups I saw were not understanding that we all have male and female within us and that you don't need a male-female couple to have a sacred sex experience. It can happen among any combination of people.

**GIGI:** And I think you touched on something else that I'm always very particularly aware of. And that is the sense of there are some people that use this sacred sex movement just to get laid. And so you do need to be very careful on who you pick to celebrate with.

**LORAINA** Yeah, and in a way they're just lonely and they're trying to find their own way, but they're not respectful of other people. And it has to be named for what it is.

**PRESENTER 1:** Well I think I think part of the worst aspect of exploitation is the repression on the part of the fundamentalists. And particularly in a religion.

**LORAINA** Can you give me an example?

**HUTCHINS:**

**PRESENTER 1:** Well again, I mean, your fundamentalist religions that take the attitude that sex is not something to be enjoyed, it should solely be for procreation. And that's ridiculous.

**LORAINA** And there's often the hypocrisy that these people are having sex behind the backs of their church.

**HUTCHINS:**

**JADE ESTEBAN:** Whenever you try to repress it, it will come out.

**ESTRADA:**

**PRESENTER 1:** Sometimes some of the worst some of the worst pedophiles and so forth like that are within the hierarchy of the church.

**LORAIN** Right. And I mean, that's the contradiction. That's the irony.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** But I've also-- I've put that warning out because I have seen it, but very rarely. I think most people that I've encountered that are into the sacred sex movement have been very much aware that this is a possibility, but really go out of their way to set a safe environment.

**LORAIN** Yes and as Annie Sprinkle, who's a wonderful sacred sex teacher and my friend, she says, it's like playing with

**HUTCHINS:** fire. It is dangerous. Respect it.

**PRESENTER 1:** Well, it necessitates respect for one another. I have always-- and I've never really been able to get it across sometimes to some people, that when I have a relationship with someone, I consider us to be equals. I don't need to dominate someone. I don't want to be dominated. We should be equals. We may be different in as far as our needs and so forth like that, but we complement one another.

**GIGI:** Well you mentioned the Body Electric and you had mentioned the Burning Man. Where are other groups from around the country that people could get in touch with that they want to learn more about sacred sex?

**LORAIN** Well there might be some in Austin that I don't know about. Body Electric is an excellent teaching school. It's

**HUTCHINS:** located in Oakland. And it's on the web.

**GIGI:** And they do classes.

**LORAIN** They're for women and men. They do all women's classes all men's classes and they occasionally do mixed men

**HUTCHINS:** and women weekend retreats. And they're the most public, I would say. I mean, there's lots of different schools of tantra and you can plug tantra into a search engine and come up with tons of stuff. And check them out yourself in terms of what you feel are the best or what you feel is most interesting to what your own interests are.

There are teachers around the country that do sacred sex. But in terms of groups that people can actually join, it's hard to say. I mean, it comes more by word of mouth.

**GIGI:** What about books? Are there any books that you would recommend for people to read that would give some insights?

**LORAIN** There's tons of books. Actually I would recommend that they order my copy of my thesis. I'm selling it. And I can give you my website or something.

**GIGI:** Yeah. Go ahead and give it to us now on the air.

**LORAIN** The website is IGC-- [www.IGC.org/rain](http://www.IGC.org/rain). My nickname, Rain. R-A-I-N. But-- and you have to email me. There's not like a credit card order thing on there. But if you email me, I would tell you more about how to get the dissertation, which has a huge bibliography in it with a lot of books like the one she mentioned, red thread.

**GIGI:** I'm going to have to order that.

**LORAIN** Yeah, there's lots of amazing books on sacred sex. There's a lot of people that have written books on-- you can find them in amazon.com. But the ones that are queer-friendly and feminist is a smaller group. And that's what I talk about a lot in my writing.

There's a beautiful photo book called *Lesbian Sacred Sexuality* that was published in Northern California by Diane Marie's child. And there's a few things. Joe Kramer, who founded Body Electric is working on a book. It's not done he's done. He's done some excellent videos. *Fire on the Mountain* and there's the women's one called *Fire in the Valley*. And his website is Ero Spirit, I believe.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Eros Spirit or--

**ESTRADA:**

**LORAIN** Like erotic. E-R-O-- Ero Spirit?

**HUTCHINS:**

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Oh, OK.

**ESTRADA:**

**LORAIN** Or, I mean just Joseph Kramer. You can find him by that. Because he's producing a lot of erotic videos that are

**HUTCHINS:** educational as well. And Betty Dodson is my total, total favorite. Oh, also Annie Sprinkle works with Joe Kramer on videos, and she did *Fire in the Valley*. She also did an excellent one with him called *Female Genital Massage*. And *Fire on the Mountain* is male genital massage. They both show a lot of hands-on techniques on film about how to pleasure one's partner better in a beautiful way. [BettyDodson.com](http://BettyDodson.com)-- B-E-T-T-Y-D-O-D-S-O-N .com.

She is just an amazing sex teacher. She's in her 70s. I've taken her workshops. I've been in her first video. She's got three videos out. And she's taught thousands of women and some men how to masturbate better and how to give themselves more pleasure. And she is funny, because she's the farthest thing from a guru. She certainly is not starting a religion. She's just very down to Earth.

And yet what she does is beautifully reverent. So she's-- I would say she's a spiritual person without needing any dogma.

**PRESENTER 1:** Age is no criterion.

**LORAIN** Oh totally. Totally not. I'm 53.

**HUTCHINS:**

**PRESENTER 1:** I mean there are young people that have great wisdom. And there are old people that don't know what they're doing.

**LORAIN** But we're never too old to learn.

**HUTCHINS:**

**PRESENTER 1:** Exactly, yeah. If you have an open mind, that's the whole thing.

**GIGI:** Well, Loraine--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Hold on, we have to step in one moment and tell everyone we're listening to *After Hours* on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. Didn't want to interrupt you. We had to get that in.

**GIGI:** Oh, yes.

**LORAINA** Sure.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Our station break call. I wanted to ask you about some of the work you're working on right now. I know you're getting ready to start some work in teaching people.

**LORAINA** I'm learning to do what Betty Dodson does, what she calls sex coaching. In the-- there's a lot of people that are

**HUTCHINS:** using the term coaching these days. And sex coaching is a way of working with someone on masturbation, on self-love. It's different than-- it's not doing what a sex worker does. It's not being the person's hired sexual partner. It's more facilitating them getting in touch with their own sexual power.

I'm publishing. I'm looking for a publisher for my dissertation, which is called *Erotic Rites R-I-T-E-S*. The subtitle is *A Cultural Analysis of Contemporary US Sacred Sex Traditions and Trends*. And doing workshops and speeches on college campuses and other places about sacred sex, about bisexuality, about sexual liberation for all people.

**GIGI:** Another thing--

**LORAINA** I'm doing it in the belly of the beast, Washington DC.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Oh, wow.

[LAUGHTER]

**PRESENTER 1:** Let me ask you a question here. I know that your primary emphasis is in bisexuality and so forth like that. How much have you gone into the transgendered aspect of it, because personally, having been transgendered since I was four or five years of age, and read a great deal and tried to learn a great deal, my personal opinion is that a hell of a lot more people, particularly in the transgender community, who are bisexual than will ever admit it.

**LORAINA** Absolutely that's been my experience in who I've met, yes. But are you asking me in terms of what I find in my research on bisexual?

**PRESENTER 1:** Yes. Yes. As far as people who not only admit being bisexual but also have some aspect of transgenderism.

**LORAINA** I think what it is that gender is not an either/or thing. And there are so many people that are in the middle of that spectrum.

**GIGI:** I'm here.

**LORAINA** That, especially in behavior and in self awareness, as well as just the biological ways that we define sex, but, you know, so that there's so many ways that people are multi-gendered or multi-magnificent in exploring and expressing--

**PRESENTER 1:** I think there's so many different ways that we can self-identify.

**LORAIN** Yeah. Yeah. And Express it, too.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** And one thing I'd like to kind of bring in, we haven't talked about it yet on the show, is the great rite.

**LORAIN** Yes, GiGi. Great rite is something from occult magic. Some kinds of what is called Wicca or witchcraft, which

**HUTCHINS:** involves the female and the male aspects of divinity making love together in circle, either metaphorically or in reality. And it can be done by the priestess and the priest making love with everyone else in the circle witnessing it. Or it can be done symbolically by just taking a ritual object off the altar representing a female and a ritual object representing a male and uniting them like that a chalice and a blade or--

**PRESENTER 1:** Let me jump in here real quick on the aspect of Wicca. Although I am not a member of the Wiccan religion, so forth like that, people should be aware of the fact that Wiccan is not the negative or the bad or the Black magic. But true Wiccans really are the white magic, the helping, trying to help one another rather than casting spells and all the garbage that you see in the movies and the media.

**LORAIN** Thank you. Yes, I mean, true Wiccans believe that if you intend any evil it comes back at you threefold. And

**HUTCHINS:** there's no point in intending evil. It's about intending good. The only thing that works.

**GIGI:** And one of the things I've been working on and some of the work I do is taking some of the dichotomy out of male versus female out of the ritual. And there are some cultures that had androgynous god, goddess aspects.

**LORAIN** Yes, yes.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Can you talk a little bit about the more androgynous goddess, god.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Deity.

**ESTRADA:**

**GIGI:** Deity.

**LORAIN** I mean, they're all around, especially in cultures that are more related to the land, not as alienated from the land,

**HUTCHINS:** not as urbanized. And I am not an anthropologist. And I'm just a baby in terms of learning. But I do have a sense for instance in the Afro-Caribbean traditions such as Santeria and Vodun and Candomble that the orishas, or the spirits, some of them change sex, change gender.

**PRESENTER 1:** Well you have, even within the Christian religion, within the New Testament, I want to say it's Timothy or Corinthians One where there is a description of heaven that says there shall be no male or female.

**LORAIN** Absolutely and there's also these things in the Song of Songs, Song of Solomon where it talks about Gods breasts

**HUTCHINS:** and God nursing and the milk from Gods breath. Well, you know, somebody must have not somebody must not have edited that out when they changed from the goddess.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Well, my sister's a minister, Christian minister, and she often talks about that there's a lot of feminine imagery with Jesus. You know, he's not portrayed as your typical male figure at that time. You know, he's a very feminine, nurturing guy. And yeah, when he was pierced in the side when he was up on the cross they often talk about milk came forth instead of blood. Yeah, so there's a lot of that as well. So people kind of like almost seem to they acknowledge it, and then say, but that doesn't mean, you know, he's androgynous. He's obviously a guy or something like that.

**PRESENTER 1:** Within the Old Testament the prophecies and so forth of the suffering servant aspect of the Messiah is basically a feminine characteristic, as far as what society attributes to being feminine or masculine.

**LORAIN** Well, this is what's so crazy is the devotee in the Old Testament and in a lot of religious texts is seen as female  
**HUTCHINS:** worshipping the male God. Or if she's not female, then it's a erotic thing. Or if the goddess is a female and the female is worshipping the goddess then it's a homo-- I mean, it's like we get so caught in gender as it relates to--

**PRESENTER 1:** I think part of the problem with the Judeo-Christian religion is the fact that it is basically-- it derived from a patriarchy. And therefore, they tend to look more towards the male aspect of the thing and ignore the female.

**LORAIN** Yeah. And if we can reclaim the goddess part of that, we can maybe after a couple more 1,000 years get beyond gender.  
**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** I want to break in here and we had a couple of callers call in and offer some comments. One of the comments is the Bible says we're created in Gods image. Therefore, how can any part of the human body be considered obscene?

**LORAIN** Absolutely.

**HUTCHINS:**

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Actually, just-- that always makes me think of-- we're created in Gods image-- I was babysitting for a boy one time, I think he was like eight years old or something like that. And somehow, we started talking about God. And I said, what do you think God looks like? He thought for a minute and said, I think God looks like man and a man and a woman and animals all rolled up together, because God made everybody in Gods image. And I said that was really cool. And I said so you got this sort of like big amalgamation God here. And I always thought that was very interesting.

**LORAIN** Well, and it's a Wiccan concept that Gaia, the planet, is the living, breathing body of God.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** We've got another comment from someone in the Galleria area. He says, I think you guys are cool and I'm proud of you guys for being so with it technologically, and your, I don't know if I'm reading this right--

**JADE ESTEBAN-** And in your interviews.

**ESTRADA:**

**GIGI:** And in your interviews.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Well, thank you very much.

**ESTRADA:**

**GIGI:** But we need to wrap up here do you have any last comments you'd like to put out there for folks?

**LORAINA** Oh it's all about loving ourselves and breathing.

**HUTCHINS:**

**PRESENTER 1:** That's interesting that you should mention that because this was one of the problems my ex-wife had as I tried to tell her was that the only person you can make happy is yourself. You cannot make anyone else happy.

**LORAINA** And if I connect out to you, then loving myself is about loving you.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Well, thanks for joining us.

**LORAINA** We had fun.

**HUTCHINS:**

**GIGI:** Yes. And Jade is going to do a quick book review on the *Thread of Passion*.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Thanks for being with *After Hours*.

**LORAINA** Thank you. Blessed be.

**HUTCHINS:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** Blessed be.

**GIGI:** Blessed be.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK. And you have a quick book review?

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Well, I was just going to say-- I mean we've already talked about the *Red Thread of Passion*. I wasn't going to

**ESTRADA:** mention that. I was just going to mention-- I did want to bring up that there are two new bisexual erotica books out, speaking of sacred sex this fits. *Best Bisexual Erotica Two* is out now, thank you very much. Brent and Carole Queen.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, thank you, Bill. I've been wondering what he's been doing.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Well, that's what he's been doing. It's a little different this time. It's a little-- I want to say a little darker. I haven't

**ESTRADA:** read all the stories, but a little dark-- kind of people coming to terms with bisexuality and what it means and stuff. I mean, they're still very hot stories and they're still very good, but it just-- some of the stories have a little more of an edge to them, which is really interesting. Some of them are still wildly funny. And as I said, they all are really hot. But some of them are a little more-- kind of edgy on this one. *Best Bisexual Erotica Two*.

And they said they got so many submissions this time on bisexuality in BDSM, they may have to do a new one on bisexual BDSM. *Best Bisexual BDSM Erotica*, or something like that. So *Best Bisexual Erotica Two* is out, and now they also have, there's another book-- *Best Bisexual Women's Erotica*, which is not by Carole Queen, interestingly enough. It's edited by Cara Bruce. And it's not even from Circlet Press. It's from Cleis. Or Cleis? C-L-E-I-S. So *Best Bisexual Erotica Two* is from Circlet Press. And Circlet Press is also coming out with the *Best Transgender Erotica* some time later. I want to say in February, but I'm not entirely sure. So we will definitely be on the lookout for that.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That's cool.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** But there are definitely-- I haven't seen *Best Bisexual Men's Erotica* yet, but I have a feeling it's not far behind.

**ESTRADA:**

**PRESENTER 1:** Is there any places in Houston where those are available or do you have to get them through amazon.com or something like that?

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Actually-- well, let's see. I got-- I think I got both of these through Good Vibrations, but I have seen *Best Bisexual*

**ESTRADA:** *Women's Erotica* at Barnes Noble or Borders or something like that. Their erotica section, interestingly, enough over I think it's at Borders is like right next to their literary criticism section.

[LAUGHTER]

I don't know why, but they're--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Well, you can always, always try local first. That's 3939 Montrose Boulevard.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Or Crossroads.

**ESTRADA:**

**PRESENTER 1:** Yeah well the thing about it is, if you've got the if you've got the name of the book, presumably they could order it for you.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Oh Yeah. I've never tried them but I have tried Crossroads. And as a matter of fact, I ordered *Best Bisexual*

**ESTRADA:** *Erotica* from them and no problem. They didn't have it. They said, "Nope. We don't have it. You want us to order it? Sure thing." There you go. No problems.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Jade, I'm so glad you're here. You know, things are just seem livelier when you're part of the--

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Well, thank you. Thank you so much.

**ESTRADA:**

**GIGI:** And I have to do our Bi-Net Houston plug. Anybody that's interested, we meet every Wednesday night up at the community center, 803 Hawthorne. 7:30-9:00. And if you want to call us, our Bi-Net phone line is 7134667438 713-467-4380. Hey, I'm not such a dizzy blond.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That's not too shabby for a dyslexic.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** You've got the first part and the last part. It's that middle part you need to work on.

**ESTRADA:**

**PRESENTER 1:** GiGi, you're not allowed to have blonde moments.

**GIGI:** Oh, you should see me and some of my--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh honey, life is a blonde moment.

**GIGI:** And it's very blonde down there.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes it is.

**JADE ESTEBAN-** Silly little people.

**ESTRADA:**

**GIGI:** Oh, I have to get one in here and there.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Every Wednesday night at the community center.

**GIGI:** Yes.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK. OK, thanks for being here, guys. And we'll talk to you next month.

Now we have someone right here in the good old studio who hasn't been here in quite a while. And even though, she's got an open invitation every third Thursday, or every third Saturday, hello.

**NANCY FORD:** What day is it?

**JIMMY CARPER:** What day is it? Hello. Hello Nancy Ford.

**NANCY FORD:** Hi, everybody. Nice to be here. Hi, Jimmy.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Hi, Nancy.

**NANCY FORD:** Hi, everybody out there in "After Hours" land.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Wow. And what hat are you wearing tonight?

**NANCY FORD:** Oh I'm wearing my comedian's hat. I'm wearing my propeller beanie.

[LAUGHTER]

What are you talking about?

**JIMMY CARPER:** That means that you're going to be talking about *The Dyke Show*.

**NANCY FORD:** I'm going to be talking about the-- you'll never-- you'll never believe it. I just came from the opening night of *The Dyke Show* at Unhinged Productions, which is a gay lesbian theater here in town, as you well know.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Isn't that supposed to be-- aren't you doing *The Dyke Show* at Chances on Thursday?

**NANCY FORD:** Still doing it at Chances on Thursday night, but this is a little bit different. This is an actual theatrical piece. It's very improvisational. What I've done-- OK, you live this. I know you have been to a million events, gay marches, festivals, things. And what do you get? A t-shirt.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Well, right.

**NANCY FORD:** What is the thing? Been there, done that, got the t-shirt.

**JIMMY CARPER:** I just-- as I mentioned earlier, I just donated 60 shirts to the Gulf Coast Archives

**NANCY FORD:** To GCAM, sure. Well, that's what I've done with *The Dyke Show*. I've cleaned out my closet.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, you must have hundreds of t-shirts.

**NANCY FORD:** Now, there's nothing in there at this point. I've just--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Just jeans, huh?

**NANCY FORD:** I'm gone. The t-shirts are gone. Everything's out of there. Taken the t-shirts, and basically, audience members choose a t-shirt from a bag, from my travel bag. And then I talk about what was going on in the gay and lesbian community. Say they pull out one of the Pride Parade t-shirts from a certain year, we talk about things that were going on that year.

**JIMMY CARPER:** No kidding!

**NANCY FORD:** From Stonewall 25 in New York, we talk about that. And it's just all woven in. It's just-- it's GCAM on stage is what it is. But it's a lot of fun. It's music. It's comedy. It's very improvisational.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That makes every show different.

**NANCY FORD:** Exactly. It's-- they're like snowflakes. And the people at Unhinged Productions, they're great. They're trying something new doing a *Late Show*. It's every Saturday night at 10:30. It follows Chris Wilson's-- the Actors Theater group is in there first doing-- it's also a gay play. What's it called? *Lonely Planet*.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh. Yeah, yeah. We've promoted that.

**NANCY FORD:** So I'm following *Lonely Planet* every Saturday night at 10:30 at Unhinged.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That sounds like fun. Now how do I get there?

**NANCY FORD:** Oh, it's easy. Well, it's easy if you have an SUV.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh yeah, because of the construction going on.

**NANCY FORD:** So that takes care of the dykes. OK, that's cool.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Well, it's the Dyke Show, OK.

**NANCY FORD:** My four-wheel vehicle sisters. You take-- it's on the corner of Elgin and La Branch.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Elgin and La Branch, OK.

**NANCY FORD:** You go down Westheimer.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Elgin is what Westheimer becomes.

**NANCY FORD:** Exactly you go east on Westheimer. You go through mountainous caverns of construction. But it will be worth the trip. You turn right on La Branch and it is right there on the right, before you get to Holman. It's like a 5-minute, like 3-minute trip from Montrose.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, no kidding.

**NANCY FORD:** 10:30 every Saturday.

**JIMMY CARPER:** You know, the official church here is Our Lady of Perpetual Deconstruction.

**NANCY FORD:** I know.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, that sounds great.

**NANCY FORD:** So everybody come out. I'd love to see you. Where's that--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Jackie took it.

**NANCY FORD:** Oh, it's-- I don't have the telephone number. But call Unhinged Productions and they'll hook you up.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK. Is there going to be something like in the Triangle about this?

**NANCY FORD:** Well, yes, as a matter of fact that I wouldn't be the least bit surprised. It's always-- we list it in our *Showtime* of course, which is a complete listing of all the gay lesbian theater throughout the state of Texas, in the Triangle.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Great.

**NANCY FORD:** You can pick that up every Friday.

**JIMMY CARPER:** You bet you can. Sometimes late Friday, but hey, Friday.

**NANCY FORD:** If it's raining, you know-- a girl's got to get a rest and stay dry.

**JIMMY CARPER:** I have-- I kind of have this route that I take. I come down Lovett, and I pick up the other-- the competition. And then I go over--

**NANCY FORD:** *Hustler*-- that's what you mean, right?

**JIMMY CARPER:** Right. Then I go to the Ripcord, and that's where I pick up the Triangle.

**NANCY FORD:** Honey the next time that happens, you call me directly and I will run over to the Ripcord with a copy in hand.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Because they just-- almost always they have them in the afternoon, Friday afternoon. The Ripcord, right there as you walk in. It's great.

**NANCY FORD:** Thank you. Well it's good to know that we're relatively right there. Happy to be here.

**PRESENTER 2:** That's the delivery driver for you.

**NANCY FORD:** Oh well, it's not Domino's. What do you want from me?

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK. Thanks for being here. And we'll be talking about that every week, because that's a cool thing to do.

**NANCY FORD:** I expect to see you next week. I'm only there for four weeks. So you need to hurry.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, four weeks. OK, OK.

**NANCY FORD:** And then the regular show at Chances every Thursday, so come on out.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That's right. Thursday. That's 9:00-ish at Chances?

**NANCY FORD:** Actually, thank you for bringing that up. I'm starting at 8:00.

**JIMMY CARPER:** 8:00?

**NANCY FORD:** Starting at 8:00 this week.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Now is that dyke time or gay time?

**NANCY FORD:** No that's real time. That's the time. That's a central dyke time. Well, we did [? Siwa ?] just be there.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK, 8:00. Well that's cool, because you can go out and get something to eat and then by the time you're finished dinner, it's time for the Dyke Show.

**NANCY FORD:** Boom. Dinner and a show.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Love it.

**NANCY FORD:** Thank you. I love you.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Thanks for being here.

**NANCY FORD:** Goodnight.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Goodnight. Now, we've got the interview coming up from not yet, but Rosemary Croll in Austin. I think she's on the line right now, but I want to play this first to let our audience know just what exactly they're in for.

**ROSEMARIE** (SINGING) Well, I'm a Yan--

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh my, that is called Texas, Michigan. That's the number one song on the CD called *Spotty Sprinkles of Love* by Rosemarie Croll. And do we have her online?

**ROSEMARIE** I'm right here, Jimmy.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** Hey, welcome to *After Hours*.

**ROSEMARIE** Well, thank you for having me on your show.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** It's pretty amazing, because I just found out, as Nancy Ford stood up to leave, that she pointed and she said oh, I know her. She's been on *The Dyke Show*.

**ROSEMARIE** That's correct.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** So you've played Houston already?

**ROSEMARIE** Yes, prior to the release of the CD. And I apologize Jimmy, but I never heard what song you played.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh I'm sorry. I played *Texas, Michigan*.

**ROSEMARIE** Oh, well thank you.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** That was kind of get the audience in tune, let them know exactly what's coming up. And I thought that was an excellent first song for your CD that really does kind of let people know what's going on. And also, the title *Spotty Sprinkles of Love* and I see a little bit of love everywhere on this. And in the songs like *This Love, Wonderful Lover, My Real Name is Love* and then your dedications.

**ROSEMARIE** Yeah.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** Can you tell us about the dedications, because I thought that was very touching.

**ROSEMARIE** Well the dedications, especially because just well, in the past few years I was contacted by my biological mother.

**CROLL:** I was adopted as a baby. And I had never realized that I had a biological family out there just looking for me. And they found me. And it took a lot of what's the word I want to say? It took me by surprise. And I a bit shocked, but once I got used to the idea, I realized that things happen for a reason. I'm very fortunate to have an extra mother.

And then, on a dedication of course, I dedicate it to another extra mother besides, that my honorary mother, who was a very good friend who happens probably to be the age of my own mother who's raised me all these years, who I consider to be my mother-mother, and who adopted me as a baby. So I'm very lucky to have three mothers.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, no kidding. And there's a couple of other names that are very familiar on here, especially to me. Sarah Gish is one, who has been a DJ on this radio station and was a frequent guest of *Lesbian and Gay Voices* and *After Hours* when she was with Landmark. And now she's doing her own public relations stuff.

**ROSEMARIE** Right. Yeah, Sarah Gish and I go way, way back.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** Really?

**ROSEMARIE** She was one of the first people I met when I came to Houston years ago. And a very, very dear friend, and we

**CROLL:** have a wonderful history and we've both grown and changed over the years. And she's been very kind and gracious to help me with, helping me promote the CD.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Tell me about the CD. I mean, I've listened to the songs and I think you're an excellent songwriter.

**ROSEMARIE** Well thank you.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** I've really enjoyed the material here. What's the background? What's the impetus?

**ROSEMARIE** The impetus of most of my songs would be basically just-- I'm inspired suddenly to write something. For instance,

**CROLL:** *Three Cakes in the Oven*, I literally had three cakes in the oven when I wrote the song.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, no kidding.

**ROSEMARIE** I'm not joking. I thought, you know what? That sounds like a song.

**CROLL:**

[LAUGHTER]

And I'll never forget the day. It was September 29, of 1991-- this is quite a while ago, but that's the good thing about songs is the listener doesn't always have to know when they're composed, if they're written more universal.

**JIMMY CARPER:** I've always been enamored of songwriters, because you put your life and your emotions out there into the public.

And sometimes it can backfire, and sometimes some of the things that you love the most maybe are not the favorites of your audience.

**ROSEMARIE** Right. Well that's why I chose such a wide variety of styles.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** It certainly is.

**ROSEMARIE** To try to appeal to all kinds of people. And I much prefer eclecticism. And that's pretty much my style is eclectic.

**CROLL:** And to go back to the original question, probably the first song, *Texas, Michigan* that the listeners just heard also exemplifies my personal life in that I was raised in Michigan. And when I came down to Texas, I started realizing the differences and having been raised in a Northern culture and coming down to the Southern culture of the United States. And that's the gist of the song and the funny contrast and just learning how to get by in a whole new arena for myself.

**JIMMY CARPER:** I think I know what you mean. I was raised in New Jersey.

**ROSEMARIE** Oh, yes.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** So you know I grew up with that northern outlook, and then hitting Texas it was kind of a slap in the face. I mean, it's just a whole different way of living.

**ROSEMARIE** Oh exactly. I never mentioned anything about the heat in the song. I regret that. Let's see, another one. Let's see

**CROLL:** here. *Wonderful Lover* exemplifies a very deep longing. And I hope it reflects in other people's thoughts. Songs-- that's what most people realize or subconsciously is that music, either without words or with words, touches people in a deep way and they identify it with and pick out parts for themselves. And I hope that's what some of my songs have done.

And luckily, my brother, as well, complimented my vocal style and my lyrics very well with his instrumentation and arrangements.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes. So the whole CD was recorded in Michigan.

**ROSEMARIE** That's correct in my brother's studio. We did it in two very short trips and I put my poor dear brother through his

**CROLL:** paces, and we pretty much recorded a song a day. I was really working pretty hard on him, but he's used to that. He helps people produce music commercially, so he's used to being on a tight schedule.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Great. So do you do you have gigs that you play a lot in the Austin area?

**ROSEMARIE** No. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to bring that to fruition yet. I'm hoping to do this in the future. And get  
**CROLL:** some more support. Austin's a very challenging town, musically.

**JIMMY CARPER:** No kidding.

**ROSEMARIE** And it's a very well-known town for its music. And what would be key for me would be to secure a keyboard  
**CROLL:** player. And as of yet I have not been able to do that. And I'm hoping in the future to do.

**JIMMY CARPER:** So it's a lot of musicians from Houston go to Austin, because Austin is more of a music city than Houston.  
Houston just is not much of a live music city. But I guess if everybody from Houston and other places are going to Austin, then there's probably there's a whole lot of folks there trying to put their music out.

**ROSEMARIE** Oh definitely.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** That can make it tough.

**ROSEMARIE** And just this evening. I was at a live concert at one of the coffeehouses and it's amazing at the different kinds of  
**CROLL:** people who come out to hear the live music. And there's so many different restaurants and cafes and very small places that have so many different bands. If you were to see the local publications of all the different bands available, and many of these people in these bands play for nothing or minimal cover charges just to get their music out.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Just to get out there.

**ROSEMARIE** There's a very high competition just to be heard. Yeah, so I feel very lucky to be here, and yet I still have a ways  
**CROLL:** to go to make myself heard.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Are you marketing to the community at large or the GLBT community?

**ROSEMARIE** I'm marketing to everyone. I want to appeal to all kinds of people. And I'm very honored that the gay and lesbian  
**CROLL:** community is including me. And that they're supportive and I'm very honored that you give me this interview.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Hey, it's very important to me to give airtime to local talent. And I kind of consider Austin local. We've had Chris-- I don't know if you know Christy Claxton, but she's almost a regular here on *After Hours* in interviews and playing her music.

**ROSEMARIE** So what is her style? Pardon my ignorance, please.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** No. She's a Texas musician. She plays Texas country-type music and she plays she lives in Lagrange so she travels-- that's kind of halfway between Austin.

**ROSEMARIE** Oh yes, I'm very well-versed with where it is.

**CROLL:**

**JIMMY CARPER:** So, you know, she can play both places and she really works it. But I just-- knowing her and talking.