

- RAY HILL:** Plainclothes police officers to stop doing undercover stings in the Men's rooms, in the subways. They said, you can patrol that with uniformed officers, but no undercover officers because they seduce people into getting arrested. And one final demand that was let me say-- God, I didn't think I'd ever forget.
- SPEAKER 1:** Pizza. Lots and lots of pizza.
- RAY HILL:** No. It was a kind of-- I know what it is, counted two of them there. I counted the nondiscrimination and the rehiring as one when it was actually two. There were four demands and those were they. But that's what it was about. It was about the frustration of people being treated unfairly. And actually, Mayor John Lindsay acquiesced on our points. There was some delivery problems, but John Lindsay said that he would meet those demands.
- CHRIS:** Wait, that's one of the parts that you don't hear much about is that there was somewhat of an organization on-- everyone just thinks.
- SPEAKER 2:** It was a birth too. No one really knew what was going on. It was happening fresh to everybody.
- RAY HILL:** Before Stonewall, gay people didn't think they deserved any rights or consideration. Before Stonewall, gay people of all ilk thought they got what they deserved. We didn't like ourselves and we didn't like one another at all. And we didn't have any sense of collective belonging.
- CHRIS:** Well, that was still at the time when the American Psychiatric Association had it disclosed as a disorder.
- RAY HILL:** '68 was when the psychiatric Psychological Association didn't change it.
- SPEAKER 2:** Oh, I remember that night. I remember that night very well. I was outside with my pan and my wooden spoon. Bang, bang bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang. Not a disease any longer.
- CHRIS:** Well, the funny thing is this-- just this past week or so it was taken off of the, I believe it's the Chinese psychological--
- SPEAKER 2:** That's right. It was just this past week.
- CHRIS:** So they're taking a long step into the 20th century.
- SPEAKER 2:** Pretty soon they'll be legalizing marijuana in China.
- RAY HILL:** Chris, let me do this. Those young people out there who are isolated and alone.
- SPEAKER 2:** And we know you're there.
- RAY HILL:** Oh, yeah. You've been there for years and I've been here for years. And so we haven't talked to you a lot. But those of you who are of Hatch age and what is that? What do people consider hatch age?
- CHRIS:** 13 to 20.
- RAY HILL:** 13 to 20.
- CHRIS:** Once you can bring the keg to the party, you can't come to the party.

**RAY HILL:** 13 to 20 out there. On the 12th I'm going to be speaking to HATCH at a Methodist church near you. All right? So if you'll give the switchboard a call, and what is that number Jimmy?

**JIMMY CARPER:** It's 52-932-11.

71-352-932-11.

**CHRIS:** That's the Houston Gay and Lesbian Switchboard.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah. Give them a call and they will tell you where the meeting is.

**CHRIS:** Oh, no. You have to call HATCH and HATCH will give you the information, correct? Yeah, the switchboard doesn't do that. 713-942-7002.

**RAY HILL:** 713-942-7002 is the HATCH number. But anyway, you'll probably get a machine. Talk to them and find out where the meeting is. I will be there on the 12th to talk about the history of people like you.

**CHRIS:** All right. Well, thank you, Ray. I mean, eventually--

**JIMMY CARPER:** I want to add one more thing. It's something you, said, Ray--

**SPEAKER 2:** Is he throwing you out, Ray?

**RAY HILL:** Yeah.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Something you said about people not liking-- gay people not liking themselves.

**RAY HILL:** Sure.

**JIMMY CARPER:** And I remember in the late '60s, there was a movie that came out called *Boys in the Band*.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah. Oh, god.

**JIMMY CARPER:** And people look at it now and they--

**RAY HILL:** They cringe.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, my. That's terrible. But that is exactly how gay men viewed themselves.

**RAY HILL:** Oh, no question about it. I've always thought that the most important thing that Chris does, and that Jimmy, does and that Jewel does, and the rest of us do, the most important thing is that we role model for people. And we role model being proud, and honest, and open. The thing about--

**SPEAKER 2:** And diverse. It's OK to be diverse.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah, to be different. I mean, I dread the days when we have assimilated to the degree that those of us who are different or looked down on because we're different. But it's all right to be different. I mean, my hero is Jean Genet. Go read the biography. It's fascinating. Stayed in a lot of trouble all his life, kind of like me. But--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Exactly like you.

**RAY HILL:** But the deal is-- no, I haven't been sentenced to life yet, but it's getting close a couple of times. But the deal is that from our larger culture, from the churches that we grew up in, from the society around us, we were dirty little boys, and nasty old men--

**SPEAKER 4:** Brainwashed.

**RAY HILL:** --and women who did unthinkable things with other women. And we have been brainwashing--

**JIMMY CARPER:** I caught them.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah, you're right. Right. Actually, they're quite fun. If you've got the right equipment there. But the thing about it is that all of that, you've inherited, and it shows up in the names you call people at school. And it shows up in your attitude about difference. And the thing is you're trying to mainstream, but only that square peg just ain't going to fit in that round hole. And I understand that because it's been the story of my life, too.

**SPEAKER 2:** The idea is to make room for both holes--

**RAY HILL:** And pegs.

**SPEAKER 2:** If we're going to stick to that analogy, to that metaphor, for both holes.

**RAY HILL:** Now see, that's the lesbian point of view.

**SPEAKER 2:** That's right.

**RAY HILL:** Now the guys would think in terms of pegs--

**SPEAKER 2:** Not both pegs, that's right.

**RAY HILL:** --and lesbians would think in terms-- but somehow or other, it's OK.

**SPEAKER 2:** That's right.

**RAY HILL:** And there is a history of it becoming OK.

**SPEAKER 2:** I don't think it's not-- I don't think that it's just OK. I think that we have a kind of a responsibility, kind of like people now are talking about we have a responsibility to speak up and ask questions about our government, even when everybody's saying, you're unpatriotic--

**RAY HILL:** Oh, sure.

**SPEAKER 2:** --if you question something. Well, I think it's also our responsibility to--

**RAY HILL:** Responsibility.

**SPEAKER 2:** Yeah. I think-- yeah. I think there's a responsibility.

**RAY HILL:** I mean, if you think about it, you're being closeted. Your hiding who you are from the people that you say you care about is an act of dishonesty.

**SPEAKER 2:** That's right. That's right. You know, I've never been in the closet. Never. I mean, I think I was born out of the closet. My mother knew before I knew.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah.

**SPEAKER 2:** And everybody else knew. They knew something, but they didn't know exactly what it was. And that's exactly what I knew. I didn't know what it was.

**RAY HILL:** Of course, it--

**CHRIS:** Well, it's easier to be birthed without that closet door in the way.

**SPEAKER 2:** I was just--

**RAY HILL:** Frankie--

**SPEAKER 2:** I was just one of those big boned girls.

**RAY HILL:** Them borad-boned girls. And listen, I'm going to I'm going to talk about Rita Wanstrom, and Jewel thinks she's a big, broad-boned woman, yeah. They grow them Scandinavians pretty good size.

**SPEAKER 2:** Yeah, big-legged ladies.

**RAY HILL:** But let me-- Frankie, my mother, who I was raised to call Frankie, has this remarkable story that everybody finds amazing whenever I went in the kitchen and told Frankie in 1958, all right? Think of it. Eisenhower is the president. Men's hair fashions are designed after aircraft carriers. We have flat tops. It's after the war kind of mentality.

**SPEAKER 2:** I was just learning to eat with silverware.

**RAY HILL:** Silverware

**CHRIS:** And Strom Thurmod had already ran for president.

**SPEAKER 2:** That's right.

**RAY HILL:** And I went in and I said, Frankie, I'm a homosexual. I didn't even know the word gay. And Frankie said, well, that's certainly a relief. And you don't expect that from sophisticated mothers today, much less in 1958.

And I said, what do you mean? She said, well, Raymond, my father, and I have noticed that you tend to dress up more than other boys in. And not in skirts and blouses, Jewel. I'm talking about coats and ties. And we thought you might be trying to pretend to be wealthier than we are, and we were afraid you might grow up to be a Republican.

**SPEAKER 2:** Thank God you're only gay. Thank God you're only gay. I knew that was coming. [INAUDIBLE].

**RAY HILL:** But if you're gay, it's an acceptance thing and it won't be an embarrassment to the family.

**SPEAKER 2:** Thank God you're not Republican.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Good old mom.

**CHRIS:** OK, so we're going to send a little clip of that to Dale Carpenter saying that--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

**SPEAKER 2:** I want a t-shirt that says, thank God I'm not a republican.

**RAY HILL:** I'm gay and not a Republican.

**SPEAKER 2:** Gay and not a Republican.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah. Dale and I actually have negotiated successfully a change of administration at the caucus at one point. And he didn't want to do that, but he understands when his cause is limited. But I want you to know, if you're listening to After Hours tonight that I love you, even though we've never met, and that I have been trying to do the best that I can to make your life a little easier. And when they say, well, these kids don't know what kind of misery we went through to get here, well, thank God.

**SPEAKER 2:** Really.

**RAY HILL:** I hope you never know the misery that Jewel went through being a baby dyke at a high school somewhere.

**SPEAKER 2:** Kicked out of the service.

**RAY HILL:** And kicked out of the service. I hope that you never know what Jimmy went through to get to this place, even--

**SPEAKER 2:** Wearing his tutu to high school.

**RAY HILL:** Even it wasn't always easy for Chris. And so--

**CHRIS:** Oh, please. They had a lot more things they could pick on me for before they got to being gay.

**SPEAKER 2:** Gay was the least of your worries, huh?

**CHRIS:** But they couldn't figure it out on the football team when I played, I don't know what could have told them.

**SPEAKER 2:** You must have thrown like a girl.

**RAY HILL:** Well, I played football, too. I was the I was the only quarterback in Glitter Park history to plucks his eyebrows. See, I thought from the Oscar Wilde thing-- that was my only role model, was Oscar Wilde. And I thought that you had to learn to knit and pick your eyebrows and all that. But we did beat Pasadena that year.

**SPEAKER 2:** God. You know what? I didn't know that. I plucked my eyebrows the other night. I was bored. Now I just happened to be looking in the mirror and I--

**RAY HILL:** Oh, what's this--

**SPEAKER 2:** --plucked my eyebrows. Then I was worried I was going to get too much. Oh my God, where do you stop?

**CHRIS:** But I was the only one on the football team that complained when they did the powder puff football game.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah?

**CHRIS:** And so the girls played flag football and some of the football players dressed up as cheerleaders. So I was the only one who complained when it came time for practice that day. And here I am getting a four-point stance with a big guy behind me in shorts-- in gray, thin shorts, a gray half-shirt wearing lipstick, and rouge, and--

**RAY HILL:** Oh my heavens, yes.

**CHRIS:** And for some reason, I was the only one who complained.

**SPEAKER 2:** I was going to say, it sounds like heaven to me. Would be heaven for you.

**CHRIS:** Well, see, the problem is this. See, I was a tackle and unfortunately the tackles behind me just didn't interest me.

**RAY HILL:** Chris, the guy that really won the big game in Pasadena, I went to Galena Park High school and so we beat Pasadena the year I was quarterback. Skipper Fry is bigger than you are, an enormous guy. Absolutely enormous. And he was the center. And where do quarterbacks keep their hands? And--

**SPEAKER 2:** On the package.

**RAY HILL:** And he hated queers, absolutely despised queers. But I convinced him that if we could beat Pasadena, we would be the heroes of the year. And so we beat Pasadena about two points. And I left the field on Skipper's shoulders. And--

**CHRIS:** This reminds me, back-- one of our centers was nicknamed Muffin Buns.

**RAY HILL:** And nobody, nobody credits the center for winning the game.

**SPEAKER 2:** High school boys sports.

**RAY HILL:** Yeah.

**SPEAKER 2:** More interesting than I thought.

**RAY HILL:** And see, I didn't know what was going on in the back of the band bus. I was in the back of the player bus. Hot and heavy, oh, yes Lord. And when I went to college, I cruised the Athletic dorm. I didn't know about the drama students.

**SPEAKER 2:** I missed high school.

**CHRIS:** We all grew up [INAUDIBLE].

**SPEAKER 2:** I really did. I missed high school. I can remember a couple of classes. But basically, I skipped because by then, it was pretty apparent, everybody knew, it was a major problem in my life.

Everything was boring. I was thinking the other day about the things that people came out in the time we did, what kind of things we missed. I'd never went to a prom, or-- today, you can do that. If not, you can at least sue to do that.

**CHRIS:** Yeah.

**SPEAKER 2:** Back then, you didn't do it. It just was never--

**RAY HILL:** Well, I don't know.

**SPEAKER 2:** --heard of and never thought of.

**RAY HILL:** Behind the gym in the auditorium with-- there was this Methodist minister's son with this kind of reddish-blondish hair, and this tall-- I look at Golden retrievers as erotic to this day in memory of that boy. And I would-- we used to have some hot scenes back there in the poison ivy.

**SPEAKER 2:** And once again, it was easier for guys.

**RAY HILL:** Oh, a lot of easier.

**SPEAKER 2:** Ultimately, it's always easier for men because two things--

**RAY HILL:** We get to stand up to pee.

**SPEAKER 2:** They're either chasing themselves-- other men. But with women, see, men have to get through their defenses. Straight men have to get through their defenses. So it slows them down a bit.

**RAY HILL:** Yep.

**SPEAKER 2:** That's the only reason gay men have more sex because they don't have to get through women's defenses. No, I don't want to. No. Well, are you going to buy me a house and a car?

**RAY HILL:** I've got a headache.

**SPEAKER 2:** Yeah, I've got a headache. That's the only thing keep straight men from not being as sexually active as gay men. If women were as willing as other gay men, they'd be doing it, too.

**RAY HILL:** I'm 61 years old and still lead a relatively active sex life. The people that are doing absolutely without are the late 40s, early 50s married men who are still believing the loyalty thing, whose wives sleep in the missionary position, meaning crossed legs.

**CHRIS:** Well.

**RAY HILL:** I love you all and I've got you into enough trouble. I think I'll quit here.

**CHRIS:** Oh, thank goodness the FCC goes to bed at midnight.

**SPEAKER 2:** At midnight, yeah.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Thank you, Ray.

**SPEAKER 2:** Thanks, Ray.

**CHRIS:** Thank you, Ray, for coming in. All right, we're going to play a little bit of music now. And let me turn up my mic so I can actually hear myself talk.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah. We did good.

**CHRIS:** OK, we're going to do a little bit of music now and we'll be back in a moment. You wanted to speak to me?

**RAY HILL:** Nope.

**CHRIS:** Good.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**SPEAKER 3:** Hi, we're True Soul and you're listening to *After Hours*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**JIMMY CARPER:** Whoa. That's new music from Virgo.

**CHRIS:** That was unusual.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes. It's called "You Suck." And-- yes, well, I think--

**CHRIS:** You know you really shouldn't lead in with that--

**JIMMY CARPER:** I know I shouldn't.

**CHRIS:** --at this hour of the morning. You're just cold.

**JIMMY CARPER:** And before that, we had a local band, True Soul. Half of them are gay, Jerry and--

**CHRIS:** The true half is.

**JIMMY CARPER:** --Jose. Yes. "Don't Give Up," a great, great song. You're listening to After Hours, queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and maybe KEOS College Station, I don't know. I don't think so.

**SPEAKER 4:** Anything's possible at this point.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, you never know. Let's see. I wanted to chat about things going on at the community center. For example, today, Sunday, Sunday, Sunday--

**CHRIS:** Sunday, Sunday.

**JIMMY CARPER:** --is the STAG barbecue. STAG standing for--

**CHRIS:** Some transgenders are guys.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes.

**CHRIS:** You didn't think I knew that.

**JIMMY CARPER:** No, I knew you knew that. Only because the poster's been up at the community center now for about two months.

**CHRIS:** Yeah. And I offered to proofread it tonight and I was told I couldn't.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes, yes. Well, no you can't. Also, Global is supposed to be meeting at-- that's the University of Houston GLBT student group is supposed to be meeting at 6:00 PM at the community center. Hmm, who knew?

**CHRIS:** Yeah. I mean, there's a whole lot of organizations who are coming over to the community center now, and--

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

**CHRIS:** Hopefully soon we can-- the center can start looking at going to larger facilities to accommodate all these groups.



**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes, yes.

**CHRIS:** And when they say, your queer home in Houston--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Your queer expensive home in Houston.

**CHRIS:** Yeah. We need something besides the little three bedroom bungalow we've got now that's--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, I know.

**CHRIS:** That's River Oaks pricing.

**JIMMY CARPER:** No kidding. And it's owned by a gay man, go figure. And they're gouging us.

**CHRIS:** Well--

**JIMMY CARPER:** That's a whole 'nother story.

**CHRIS:** Well, you have to look at it this way. When you see all these other townhomes that are going up--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah?

**CHRIS:** For at least one comma in their figure, sometimes two, you can see where they're looking at putting in newer housing. But we're talking about something that's almost landmark in the community. And it's the first home of the Montrose Clinic.

**JIMMY CARPER:** No, it wasn't the first one.

**CHRIS:** Oh, it wasn't the first home?

**JIMMY CARPER:** No.

**CHRIS:** But I mean, it's an old building.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes, it is. Yes, it is.

**CHRIS:** When you go-- I mean, the simplest way to explain how old of a building it is, some of the doorknobs are glass.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah. Probably in the late '20s, early '30s.

**CHRIS:** And unfortunately, we here in Houston are worse than anywhere else in the United States, I think. We tear down the old stuff.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes, we do.

**CHRIS:** And put up these tacky little prefab--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Something--

**SPEAKER 4:** Pave paradise and put up a parking lot.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, I know.

**SPEAKER 4:** Or in this case, put up a townhouse and it's just crap.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Something I wanted to mention before we started forgetting that Ray was here was that I met Ray Hill in the late '60s. I was still a teenager and he was mid-20s. And the thing-- that one meeting changed my life because-- you know that story that he told about him telling Frankie, his mother, that he was gay?

**CHRIS:** Yeah.

**JIMMY CARPER:** He told me that in the late '60s the first time I met him. He told me that story and I just-- it's something that took me a while to comprehend because nobody told their mothers. No one was proud of being gay.

And I just looked at my life a whole lot differently, especially since I had just recently been kicked out of the house for being gay. And that really made a huge impression on my life. And after that, I realized that I don't have to hang around people that accept me. I'd much rather hang around people who looked at my gayness as an asset.

**CHRIS:** Oh, yeah.

**JIMMY CARPER:** And that's when I first started standing up and being proud of myself.

**CHRIS:** It's one of those things when we-- and I mean, we've touched on the subject several times, the coming out--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah.

**CHRIS:** The first coming out process. And it's one of those things, it's different for everyone.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes

**CHRIS:** You may think your family might accept it, others, it's a hard struggle. I know with my family, there has-- I mean, there was some initial problems. And they seemed to go away, and then they flared up. And there's kind of a dynamic about that. But then again, I'm not-- I guess you can say it's kind of-- I'm straight acting over there. It's not like I'm bringing over a date like my brothers do or that.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Well, true. Yeah. Yeah.

**CHRIS:** But it's one of those things that-- it's different acceptance levels. I mean--

**JIMMY CARPER:** And you've got other things, you've got other family troubles that are in intermittent.

**SPEAKER 2:** Does he have family troubles.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Does he, ever.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, Growing up in the middle of the woods, I was scared as hell-- I was very scared to come out to my family.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah?

**SPEAKER 5:** And I met my mom's three lesbian sisters before I ever attempted it. And I always thought my mom would kick me out, but she was accepting of it. She just said never bring a man to my house. And don't rub it in. So it was just--

**JIMMY CARPER:** So that's not quite accepting.

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, I mean she didn't kick me out for it or anything like that. I was scared she was going to kick me out on the streets.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That's more like tolerating. Yes, tolerating.

**SPEAKER 5:** She at least tolerated it.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah.

**SPEAKER 4:** Yeah.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah. You know, sorry--

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, about a year later, she tried to hook me up with somebody, so.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, OK. Well, then that gets better. But don't give me the tolerating.

**SPEAKER 2:** Yeah.

**JIMMY CARPER:** I'm not interested in tolerating.

**SPEAKER 2:** That's how my family is. We tolerated if you do these things. So we don't do anything.

**JIMMY CARPER:** If I don't have the same seat at the table as everybody else, then I ain't eating.

**SPEAKER 5:** Yeah.

**CHRIS:** Well, yeah. It's one of those-- I mean, in my family, both my brothers have girlfriends. And allegedly I have been outed to my youngest brother, his fiancée now, her family supposedly knows about me. But I--

**SPEAKER 2:** What for?

**JIMMY CARPER:** Is this the one where he's had the fiancée now for how many years?

**CHRIS:** No, no, no, no. Just got-- just-- the younger one.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah.

**CHRIS:** The one you want to show.

**SPEAKER 2:** It's not like you got leprosy, they got out their future wife to you.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah.

**CHRIS:** Oh, no, I--

**SPEAKER 2:** You got tell, well--

**SPEAKER 6:** Oh, my brother's gay.

**SPEAKER 2:** Maybe you won't want to marry me now that you know my brother's gay.

**CHRIS:** Oh, please. I have taken--

**JIMMY CARPER:** You're the sanest one in your family.

**CHRIS:** I have taken both of my brothers and both of their girlfriends out to the bars. They have all been in JR's. Now the sad part is my favorite bartender there offered me more for my brothers than I ever was offered.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Well, I can understand that.

**SPEAKER 5:** Yeah.

**CHRIS:** So what are the seven words I'm not allowed to say, Jimmy, with your ass?

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, that's one of them. yes. Yes, it's one of them.

**CHRIS:** But it's one of those things that-- I mean, I'm looking at this group dynamic and they're coming up to next April being married. And I'm the best man for this. And it's like, and they're going, well, it's Catholic, so I'm the only one in the house that's been confirmed.

**JIMMY CARPER:** What?

**CHRIS:** I was the only one left and he has no friends, so.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK.

**SPEAKER 4:** Whoops.

**CHRIS:** When he told me he was getting engaged, I said, look, you need to go out and find some friends so you have someone to throw a Bachelor party.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Ooh, Ouch.

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, the thing is I'm going in a pair of leather chaps and a vinyl g-string.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh my.

**CHRIS:** Well, I was thinking if I really wanted to disgust them, I was going to take Roy as my date. I figure if that--

**JIMMY CARPER:** With those yellow shorts, huh?

**SPEAKER 4:** Those yellow shorts should be priceless.

**SPEAKER 5:** Roy in Spandex.

**CHRIS:** If that doesn't--

**SPEAKER 2:** Well, you guys fight like you're married.

**CHRIS:** Look, I figured if that--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Don't they now?

**SPEAKER 2:** I'm telling you.

**CHRIS:** I mean, if that doesn't cause a heart attack or two.

**SPEAKER 2:** [INAUDIBLE] in a relationship.

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, if it doesn't cause a heart attack or two, it will end the wedding.

**CHRIS:** But I mean, with the coming out process, it's one of those things. I mean, we could spend a part of every show every week and talk about different experiences coming out of it.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, yes. Everyone has a different experience.

**CHRIS:** And we've got a person out in the lobby, if we were to drag him in here, his is a story up similar to Jimmy's situation.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh.

**CHRIS:** But it's more current. It's only a year old.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh.

**CHRIS:** And where you'd think the tolerance would be there in modern times, it's not always there. And so it's one of those things that it's good that we-- like Ray was saying, that we're here, kind of a voice in the darkness. We like being that idea of having the person with the headphones, or the little radio in the closet listening to us.

I mean, where they're physically in the closet listening to the show. And we may be the only outlet for him. And calling us role models, I'll tell you this, it scares me sometimes if you're going to use that term on our show.

**SPEAKER 6:** I remember for a long time when I was living in Pasadena, I listened to y'all. I mean, I switched through and when I first started Jimmy's voice, I thought he was a drag queen. I actually thought Jimmy was a drag queen.

**JIMMY CARPER:** That's because I have that big old faggy voice, right?

**SPEAKER 6:** Yeah. OK, it was Jimmy and it was whoever else. And it was like, oh, these guys are--

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, Jimmy is a drag queen.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Hey!

**SPEAKER 5:** He has his own section. It's called Jimmy Drag.

**SPEAKER 4:** It's those pink shirts.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah. When I came out to my family--

**SPEAKER 2:** And did he not look great at the parade.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

Jimmy looked great.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Thank you, Basic Brothers. I bought the shirt at Basic Brothers and it really did shine, didn't it?

**SPEAKER 4:** Oh, yes it did.

**SPEAKER 2:** It was perfect. It was perfect.

**SPEAKER 4:** All I saw-- all I saw was this--

**SPEAKER 2:** It was a nice parade, and the lights on, and oh, it was--

**SPEAKER 4:** --pink orb coming at me.

**CHRIS:** And I heard--

**SPEAKER 2:** You know, the [? Blackwell ?] best dressed list at the parade, you'd have been on it.

**SPEAKER 4:** There you go.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah.

**CHRIS:** And that shirt also made it onto television, I was told.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, really?

**CHRIS:** Yes. I forget which station, but I remember--

**SPEAKER 2:** Well, we better find out, Jimmy wants his cut.

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

**CHRIS:** A member of Q Patrol had sent an email saying that he missed seeing the parade, but he saw some of the highlights on one of the stations. And he said he saw Jimmy.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Wow. Cool.

**SPEAKER 5:** Well, Jimmy, I had to work during the parade, so you're going to have to wear it up here so I can see it.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK.

**CHRIS:** I sent a picture of it. Unfortunately, the digital cameras are horrible.

**SPEAKER 5:** They're a little dark.

**SPEAKER 6:** But like y'all were saying about coming out to your parents, I came out to my mom. My mom's, like, and your point? She knew.

**JIMMY CARPER:** See? Yeah, see.

**SPEAKER 6:** She knew.

**JIMMY CARPER:** There's experience like that, and--

**SPEAKER 6:** I lived with two--

**CHRIS:** My mother had a coronary.

**SPEAKER 6:** --very fundamentalist Christian people. My father goes to Second Baptist church and he sings in the choir and my brother goes to the Vineyard. And we all know the story about the Vineyard and the lesbians. We don't want to go into it.

**JIMMY CARPER:** The vineyard?

**SPEAKER 6:** Yes. Michael Polandro kicked some lesbians out. They left, came back-- they left because they were uncomfortable. Then they came back, and on Easter Sunday, they were officially given a letter by the church people. It was in the Houston Press, whole big old stink about it.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh.

**SPEAKER 6:** But my family's cool-- my mom's cool about it.

**JIMMY CARPER:** OK.

**SPEAKER 6:** Mom's cool. Mom was, you know. Stepdad, yeah, he knows. He doesn't care. And then brother and dad.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh.

**SPEAKER 4:** My family handles it by avoiding the topic altogether.

**SPEAKER 6:** We have-- around the our household, we have agreed to disagree on-- because me and my father have sat down. He comes up to work, takes me home on certain nights. And we were sitting there discussing pegging, and he was asking all about it.

**SPEAKER 5:** As far as the avoiding the issue, that's the Catholic way of looking at it. You ignore it and it goes away.

**SPEAKER 6:** Please.

**CHRIS:** Yeah, just talk to the priests about that.

**SPEAKER 5:** I know, right?

**CHRIS:** They'll tell you how much they avoid.

**SPEAKER 5:** Yeah. Ignore the media. They'll go away.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Let's not go there.

**CHRIS:** Hey, I was raised Catholic and I want to announce it officially here on the air. I am suing because I was never touched. I was a Catholic altar boy and never touched, and I want my cut of the pie.

**JIMMY CARPER:** I'm so sorry.

**SPEAKER 5:** Oh, I was Baptist and I was touched OK. Which I didn't mind.

**CHRIS:** Well, I guess before we started getting the closing wrap out thing--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes?

**CHRIS:** If you want to send us any news, information, love mail, hate mail--

**SPEAKER 6:** Dirty pictures--

**JIMMY CARPER:** Dirty pictures.

**CHRIS:** The falsetto has to be Jimmy's.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes.

**SPEAKER 6:** I'm sorry.

**CHRIS:** Yes. And--

**SPEAKER 2:** I especially like the ones that the prisoners send us.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Oh, yeah.

**SPEAKER 2:** Yes.

**JIMMY CARPER:** You bet.

**CHRIS:** Well, if you're going to send us physical mail, it's 419 Lovette in Houston, Texas. 77--

**JIMMY CARPER:** 006, not just a zip code, a lifestyle.

**CHRIS:** I live out in the sticks here. Just make sure you put After Hours. Or you can email us at AfterHoursKPFT@hotmail.com

**JIMMY CARPER:** That'll work. Thanks, everyone, for being here. I've been kind of not feeling well tonight and everybody pitched in and helped. Jewell came in, and Chris filled in, and the--

**CHRIS:** The usual suspects?

**JIMMY CARPER:** Suspects, yes.

**SPEAKER 6:** The usual suspects.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes, were giving extra, extra space tonight. Bobby, thank you. Mikey, thank you.

**MIKEY:** No problem.

**JIMMY CARPER:** And Russell, thank you. Thank you. Of course thank--

**SPEAKER 6:** What's his name?

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, Ray Hill.

**SPEAKER 6:** Ray Hill

**CHRIS:** Ray and Gigi.



**JIMMY CARPER:** And Gigi, yes. In the background, you're hearing Tom Robinson, who is an English openly gay singer. He was one of the original angry folk singers for gay and lesbian rights. And it's called-- this is from the '70s. It's called "Long, Hot Summer," and that kind of fits Houston.

**CHRIS:** Yes.

**SPEAKER 5:** [INAUDIBLE]

**JIMMY CARPER:** We'll be here next week with transgenders, and Hispanics, and--

**CHRIS:** And who knows who else.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

Lions, and tigers, and bears.

**SPEAKER 5:** Oh my.

**CHRIS:** Oh wait, no I'm sorry. The bears were last-- or two weeks ago.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yes, yes. Yeah, OK. And coming up at the top of the hour, Mary Thomas is here with the Zydeco show, and it's Zydeco Sun Sale?

**CHRIS:** Pas.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Pas.

**CHRIS:** Zydeco Pas Sale.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Pas Sale, OK. Yes.

**SPEAKER 4:** Pas Sale

**JIMMY CARPER:** Pas Sale.

**CHRIS:** Not bad. You combined a couple of languages in there.

**JIMMY CARPER:** Yeah, well, OK. See you later.

[MUSIC PLAYING]