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roger, gay, aids, people, fundamentalists, book, quilt, love, life, talk, borrowed, reagan administration, began, fighting, break, hate, closet, antiviral drugs, gay community, sick



00:02

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised



00:13

that the protests began with a routine police raid on a homosexual bar. The Stonewall on Christopher Street took great pride in what's happened in the gay community and what's going to happen



00:35

there's no question in my mind that the people of California going home would take her taking the classes. And just Goni and supervisor Harvey Milk had been shot and killed and White has been found guilty of one count each of voluntary manslaughter



00:55

is now broken loose cops are now bashing heads



00:59

for March on Washington for lesbian gay rights that's what this report is about. Gay and lesbian people singing here what's your reaction to that?



01:09

I think it's terrible had a rocket throw it at you is that every one of us we are marching as are others across America and we shouldn't have to be



01:32

going back I think that's Robin hilar on the stage leaving the chance for love or for life we're not going back



01:47

to Washington DC gay and lesbian rights



02:13

want you to savor this next moment the task of the assess your coat is over.



02:49

Straw



03:06

strong



03:19

we must destroy the Miss Swanson for shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out



03:39

you must tell your immediate family you must tell your relatives you must tell your friends if indeed they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors you must tell the people you work with. You must tell the people to the stores you shopping



04:07

for realize that we are indeed the children that we are indeed everywhere. Every myth every lie every innuendo will be destroyed once you do you will feel so much better.



04:55

Hi radio if you're with for KPFA come on out to Join us. Bring your friends. What do you think about the rally? Never enough never know. And I asked.



05:08

I asked people



05:11

to do one thing. Come out, America. Hi, good morning. Good morning.



05:19

How are you? Great. It's good to see you. Good to see you, Kevin. This is Jimmy and Kevin. Here for after hours. As you can tell, but he's still on vacation. Yeah. Well, doesn't it take two weeks? Two weeks? Yeah. I thought that was a state law. It is. So he can't come back until next week. Is that right? We won't let him okay. Buddy Johnston, who is the regular programmer here. And producer? Who is a dispatcher at HPD. Cut. Openly gay. Thank you very much. Yes. And creator of this show. That's right. He's off for some much deserved vacation. Well, what have we got tonight? Lots of good stuff. Haha. Beginning at 1230. We've got an interview between buddy and palmo. Net. Paul on manette is the author of borrow time, and a book of poetry called Love alone. 18 elegies for Raj. We've got this way out coming up at 130. And Roger will be here at three to read. I believe Chapter Three of the men with the pink triangle law. Hans Hager. Yeah. So what else is going on? Well, there's been a lot of controversy this week. A lot of action. There's been lots of talk and some action between Miller beer and Marlboro cigarettes. Oh, well, you know, Marlboro is owned by Philip Morris, who also are owned by who also owns Miller beer. And there's been some controversy about them giving some money to a certain senator from North Carolina, who Yeah, Jesse Helms, I hate to use the word senator and Jesse Holmes in the same sentence. Yeah, it is a bit ironic. Yeah. One of our favorite groups is here playing tonight. Did you know that? I know eraser. I know. You're we're gonna have a special on them coming up later in the show. Yeah. And there's some been some good news about Phyllis Randolph fry. Oh, do you know who fellas is? Of course, the lawyer about town. Yes. Open. About being a transgender role. Yes. So we'll talk to you about that later. Stone Soup. One of our favorite charities has received a grant a big one. Yeah. We'll be talking about that later. And they'll be able to do lots of good stuff with that. Much needed things. Yeah, really. I've got something to say later on about Ted lens. And whatever's going on with that. Whatever's going on with that. And we'll talk all about all this later. Say, Kevin, you're going to the garden party? Oh, you know, I'll be there. Oh, really? Yes. Do you? I'm sure you do. But I have to ask, Do you know what the garden party is? Yes. Well, I know a lot of people out there don't. First of all, it's a 501 C three, charity organization. What's that computer stuff? Okay. 501 C three, means it has qualified in the state of Texas as a charitable organization, thereby they are exempt from taxes so that more of their money can go for the charity and, and it to become a 501 C three, you have to go through specific, very rigid guidelines. And they the state wants to look at your records and how you spend the money and all of that, but they they've made it and we never thought they wouldn't. Because they've been going on now for 15 years. Raising money. It's it started as a little party somewhere. But now to date, not counting this one. They've raised \$20,000 for charity. Isn't that great? It's incredible. Yeah. And this year, the money is going to the Colt 45 struggle fund in the Montrose clinic. And if it wasn't before it is now Garden Party is for women too. Yes, there are two Women on the host committee, and I know of quite a few women who are going to attend in tuxes, of course. In fact, one woman I know is even bought a

moustache to wear. That'd be pretty fun. And that's, that's what we mean by when we talk about drag drag is a statement that we're not afraid of the other sex sides of our personalities. And what we mean by that is, is that men and women have characteristics of the other sex and in more uptight situations. People are afraid if they're a man to



10:45

let yeah feminine sign out of them.



10:48

But we're not honey and garden party proves it. So those people will be having a fun time today. And where will it be at Rich's course? Yes. It's been there for for Yeah, several several years. But when we talk about Dragon when we talk about our personalities, that's part of what we mean by radio celebrating life. On this show, we celebrate coming out of the closet maybe because for gay and lesbian people, it's a growth phase. Sort of like the next song we've got coming up it's by Wilson Phillips it's it's kind of being played on a lot of the stations but we like it for what it says you know, have you ever seen no, you may not have but been around an infant when it's when the little babies learning to walk for the first time Yeah, you know, kind of crawls around and it drags itself self up. And it's you know, kind of wobbly on its feet and falls sometimes fall sometimes and the parents are out there holding up their hands to catch the little baby Well, you know, that baby has to make the first step before the parents can hold on right and help it along. And you look at that and that's part of what goes on in our lives. Always starting with that first step it's that same philosophy we do over and over again, whether it's coming out or whatever, we have to take that first step before someone can help us and that's what this song says Wilson Phillips and hold on



13:05

Okay, ABC. Now coming up is the palmone that interview done by buddy and I always like to intro a tape like this with a little song and it wasn't that hard to pick out a piece of music for this interview because it's Paul talking about Roger and and their love for each other. And so the intro this tape is Gladys Knight doing Hilo.



13:59

Must have been called in



14:08

to never have sunlight on your face you been continued to let me show



14:25

you always walked a step b



14:33

I was the one



14:44

with the string only your face with



14:59

another Want



15:07

to ever know that



15:16

and everything to be



15:33

with you as the beginning



15:48

to go on



15:57

right here



16:31

to be



16:48

mom



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ma



17:15

poem on that brings us a report from the AIDS battlefield his sorrow and anger and above all the honesty with which he and Roger faces calamity make it impossible for anyone to go on thinking this disease is a matter of us against them all time is the name of the book and it speaks to our readers, lovers and friends, gay and straight. The second the sound about how to live, how to fight for life and finally how to die with dignity and grace. Paul manette right. Right was born in Lawrence Kent, Lawrence, Massachusetts. I wanted to say Lawrence, Kansas, Kansas is where



17:58

that Capote book takes place. Right?



18:00

Paul was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts in 1945, and attended Yale University. He's the author of four novels and three collections of poetry, the most recent of which is called Love alone. We're going to be talking about that also published by St. Martin's Press back in the spring of 88. He currently lives in Los Angeles is on a city a nationwide tour now with hard court publishers, right, our court brace, right. And you're we're talking about borrowed time. And joining me in the studio right now is Paul Loonette. But we are gonna get that right. You got it. Right. This book is wonderful.



18:38

Thanks very much.



18:39

You talk about you talk about something that has affected the gay community a lot. But it says dealing with life and death and how to die with dignity. I think that's something that a lot of straight people haven't yet begin to understand with the AIDS problem in the way things are.



18:58

I don't think straight people understand the level of heroism that gay people have shown who

I don't think straight people understand the level of heroism that gay people have shown who have been sick, or the level of heroism shown by the people who love them. I don't think he I think I think gay people have been too busy doing that fighting and doing that caring to tell him much of the story. I also think straight people don't understand the level of rage in the gay community, about the indifference on the part of the government and on the part of the press. I guess what I wanted to do more than anything, what I wanted to do was tell the story of me and Roger as a love story, and it happens that that love story includes this calamity. And I think that Roger endured that calamity with grace and dignity and with an enormous sense of self and And he was a fighter, he would have wanted me to fight. And more than anything, he was someone who helped other people in his life. And I feel that the best thing I can do is to try to do the same thing. So it's a very sad book borrowed time. But it's a love story. And the love story is not sad. The love story, I hope is triumphant.



20:22

It's not, I didn't find it sad, I found it very personal. You do talk a lot about things that in your life that end well, if they were in my life, I don't know if I'd want to share those feelings with everyone right now. Why so personal, and why so honest.



20:41

It's strange buddy to feel this exposed. The first sentence of the book is, I don't know whether I'll live to finish this book. I did live to finish it. I'm glad I'm here. Now, I'm glad I'm well, I hope to stay well, I mean, to keep fighting, in order not to be sick. But in a way, during the writing of this book, The only thing I cared about being was to try to see see if I could be more honest, than all of the convenience I showed at the press prints about AIDS and the convenient lies that are told by the fundamentalists and the convenient morality and judgmental illness that surrounds aids in too many ways. I mean, the fact is that I come from I come from a generation and so do you have gay men who turned out to be too late to prevent this virus from entering our bodies. And once Roger and I understood in in 1981 1982, that there was something out there. We basically took rigorous precautions, and we began the education process that our whole generation has begun. It was too late for us. I think the gay community has been a model of passion and decency, in getting out the word and keeping our sense of self and our sense of dignity. While we have endured the crass and vulgar stupidity of the of the government and of our enemies. Who are our enemies



22:15

right now? Well, to me,



22:19

our enemies are of an active and passive kind. I think in a way the Reagan administration is guilty of a sort of passive genocide, more than anything else, a kind of informed neglect. There, it happens that every person in a public health capacity appointed by the Reagan administration is either a fundamentalist or a Mormon. And their attitude about AIDS for years was let them die, it's their own fault. And no one is to blame for AIDS. No one is to blame for

any virus. The gay community has had to do all the fight of this disease by itself, Roger and I were part of that fight before Roger got sick. And we have made it so that the zero positive conversion rate is now approaching zero in places like San Francisco and New York, we're the ones who have educated our community, and we're going to be the the forward line for this war as it seeps evermore terribly into the third world in this country. The Black and Hispanic communities going to bear the brunt of this in the 90s. And this is going to be called a black disease in the 90s. The way it's called a gay disease in the 80s. And that will be just as racist and stupid and misnomer, as it was to call it a disease. We're talking



23:32

to Pomo. Net author of borrowed time, Paul, has a gay community. Listen to the message that people have been trying to tell them about age do you think honestly, do they know you drive by bookstores and bathhouses and bars and the people are still there, and they're still drinking and still carrying on as they were 10 years ago,



23:55

I hope that they're carrying on a great deal less, I still sometimes hear a dismayed report that there's unsafe sex going on in one place or another. And I have to tell you about it. Sometimes that makes me as angry as it makes any old fundamentalist conservative. There's no excuse for it anymore for gay people not to have been reached out to and not to have accepted that reach out. But you see, we still are a splintered community and we're still a community that has a lot of closeted pneus. And, you know, it's like the a lot of us have stepped out of the outer closet, but they're still the inner claws. And there's still a lot of of self hatred and a lot of parts of our own community. And those people don't have enough gumption and sense of self and sense of purpose and future as gay people to heed the message. They still think they're invulnerable. A lot of them are young, and they're just like teenagers and guys in their early 20s everywhere. However, I think that for the most part, our sense of commitment and responsibility and care earring has reached very, very deep into our community. It's reached deeper into our community than it is reached into any other community. But then we've lost the most to



25:08

what can you tell me about Roger? Roger was the best. You smiled when I said that? Well, because it's great to talk about Roger. Roger was daughter No,



25:21

the happiest man I ever knew he was promiscuous. He was very was he promiscuous? Yeah, no, he actually wasn't I swear that if Roger had three or four sexual occasions outside the 10 years of our marriage, that is pushing some he just wasn't somebody who needed that. And when he wasn't somebody who carried away from his own youth, and he wished to continue his adolescence, by the time he and I got together, I was 28. He was 32. He was really content about being with me. He will he was much more comfortable with monogamy than I was, I was

the one that I'm not allowed to say. I wouldn't want it played around. And I, of course, I'm really sorry about that. I'm not going to now. greys and throw brickbats at my own life. If I'd known them what I know now, believe me, Roger, and I would still be healthy and together. But the fact is, what is darkly upsetting about someone like Roger is that he had so few occasions when he could have been exposed to the virus. And there's too much mythmaking about the fact that it requires lots of exposure or lots of anything. Roger wasn't an abuser of drugs. He was he just was a he was just a very healthy guy. But the virus had a window of vulnerability into him. And one window of vulnerability is enough. We cannot be strong enough in telling people that unsafe sex is unsafe period. Not that you can Oh wants is okay. Or Gee, I'm not sure whether I brought a condom with me or Gee, I was drunk last night. And I don't remember. None of that will work. But anyway, let me get back to Roger. Roger was a lawyer who helped other people and who was not interested in becoming a rich lawyer. He was interested in having his own funky practice. And he represented dag ladies on skid row and a bunch of artists and photographers and 10 directors in New York in Los Angeles. And we lived together in Los Angeles for eight years before he got sick. He kept up with his practice during a good deal of his sickness, really, almost to the very end of it. Before he became a lawyer. He worked. He studied comparative literature at Harvard, he was a real intellectual. But without being at all snotty as an intellectual. He didn't have any airs. He was from Chicago, and he just had a real grounded sense of himself. No, he wasn't grand, he didn't have any self importance. And he couldn't stand self importance and other people. And he was pretty good at making sure I didn't have a lot of self importance. I was the noisy one in the relationship. And he was the one who grounded me.



28:07

We're talking to Palmer net, author of borrowed time. What about the picture on the cover? Did you choose that?



28:15

I certainly had a lot to do with that. Can you tell us what it is you're people that can't picture on the cover is incredibly moving. It's a Greek sculpture from about the second century BC, and it shows a Greek general it's a marble sculpture of a Greek general, carrying the body of a fallen comrade out of battle. And it represents a moment in the Trojan War that is evoked from the Iliad by Homer. And what's important about it is what an extraordinary sense you have of warriors who are also lovers. And part of the great romance of being gay to me was the romance of ancient Greece, Roger and I traveled to ancient Greece and I have to tell you, the moment I stepped my foot, on the on the soil of Greece, all that romance came back to me and I felt like Roger and I were warriors from an ancient race. We went to Greece about a year before he got sick, and it was most important trip we ever took. We were both romantics. And we were both people who had been terribly lonely and confused and somewhat in the closet, and more or less straight or bisexual or something before we met. And when we met, it was as if something finally became complete. And after we'd been together for 10 years, I tell you, we were sort of like the same person. People would talk about Paul and Roger. And that was like one one name for two people.



29:47

What would you say to people, gay people, especially gay people that are listening to you, that are not facing perhaps aids but hiding from their parents or hiding from and their families? Or do you have anything to say to them, we're getting away from the book a little bit. I



30:04

don't mind getting away from the book into that, because that's really the key to where we all are. There is what everybody wants in life, I think is someone to love. And one of the difficult things about life is trying to find somebody worth loving and trying to find a love that works and trying to learn enough about love to be able to give it back, Roger and I were lucky to find that it's something I wish that everyone would find. But even when you can't find it, even when you don't have it anymore, because that's the position I'm in. We have to love one another as brothers and sisters. And we need to be a community. And it's very hard for us to be a community when we're in the closet, I think it's less important for Mark to my way of thinking is less important that we come out to our families, though that is important. The most important way to come out first of all is to yourself and to stop feeling a sense of wrong headedness or shame or, or being different. The extent to which one is different has to do with the aid one carries all the difficulty one has had about being gay as a young person, but we need to find our community, we need to find each other. So that's the first clause that you have to break out of, we owe it to our families, and we owe it to our friends to let them know who we are. Because if we don't, then they're only going to think of gay people in terms of stereotypes. I mean, over and over again, from Morton Downey Jr, to to Anita Bryant, all these other people, you endlessly find out that they have a gay brother or a gay son or a gay parent. And that's why they're all so screwed up about it. They've never dealt with that in their own family. There's all this shame and misery around it in their own family, and therefore they hate all gay people. That's crazy. We owe it to the only way we'll change those perceptions is if we start changing in in our own ways,



31:55

right? That told people before when you get up in the morning to shave, you have to look at yourself, you don't have to look at all the people. Can we



32:04

talk about love alone? Of course we can. So I tell about a love alone is sure love alone is the book that I wrote before borrowed time. It started about a week after Roger died, and I wrote it for five months. And it's a book of poems. And they're very raw and very painful, and very triumphant. And they kept me alive. During those five months more than anything, there are there they're written in a kind of rush like a blood rush of emotion. And they begin with a very, very strong preface in which I say that what I'm not interested in is poetry. And what I'm interested in is what this war has done to us and who we are, that I think that what it what the press has done is the press has continued to ignore in its whole reporting of AIDS, it has ignored the death of a generation of gay men. We are this is our Holocaust, we are watching a whole generation die. And it's not a dinner generation curling up and dying at all we're fighting we've, we've made something of ourselves, and and I'm just one voice, I hope that the two books I've written will make some sense to people. And I hope not only that maybe I'll reach a

lot of gay people, but that I'm reached some of those brothers and sisters and mothers and fathers who don't want to hate gay people who do want to understand something of what's going on, and who do want to have the compassion and love that we have for each other. So my poems speak a little bit differently than my than my book. But they, they, they they're both trying to stand witness to something. I just want to be sure that 20 years from now or 50 years from now, when my people look back to what will be the worst thing that ever happened to us as a people that they will that there'll be some honest voices, standing witness standing witnesses plainly and cleanly as that quilt stands witness about the quilt. Great quilt. I saw the quilt in Los Angeles when it began its current national tour. And one of the people in borrowed time Bruce Weintraub friend of mine, his panel was was donated that day in Los Angeles. So it has a lot of meaning to me personally, I mean, of course I fell apart when I saw it, but it seems so right It seems so right that that kind of home Enos and that kind of family that gay people have for one another something that straight people don't understand the just don't get it, that we have developed a family one with another in these, especially in urban places that were did something totally special and totally new. That quilt seems to me to gather its strength and energy from



34:44

that. The Quilt we're talking about for those of you that may not know is the name is project quilt. The began as a one time deal to go to the national march on Washington for gay rights back in October of 1987. It's currently on a site nationwide tour, it was just in Houston on Mother's Day. And it's going to end up again in Washington in October of 1988, when I believe they will display all over 10,000 panels, I believe at last count several acres big. Now, the quilt is as personal if not more so than your book, or maybe they're on the same level by the book. And speaking of borrowed time,



35:23

perhaps they're as raw as each other. And I hope they're as bold as long as each other. There's an incredible sense of, I mean, a quilt is really our Vietnam memorial. It's like that wall in Washington. That's what the quilt is for us. And there are there are individual panels, three foot by six foot, sort of almost the size of a grave site that the individual people's friends and families have put together for them so that they're all in each individual and lovingly stitched.



35:55

We're speaking to Pomona author of BOD time, you said we were fighting a war, Paul, who we fighting ourselves.



36:05

I don't think we're fighting ourselves on it. There have been times in the early parts of the calamity that I think we have had to pride ourselves. I think this came as such a terrible blow. And we have made so many strides up to that point. We're definitely fighting the Reagan administration and their policies of passive genocide. We're fighting the medical bureaucracy

that has been put in place by the Reagan administration, which will not release antiviral medication. For those of us who are zero positive when we know that a lot of those antiviral medications can extend zero positive status, help keep people from breaking through and extend people's lives. I am lucky because I am have a certain amount of financial security and I'm incredibly well connected in the AIDS underground. So I have available to me a bunch of antiviral drugs, some of which are smuggled from Japan, some of which I can get through my doctor. They cost me about \$1,500 a month, those antiviral drugs are keeping my number stable. Only a small, small percentage of the people who are infected with the AIDS virus have that available to them. Because the government has not out of compassionate use made those drugs available nationwide. We must break the medical bureaucracy. We have a Congress that is just full of red tape. We have the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, and everything is business as usual. Because who cares, it's just bags and drug addicts. The history of this epidemic will be a history of indifference. And that's how the first six or seven years of this epidemic will be noted by history. Luckily, we have a couple of friends there are now two we have ever cooped the Surgeon General we have Admiral Watkins is the head of the presidential aids commission. And they do not accept that issue as usual from the Reagan administration. And they have finally made some strides to break the hammer lock of the FDA and the NIH and we're going to begin to see these drugs made more available. But the reason we're all fighting so hard and organizations like act up, which is the AIDS coalition to unleash power. The reason we're fighting so hard is to get that hammer lock broken. Those are our enemies in this war, as always, fundamentalists are enemies, the religious fundamentalists on the left and on the right that's always dismayed to understand that both the Nazis and the communists hate us it's a pretty terrible middle ground to establish. And I mean, I've done some some radio programs in the last couple of days where these gelatinous pretentious fundamentalists call in and say, well, but deviant behavior is what's caused this epidemic and, and they, the fundamentalists are given so much of the airwaves in this country, all of that all of that stuff that they that they parade around under the hate, they parade around under the guise



39:02

of religion. But instead of those people when they say did it behavior has bred all this on yourself.



39:08

Well, I always say I am not a deviant. And I am I think it's just as well that everyone out there understand how much you hate me, because you're, the more we can get your hate on the airwaves, the more that decent people can try to see the difference between hate and reason. As I say, I I know I'm always talking to the 10% of any audience that's gay. It's obviously the bigger percentage of this audience. I always hoped and I don't expect to affect the the opinions or the hate of true dyed in the wool fundamentalist believers. But there are a lot of religious gay people who do a lot of church going a lot of, there are a lot of gay Christians and they make great fights against the Catholic Church and against the hierarchy of various churches. I'm not a religious person. I'm glad they're there to do the fighting for me. Religion is not Thus the Providence province of gay haters, religion is our province to my gay brothers and sisters

who are believers are children of God, just like those fundamentalists are. Except there's no hate in us, there's only hate in them. I think it's always just as well to let the hate people spew their hate, and let decent people understand hearing it. There's something wrong with this.



40:23

Talking to Pomo, net author of borrowed time, if you could get the fairy wand out, which you're all supposed to possess somewhere, right? And get a wish, what would you wish for today?



40:39

Oh, gosh, I sure would wish for a cure for AIDS. I think that may be too much to hope for. But I, I certainly wish that we will have some pharmaceuticals in place in the very near future that will hold people back from breaking through to full blown aid status. And that would be my biggest wish, because it would mean that hundreds of 1000s of us will not have to get sick and die after all. And it's a wish that may have some reality behind it. But since I can't really foresee that wish, the wish that I will work hardest for is the wish that we continue to be a people and that we understand ourselves as a people. We are a people that has been splintered and kept in the closet for generations and centuries. And we're not going to be there anymore. Hey, just not going to keep us in the closet, nothing is going to keep us in the closet. Because all you have to do is let any one gay person know what it's like to be able to love somebody, if we can get that truth across that it isn't about how much people hate you. It isn't about being alone and all by yourself, then in fact, you can have as much chance to love and and mishaps in love and almost loving as anybody else that that is your do in life and and where your passion can take you. Nobody's going to be kept in the closet if they understand that love is for everybody.



42:08

That's the message of the book really right?



42:10

I hope so I hope so because it's what I carry away from our relationship with Roger,



42:14

because in the beginning, you said the book was I can't remember the exact words you use, giving the impression that it was going to be a sad story of gloom and doom. And I didn't find that at all. I found it to be a story of hope, and a story of love. And a story of winning a battle that somehow I really believe we're going to win or that you believe we're going to win.



42:38

I hope that people cry about our time, that they're crying less about Roger dying than about

how much we had, and therefore how much we lost. Because what we had is what everybody wants. And it's what everybody deserves,



42:54

and that they can't take away from, you



42:57

know, they can't even now No, they can't I that fills me up with life in such a way that it just sort of chokes me



43:08

up. And even though Roger may be gone and the people that we've loved and lost, we continue I took a friend to the hospital this morning. And the pain continues. So if Ronald Reagan were here, not that he would come into this building, but if he were here, whomever, and he would sit down with us and he would listen to us. And not only speaking to him, but for the people that believe the way he does. What would you say to him?



43:38

Well, I would say, you don't seem to understand that. I love Roger, the way you love Nancy, impossibly and crazily and too much more than anything, that I was the same person with Roger just like you're the same person with Nancy. And honestly, do you really give a good goddamn about anything else in the world? But Nancy? And I know that Ronald Reagan would say he doesn't. I mean, it's all well and good what he has to say about peace in our time and the rest of it. What he really cares about in the world is that woman, and somehow, you know, I think I could make him understand that. Because stupid though he is he has a good heart. I think inside lots of his conservative brethren and fundamentalist brethren are so full of hate and so full of what the wrongheaded things their religion teaches them that I don't think they I don't think they do love Well, I don't think they love their lives with their wives and children. Well,



44:38

do you think we will ever see it change that portion of our society that's always pointing their fingers at us where they will begin to understand that we are just people loving people?



44:51

Well, the more they understand that it's their children and their cousins and their fathers and mothers and brothers and Sisters, the more they will have to shut up about it. I really don't care what they think anymore, but I do want them to shut up. Because it because we can move code

equally. You know, I don't like them either, but I don't care. I just, I just want them just I don't spend a lot of time judging them. I don't spend a lot of time. I mean, in other words, I feel like I have to respond in kind to their criticism. But do I see a time when we will all be able to live equally? It's pretty tough. We're the hope of the world you know, I mean, gay people in other countries live a an incredibly darker world than this. I mean, lesbians in Eastern Europe scarcely exist as a cohesive people. There just isn't any place for them to go. There's no way for them to know each other. And if you keep keep people from knowing each other, if you keep people from finding out that there are other people there, then you can almost make it go out of existence.



45:54

Are people gay people will find each other that's what I hear in your in your voice today.