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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, trixie, gender, person, dee, piece, father, knew, daughter, read, transgendered, years, talk, laurie, barbecue, humor, life, cut, dickens, tonight



00:02

Well, I borrowed it for from someone and I read it about nine times.



00:07

It's the most amazing photography I have ever seen in my life.



00:11

Well, it's really it's really wild because you know, usually I've only seen myself and be able to open this up and go, Wow, you know, this is this is just unbelievable. The



00:23

audience may not be familiar with this. This is a book that have absolutely exquisite photographs of female to male transsexual, yes. With wonderful bodies, many some of whom, like athletes law conference, by the way, and they're just as nice in person as they weren't the photo. Yeah. But, but that's it's an absolutely exquisite book,



00:41

from incredibly muscular bodies to regular bodies to to very personal photographs. Very,



00:49

yes, indeed.



00:49

Also my friend Laura Kellner who's with diverse works she's not trying to put together a

Also, my friend, Eddard Kemmer, who's with diverse works, she's put trying to put together a transgender Festival, which he is going to be getting Lauren Cameron to come in on, this is probably going to be taking place around April. And Danielle is going to be involved with some of her artwork, and there'll be performance pieces, music, artwork, and interaction and RJ



01:14

is gonna have something right. What it's kind of in in the works right now. It's started out as a poem. That is kind of audience interactive.



01:27

That's an interesting idea. How would that work?



01:30

I'm not exactly sure you.



01:34

Still conceptualizing. April. The first works is the place to have that kind of thing done. You bet.



01:44

And Justin is going to do something too.



01:48

Whether you know it or not, you're going to do something. We with with the with the schedule with D for tonight, we're going to have to cut this short. But I want to I want to get a promise from y'all. First of all, let me apologize for not having more time for you for tonight. And I want to get promised from you that you all will come back because I want to spend more time talking to



02:06

you. Oh, definitely. Yeah. Oh, and



02:08

I want to hear more about the diverse works there. Yeah, I do



02:10

too. And and not only that, but we have barely scratched the surface of what is just an incredible subject. In I am so incredibly impressed with you. I mean, I mean that sincerely. I really do want you to come back when we have time. And really sit down and talk about this. Because there are so many things that the guys have to teach us. And that we we should be learning.



02:36

And I think it must be a lot tougher for the guys to because there's not alone in this there. Yes.



02:43

Yeah. That's something that and and it's something we're trying to change them. Well, but but we know that they're out there because we occasionally hear from them. And I think it would be wonderful to take and dedicate the whole front part of a show one night and just say, All right, here's your opportunity. We know you don't know each other. Let's let's facilitate this call in let's get to know each other. That would be great. You know, and I think I think this is the perfect forum to do it. I really do. I apologize for you for not having more time for tonight. Please do come back. I really mean it.



03:18

Definitely. And if it'll help any I can leave my number with the station. And that there's some guys out there that want to talk. They can call me anytime.



03:26

Be great. That would be great. Yeah, please don't give me a number over the year.



03:31

I just want to make a delivery. Oh.



03:34

All right. Listen, thank you all very, very much. I get I apologize for not have more time. We really did want to give the last half hour to D tonight. So again, I apologize, please, I do want you to come back. I am incredibly impressed. I really am. Thank you just



03:50

11 03:30

thank you, RJ. Now, we're going to a piece of music. And I'm playing this particularly because the women's festival is coming up September 20. This is Raizy one of my favorite groups from Ireland to females. They're going to be here for the Houston, the women's festival, September 20. Like I said, and this is a song that I played many times it's called come out everybody. And also I happen to have a CD to give away to the second caller who calls it 5265738 This is our 10th anniversary month and I'm giving away a CD each week. So that CD of ZZ razie with come out everybody 5265738 Here goes.

04:58
Raizy

05:00

that sexy music that nice music. I mean, you want to grab your, your, your spouse or your lover and, and just sort of dance around tight that

05:09

they're gonna be here on the 20th next Saturday

05:13

Ooh, headed that sort of a shot day kind of feel. Yeah. Ooh, maybe I could get into

05:18

at the Women's Festival, which is open to everyone, by the way.

05:22

Well, that's good. It's about time. Yes, yeah. We have a very special piece that we want to do about the McKellar in the background behind this is that these daughter wrote this, I guess, two or three weeks before D passed away. And I'm not even certain if d I think D saw I think D daughter had said that she had seen it. But I'm not I'm not positive that but she wrote this. Without course none of us realize that D was gonna pass away. And this is a daughter talking about her transgendered dad, and I can't read this and get through it. So Jimmy is going to handle this and it's all you're assuming.

06:41

His hair was getting longer, and he seemed to be developing, dare I say it, breasts. Finally, my

father put me out of my questioning misery and gave me a letter. This was his way of coming out of the closet to publicly live his life as a woman. The letter explained the steps that would follow such as name change, changing the sex on the driver's license, and everything else that goes with becoming a new person. When I read that letter, I felt as though I would fall over. This piece of paper was telling me that my father was essentially dead.



07:29

After this resin revelation I saw my father even less than ever. Suddenly, about three years ago, I grew up. visits became more frequent and conversations were longer and more enlightening.



07:51

Now I am 28 years old. I am proud of who my father has become, and the person that she is. She is not ashamed of her identity and does a lot of work in the community. She is a major force in the transgender community. She is working nationally and internationally to help make things better for other people who are have who have trouble adjusting to their identity. I still have problems getting my pronouns straight and on occasion I still accidentally call her dad in public. She's patient though and tells me that we'll just take time she tells me that she is thankful that we are talking because there are kids that sometimes turn completely away from their parents. I sometimes space my visits apart but I could never lose complete contact after all, deep down inside is the person that raised me she is my father



09:31

and we are we are back. We are back. Jimmy did not realize that he picked up only last half and so I'm going to read the first part of it leading in good. Okay this is a little bit backwards here but it was at Jimmy just didn't realize it. These daughter rights when I was growing up there were good times and conflicts and just like any other family I knew We were living the average middle class American life and everything seemed fine. It was not until I was nine years old, I was told about our family secret. My father was a crossdresser and had been all my life. The admission shocked me of course, but I was really too young to understand what was going on. Over the next four or five years, the cross dressing continued with my with my knowledge. However, our encounters at home were infrequent enough, that when he was dressed, that I was able to block out the feeling that I thought my father was a freak. Things changed. However, when I was 13 or 14 years old, he actually started wearing these clothes in front of me on a regular basis, it became routine. When he came home from work, he would check the mail and proceed to go change. Other than clothes, the evenings went on. As always. During my teen years, I spent a lot of time in my room to get away. I also kept very busy with school, a job, spending time with my friends. I did anything I could distance myself from the freak. Needless to say, there was a lot of discord in the house and animosity between us. Things finally came to head when I was 18. I found my own place and moved out. Things were tough, but there was no way that I was going back. Shortly thereafter, my parents separated and filed for divorce. There in a period of approximately seven or eight months, my father had effectively erased his family from his life. Over the next two years or so I would occasionally visit my

father and share small talk to catch up. A close friend of mine liking this business to business meetings because of our demeanor. Over time, however, I began to notice changes and that's where we picked up with the part that Jimmy had read.



11:50

And it ends up with she is my father.



11:56

I didn't want to read that. And because that's simply too close to home for me. I have a daughter that's in the state of Texas and where we think I have she's not speaking and I don't know where she's at exactly. And I always used to tell D how much I envied her, her daughter and their relationship. I was lucky enough to meet Debbie some time ago. At a I believe it was a GCTs at Eddie GCTC meeting and we and D was extremely proud of her daughter. And we used to talk about that a lot. In fact that was our common bond of getting to know one another. And one of the things that I talked about in the eulogy and the service is that you know, we all knew D the activist, and D was a an excellent activist. But Laurie and I were lucky enough that we got to know d the person the D the human being, she was over to her house for Thanksgiving every year. And Laurie we're talking about today we don't know how we're ever going to cut the turkey because without D there sharpen the knives we're in trouble. She was it was really funny we would have barbecues and we would never get to cook on her own barbecue grill. Because he would say oh you don't know what you do and get out of the way let her pro do it and you know she would use her engineers mind say this is how you build a fire and and it was really hilarious. We get used to it when say we were having the barbecues but in truth D was having the barbecue we got to sit there and watch her do all the work. But but the truth of the matter is that d the person was loving, caring, and she died doing what she wanted to do. She died giving of herself, which is what D would want it would have wanted it's it's it's been a very difficult time for everybody in this community. We have we have been very lucky to have known D and the one thing I want to say about about Dima Keller is that we celebrate her we celebrate her life we celebrate her as a person. I have two little quick cuts that I want to use and then we're going to come back I think some folks in the studio but the one thing we've not talked about tonight was Dee's sense of humor or oh gosh, that was great. It was truly bizarre. Very dry and occasionally you had to stop and say so what did he just say? The last of these two pieces sort of go hand in hand what I what I guess I can tell people now is that trip is the de had an alter ego went by the name of Trixie dick and you got it in the last piece that you'll hear is a complete send up on Ricky Wilkins, who did not have any fun feelings for and gender pack which basically was doing its best to rip off a lot of the work Transgender Law conference did and didn't have a whole lot of use for Ricky or for gender pack. And so Trixie Dickens, her alter ego does this wonderful piece about gender Mac mm. And and I have to explain it one piece of the humor if you've ever met Ricky Wilkins, Ricky Wilkins lives in a pair of tights, in a transsexual minutes t shirt with a neck cut out. I don't know why she does that, but it's what she does. Well, D thought that was just truly hilarious and just just couldn't leave well enough alone. And then she actually sent this piece out on the internet. And you'll hear the, the reaction that she gives. So with that in mind, I want to go to these last two pieces. This is Dee and her absolutely wonderful, wonderful sense of humor





15:38

Do you want to talk about?



15:39

Well, my story's a lot the same. Knowing early in life that there was something different, I never thought it was wrong. I just knew I was different. Also, because I went through, I started grade school in the 40s. That's hard to believe.



16:05

He was pretty good for 100 folks. Come on.



16:14

But I wanted to be a girl. At the same time, I knew that it was absolutely impossible. Surgery hadn't been publicly announced or developed or anything yet. It was just flipping impossible. So I resigned myself at a very early age to never being able to do this yet, so I went through a 49 years of life being mildly too greatly frustrated, reasonably successful as a male, but never really being satisfied. And it was it was finally after, after my marriage broke up after my daughter grew up and moved away. And then finally, after I lost my job, I didn't have anything more to lose. I said, Okay, now's the time. Well, from then on, it went a little faster than Sarah's, from the time I first met another transgendered person. It was less than six months before I had my name legally changed. I still can't believe I did that. And part of it was then I'll put in a plug here. Dr. Koh helped me get in touch with my inner feelings. We explored very deeply very quickly as as to what I really did feel and I was able to figure out quickly that by going I ought to be a girl and since then, it's been just absolutely wonderful



18:18

All right, Mr. Keller, your turn over there?



18:20

Well, not not a whole lot has happened to me. That's funny, although I was at a party about a year or so ago and some real dead so a young lady was talking to me let me know wasn't you and I don't know if



18:38

you're paranoid but don't press any buttons Danielle





18:44

she she found out something about my history. And she said oh, you used to be a guy. Can you say something in guy



19:01

so I burped?



19:09

Well, yeah, you know, now now D. She has read a lot of stuff that Ricky Wilkins has put out. And D has her own version. Some of that, don't you?



19:19

Well know. I've got a friend who writes this stuff. Right? And she couldn't be here tonight. She's got to go to work early. And what she asked me to talk about a little bit and what she has done is his show that a lot of people in our community don't have a sense of humor. Amen to that.



19:42

They take it way too seriously.



19:43

She put out a press release back in September. She she had talked about organizing a new a new organization. So anyhow, the organization is called Gender Mac and Okay, so she put this out, and I'll read the entire internet release says gender Mac announces Washington sit in, takes movement politics to a new level. Okay now we get into the text. Trixie Dickens, Executive Director of the gender millennial Action Coalition today announced plans for a massive demonstration in Washington DC in the spring of 1997. starts the quote, transgendered people have been treated like crap by our government for way too long. We aren't going to stand for it anymore, and we're going to Washington to raise a big thing. On May 5 19 97, we're inviting all transgendered people to take a dump for freedom. At our demonstration near the Capitol, this date coincides with a major lobbying event planned by another transgender organization, so we expect a lot of participation. The exact site has yet to be determined because finding space for 50 to 100 portable toilets takes considerable negotiation. Take a dump for freedom Okay, Miss Dickens wearing your trademark heliotrope tights and mauve T sweatshirt with the neck cut out went on. Congress has never seen this aspect of the transgender movement. They simply aren't aware of its depth and we're going to educate them. As a souvenir of this landmark event we will be distributing small packets of refried beans. To each and every member of Congress, members with children or grandchildren less than two years old will also receive a packet of guacamole. We hope they will remember us when the chips are down. Oh, okay. Gender Mac, the gender millennial Action Coalition is dedicated to promoting gender and gender evolution working toward a society where men can

be men, women can be women, and the rest of us can be whatever feels good at the moment. Okay, that went out on a on an internet mailing list for transgender activists. That list promptly erupted with people saying that's the worst idea I've ever heard of



22:28

people did not know and joke there.



22:33

They said this is gonna bring great discredit on our movement or unintended really, they didn't really upset



22:47

Yeah, they honest to God didn't realize that it was a joke. If people writing anything, this is horrible. And I was like, Oh, come on. Can't you see this up put on this.



22:56

One one person in San Francisco wrote in and said after this had gone on for a couple of days. She wrote in and said didn't anybody thinks that maybe this was a joke. Somebody got it. And and a reply came back? Well, yes. But at the top it says for immediate release. Please repost as appropriate. Well, and and that makes it serious. We thought that this was the lack of refried beans immediately. But see, people don't always the fact that it was made to look like a legitimate press release. Had this other person totally.



23:42

And that was Dima Keller's weird, very weird and hilarious sense of humor. That was great. You know, it's



23:49

great.



23:50

I this there's a follow up to that. And then in that, there's some of the people in gender pack basically went nuts. And really wanted to know who did this. Whose fault was it and of course, D was working for a law conference. So she couldn't very well tell them who Trixie Dickens was. Right. So this thing went on for a long time. And people actually would call me Do you know this? Trixie Dickens, us? I'd never heard of it we're talking about and it was just kind of an

inside joke. And so I guess now I mean, now we can say who it was. But I mean, this went on for quite a long time. And it was just typical of de that. You know, she had a knife and she was gonna twist and she could you know,



24:30

oh, what's some of those ponds? Oh, please. When the chips are down,



24:38

we're gonna distribute refried beans. Yeah. And that that was D through and through. It the funny funny thing Jimmy is that most people never got to see that side of di D was you know, she was she was D the activist and she was D the writer and she was D this and D that but you very seldom got to see this the D The The person who is just truly crazy, and just had a wonderful time. Just just hadn't just had an absolutely terrific time. And we are really going to miss it. But as I said earlier, I genuinely celebrate it, I consider myself to have been extremely, extremely privileged to have known her to have worked with her to have been around her. She was just, I felt very strange coming into the show tonight, because in the past, D would go to a tats meeting where GCTC meeting, somebody would give a ride that come in and find her sitting on the right hand side of the door saying It's about damn time you got here. And it's going to feel very strange at Thanksgiving, but we will. And Dee Dee lives within us and always will, I think, and I think we're going to try and go into the studio here.



25:52

Yeah, we've got a couple of people who want to say a thing or two we we have.



25:58

We have we have the microphones on in the back studio. And if anyone would like to say something now, here's your chance.



26:08

Well, I wasn't really prepared.



26:11

Vanessa with a shot. Yes.



26:15

Well, Vanessa, you've been here all evening. Yes, I know you'd like to say something.



26:21

Well, true. I am going to miss her sense of humor. I don't even know if I can say this on the air. Because what it is, oh, it was kind of quarter to three. Oh, yeah. It was something that I always joked about. I believe it was on the Memorial Day barbecue over its arrows. And we were wondering about various people who chose not to go full fledge, SRS and enjoyed sex the other way. And one of the things that she proffered was that well, why don't they just in her surgically alter the back door to include the response that she gave to that was that well, then they wouldn't know whether they're coming or going. That sounds that is my most vivid memory of her humor. Other than the Trixie Dickens story,



27:34

we went to do the protests in in Austin, when the yellow Grl was having their mark. Yeah. And there were some cross dressers from Austin who came and decided they were going to join us at just the absolute last moment. And they were scared to death. And D went over and put their arm around. So don't worry, if you don't behave, Sara will only kill you. There's no pressure here. And their eyes just bugged out decent. It's a joke. It's a joke, but they were not so sure. And for the longest time, that D would say do this. It was like Yes. She just scared that she was scared the you know what? And she had their attention. And it was really funny. At one point, some of the people were coming by and they say, What are you doing here? What are you doing here in DC? No, the question is, why aren't you over here with us? Ah, you know, and that was just the way that she thought. And Jessica, Jessica just sat down. If this is your this is our chance to say, to talk about D? Well, we've got the opportunity.



28:35

Well, I just want to say that when I first started to come out, the was one of the first people I met out there and I was scared to come out. I didn't know exactly what to do, or how to go about it. And I was afraid of all those horrible things that might happen out there. I just, I was scared. And I didn't really know what I was scared. And she really said it real simple. She just said just do it.



29:02

Like a Nike commercial. Yeah, just,



29:05

I mean, it was just, it was that sample. And I've been seeing her off and on through the years and and she was just always there wherever I turned up, you know, when I'd be going go into a gender event somewhere. There she was. And I know that she gave of herself to so completely and so totally, and never asked for anything. And you know what? However,



29:38

I think just about everybody in the community loved Dee Dee was one of those people that if you knew her, she reminded me a lot of Trixie, rube. Indeed. If you knew D, then then then D was a friend. Yeah,



29:51

that's right. Tricky. Whatever she had. It was yours if you needed it.



29:55

Yeah, that's exactly right. And that's thing I was worried about tricky rule was that if true She had it. You could have it. Sure. Yeah, sure, Laurie.



30:03

I didn't know the as was most of the folks here or even have as much as as much in common with them as they do. Well, I think we did have in common with puns, that something that she and I could really have fun with



30:15

Laurie indeed, some of the worst pun offs in the history of humanity. Oh my god.



30:24

That's true to Thanksgiving Day, we started getting into puns about turkeys and filling in that have to run for cars like oh, they're gonna start



30:35

running hurry up and



30:38

Thanksgiving table is going to be a lot longer this year. With the bins that



30:42

we bought. I don't know how we're gonna cut the turkeys in there and sharpen the knives. You

guys have to rip it to shreds like a medieval feast. She would come with this industrial size nation. And she'd sit there and she'd just I mean, you got to where it would split the air. It was so sharp and you say no, not yet. Well, I did Can we eat just cut the turkey.



31:02

even threatened to bring Turkey the second time.



31:06

Yeah, she brought Turkey once and we told her gee you can't cook here anymore. She was actually very good cook before she moved to Turkey.



31:12

She made great bread. Her bread was fabulous. Yeah,



31:15

you couldn't leave the house. She loved to make bread and you couldn't leave the house. If you couldn't leave the house. Without bread. It's all there was to it. It just couldn't. Well, the one thing that I'm going to the I think we all feel about Dee and also I think we've that we've all seen with the is that we all benefited from knowing her. And if there's anything that I think is the ultimate compliment is that you can say she was the kind of person who improved everyone around her. That's that's pretty high. Praise your bad. That's real high praise. I'm going to repeat something that I said at the eulogy today. The one highest compliment I can give to anyone is that D was a true friend. And I don't think you can do better than that.



32:05

So I want to thank everyone for coming tonight and sharing about D all the other guests we've had Justin and RJ and



32:14

for the listeners I want you to know that we talked to Justin and RJ they are going to come back next month we're going to do we're going to do the whole show or most of the show at least on apt Amazon invited him to come back bring their friends with them. I was incredibly impressed with them this is it says next show was a show you're really not gonna want to



32:32

know this has been a packed show. We had substance abuse we had f times we had tribute to

to d Gosh. You've been listening to after hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. I'm Jimmy Carper and Sarah departments been here



32:49

and we leave with our usual and our usual ending here. When decorum becomes repression, the only dignity free people have is to speak out. That's



32:59

it and happy third anniversary. Thank you.



33:02

Thank you and coming up. It will be the return of the sons of musical chairs with Billy Gilbert and Elmo and Randy