

WEBVTT

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00:02:49.320 --> 00:02:49.650

Dallas: Hi.

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00:02:54.570 --> 00:02:55.500

Evan Taylor: Can you, can you hear me.

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00:02:55.650 --> 00:02:56.940

Dallas: I can, can you hear me.

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00:02:57.180 --> 00:02:58.530

Evan Taylor: I can perfectly

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00:02:58.800 --> 00:03:04.140

Evan Taylor: Good fantastic and and lighting wise. Can you see me pretty good.

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00:03:04.500 --> 00:03:11.490

Evan Taylor: Yes. Okay, I've got a pretty good close close up of you, but like a little bit farther back that's gonna look fast. Give me a perfect angle.

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00:03:12.000 --> 00:03:13.500

Evan Taylor: Okay. Lovely.

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00:03:13.920 --> 00:03:15.300

Dallas: I will sit up kitty.

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00:03:17.010 --> 00:03:21.300

Evan Taylor: Sometimes. Sometimes when you're recording people they forget, and then they move a little bit closer. And you end up looking up their nose.

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00:03:22.140 --> 00:03:22.950

Dallas: Sure that was

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00:03:23.490 --> 00:03:27.420

Evan Taylor: A little, little bit of a quick check in to make sure you're looking your best at the beginning.

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00:03:27.630 --> 00:03:28.410

Okay, good.

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00:03:30.270 --> 00:03:35.310

Evan Taylor: So I'm so lovely to meet you. Thank you so much for agreeing to do an interview with me.

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00:03:35.970 --> 00:03:37.650

Dallas: Sure, um,

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00:03:37.710 --> 00:03:46.200

Evan Taylor: So I don't know when. Quite, quite. How much you know about the project. I'll give you a quick rundown. Tell you what, we'll, we'll talk about and then we'll get into the the fun questions.

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00:03:46.290 --> 00:03:54.120

Evan Taylor: Okay. Okay, so what we're doing is, is a oral history project. So the idea is we're trying to talk to folks and

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00:03:54.750 --> 00:04:01.230

Evan Taylor: To get a history of people's activism, particularly around trans activism. But of course, other intersecting activism as well.

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00:04:01.530 --> 00:04:09.720

Evan Taylor: And but we're trying to get away from that sort of that that narrative that the old trends trope, you know, where people like and what's your life story.

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00:04:09.930 --> 00:04:22.140

Evan Taylor: And you know, when did you know, when did your parents, your parents think all that kind of the life history story isn't quite what raining out of course, though it you know it intersects at times to important part of people's activism.

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00:04:22.470 --> 00:04:33.360

Evan Taylor: And but we're trying to create a history that's looking at trans activism through with friends lens, which is, you know, not something that certainly folks of your generation had any access to at all.

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00:04:34.830 --> 00:04:49.230

Evan Taylor: Okay. So I'll start off with, and I'll ask you some questions about just some quick demographic questions, and then we'll get into the stuff around, you know, the actual activism, the fun stuff. Sure. Any questions you have with me for me. Before we get started.

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00:04:49.440 --> 00:04:50.670

Dallas: No, I'm ready for room.

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00:04:52.050 --> 00:04:52.710

Alright.

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00:04:53.730 --> 00:05:00.810

Evan Taylor: So just for the record, and the people be reading and looking at this and knowing 1500 years. So, for the record.

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00:05:01.290 --> 00:05:17.820

Evan Taylor: I'm having Taylor and I'm here doing an oral history view interview with Dallas Denny. And today is the 20 What day is it today, but 20 whatever 28th 28th of January. I'm from Vancouver, BC. Das, where are you today.

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00:05:18.210 --> 00:05:20.310

Dallas: I'm in Ridgewood New Jersey.

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00:05:20.880 --> 00:05:21.930

Evan Taylor: Okay, in a jersey.

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00:05:23.070 --> 00:05:23.550

Dallas: Yes.

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00:05:24.030 --> 00:05:27.120

Evan Taylor: And I got obviously needs Dallas Danny, what pronouns to use Dallas.

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00:05:27.540 --> 00:05:28.440

Dallas: She in hers.

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00:05:28.800 --> 00:05:34.590

Evan Taylor: And hers. And how old are you, today 7070 congratulations.

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00:05:34.710 --> 00:05:36.120

Dallas: Thank you, when I made it.

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00:05:36.540 --> 00:05:51.000

Evan Taylor: Exactly when I was at a memorial recently for transplant and somebody said, you know, that she when she died of cancer at 64 and we're all quite amazed. I'm happy that she died of cancer at 64 and not something else, much earlier.

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00:05:51.480 --> 00:05:52.320

Dallas: Really, yes.

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00:05:53.220 --> 00:05:54.840

Evan Taylor: Um, where were you born Dallas.

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00:05:54.900 --> 00:05:57.030

Dallas: Was born in Asheville, North Carolina.

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00:05:57.840 --> 00:05:58.560

Evan Taylor: And where do you

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00:05:58.650 --> 00:05:59.400

Evan Taylor: Live now.

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00:05:59.610 --> 00:06:00.240

Oh resort.

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00:06:01.350 --> 00:06:07.350

Dallas: Small city in the Appalachian Mountains and Smoky Mountains.

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00:06:08.370 --> 00:06:11.070

Dallas: In western North Carolina. Lovely.

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00:06:11.130 --> 00:06:12.210

Evan Taylor: How long have you lived there.

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00:06:12.600 --> 00:06:29.820

Dallas: Well, I was born there. My father was in the Army we traveled all around. We lived in France for four years, Arizona several times, Georgia several times. And finally, Tennessee, and then I lived in Georgia for the last 25 years before moving to New Jersey, five years ago. Okay.

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00:06:30.540 --> 00:06:33.270

Evan Taylor: And what are you employed or retired and what was your work.

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00:06:33.360 --> 00:06:47.700

Dallas: I'm retired my work was as an applied behavior and let's that worked for the state of Georgia specifically for my county working with adults with developmental disabilities and working with a problem behaviors. Right.

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00:06:47.760 --> 00:06:48.960

Evan Taylor: Okay, I got

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00:06:49.620 --> 00:06:58.890

Dallas: To figure out why people were behaving the way they were into change reinforcement patterns so that the behavior would not be a problem for themselves or others.

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00:06:59.250 --> 00:07:05.370

Evan Taylor: Definitely. Thank you for that. That very meaningful work, social work, so I appreciate people who do that kind of work.

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00:07:07.020 --> 00:07:12.990

Evan Taylor: And what. So what was your level of occupational or educational background.

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00:07:14.910 --> 00:07:32.760

Dallas: I have a master's degree in psychology from the University of Tennessee. I was in a doctoral program at Vanderbilt Peabody colleges Vanderbilt University in special education and after transition things sort of fell apart so I never was able to finish my my doctorate.

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00:07:35.040 --> 00:07:38.550

Evan Taylor: And it was, I have a similar that was related to discrimination within the

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00:07:38.700 --> 00:07:51.600

Dallas: Yeah, yeah. I had completed all my coursework and I had, I had written my major area paper in the only thing that to become a candidate. I had to have a meeting of my committee and the department chair just wouldn't respond

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00:07:52.350 --> 00:07:57.060

Dallas: Okay request to schedule the meeting. And he did it until the time ran out.

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00:07:58.800 --> 00:08:01.320

Evan Taylor: Okay. So say I did denial by delay.

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00:08:01.800 --> 00:08:08.340

Evan Taylor: Exactly right. Okay. And do you have any visible or invisible disabilities or chronic health issues.

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00:08:09.000 --> 00:08:23.520

Dallas: I have a number of health issues which you might expect, considering my age. In fact, I look quite bad on paper, but have a high energy level and I get a lot done and nothing of it slows me down to have diabetes type two. I just started

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00:08:25.080 --> 00:08:28.830

Dallas: I just started injectable insulin few months ago.

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00:08:29.880 --> 00:08:40.530

Dallas: And I have sleep apnea. I have chronic lymphocytic leukemia, which is what Kate Bornstein has no symptoms and my numbers have been the same for five years. So

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00:08:41.670 --> 00:08:46.500

Dallas: Lucky there I have atrial fibrillation, which is a heart condition and it's in remission.

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00:08:47.670 --> 00:09:00.060

Dallas: I'm hyper or hypo hypo thyroid ism. So I have to take meds and my cholesterol and blood pressure. We're getting it there. So I take meds with those two so

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00:09:00.090 --> 00:09:01.830

Evan Taylor: Lots of lots of things are chronically managing

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00:09:02.430 --> 00:09:03.780

Dallas: A mass and paper. Yes.

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00:09:06.030 --> 00:09:08.070

Evan Taylor: Oh, you look great on video, I'll tell you that.

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00:09:08.220 --> 00:09:12.120

Evan Taylor: Thank you and your relationship or family status.

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00:09:12.750 --> 00:09:21.930

Dallas: I've been married for five years. I met my wife on in the virtual world. Second Life in 2006 and I moved

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00:09:23.010 --> 00:09:25.410

Dallas: I MOVED UP AND WE GOT MARRIED FOR YEARS AGO.

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00:09:26.070 --> 00:09:29.970

Evan Taylor: Congratulations. Thank you. Got any kids or grandkids.

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00:09:30.150 --> 00:09:33.840

Dallas: New children knows me read earlier in my 20 to know kids, then

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00:09:35.670 --> 00:09:45.450

Evan Taylor: Um, and I assume you were assigned male at birth. Yes. And then, what's your, your current gender identity or what is the evolution for your gender identity.

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00:09:45.600 --> 00:09:57.690

Dallas: Well, I think by the time I was 13 I knew exactly who I was absolutely nothing about what to do about it or how to get help. Um, so I wanted to transition and I wanted to lose a woman.

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00:09:58.800 --> 00:10:04.110

Dallas: From very earliest parts of puberty and it took a long time to realize that

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00:10:06.660 --> 00:10:09.390

Evan Taylor: And so that that's that's a very consistent for you. Ever since that

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00:10:09.480 --> 00:10:11.220

Dallas: It has been very consistent. Yes.

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00:10:11.910 --> 00:10:15.870

Evan Taylor: And what about sexuality sexuality. Has that changed at all, at any point in your life.

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00:10:16.080 --> 00:10:22.260

Dallas: I'm primarily attracted to females and I was in I've had

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00:10:23.820 --> 00:10:26.460

Dallas: I was in a relationship with an F TM

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00:10:27.870 --> 00:10:39.720

Dallas: transsexual. I didn't know quite how to characterize that it was just before he started hormones. Um, but I've never been in a relationship with a man. And it's not that I find them entirely and attractive. I just said never

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00:10:41.010 --> 00:10:43.470

Evan Taylor: Just, just just not not where I think end up going

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00:10:43.860 --> 00:10:44.850

Dallas: Right, right.

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00:10:45.090 --> 00:10:45.480

Okay.

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00:10:47.520 --> 00:10:55.380

Evan Taylor: And is there any other aspects of of your, your identity, racial, cultural, anything like that religious that I haven't asked you about

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00:10:55.680 --> 00:10:58.470

Dallas: Was interested in my, my father is unknown.

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00:10:59.700 --> 00:11:05.220

Dallas: My mother was very vague woman, especially in her later years, and she was

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00:11:07.440 --> 00:11:14.790

Dallas: She told me his name, but both his first and last name or common and it's been hard to track down and the only thing I knew about him was that he was a pilot.

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00:11:15.570 --> 00:11:26.790

Dallas: And race planes, but I, I wish I had an epic, epic fold no longer day because I had eyelid surgery. A few months ago, but my eyes were always hooded

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00:11:27.870 --> 00:11:40.890

Dallas: My skin is darker than the rest of my family, my eyes are Hazel and everyone else has blue eyes. So I always wondered about my paternity and I always thought I likely

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00:11:41.850 --> 00:11:55.380

Dallas: Because of high cheekbones and such. And the epic camping fellow perhaps my father came from the Cherokee reservation. So I felt like probably like Elizabeth Warren. Like, like, like, perhaps I was part, Native American, and then I did the

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00:11:57.240 --> 00:12:03.330

Dallas: Testing came back 100% Caucasian and it kind of pissed me off, but I'm hundred percent Caucasian

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00:12:04.200 --> 00:12:05.040

Interesting.

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00:12:06.270 --> 00:12:13.530

Evan Taylor: Yes, I, I always thought you i agree with you have a particular facial characteristic that means one thing. Oh, they might be something else in there.

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00:12:13.710 --> 00:12:24.510

Dallas: And it was always a little bit curious because of, you know, not in my father wasn't. I didn't really care to know him. I just was curious about his background and ethnicity. Right.

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00:12:25.590 --> 00:12:28.920

Evan Taylor: So that's the only the demographic questions that are that are kind of know

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00:12:29.490 --> 00:12:38.820

Evan Taylor: And so now under the fun stuff. And so of course I want my focus a lot, you have such a history of activism. There's so many things that I'd like to touch on and but

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00:12:39.060 --> 00:12:45.630

Evan Taylor: I think that the easiest way to start is how do you, do you understand yourself and activate start. How do you relate to that to that label.

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00:12:46.260 --> 00:13:01.350

Dallas: Well, I really was looking for information and support until I was in my late 30s and not finding it. I went to the Vanderbilt gender clinic at Vanderbilt University in the late 70s.

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00:13:02.430 --> 00:13:11.070

Dallas: And applied and gave them what I thought was a whole lot of money back then and took a bunch of psychological tests. I've been trained to administer in grad school.

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00:13:11.790 --> 00:13:20.940

Dallas: And they told me I essentially it is only I wasn't screwed up enough to be transsexual because I had a job because I had earned two college degrees.

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00:13:21.330 --> 00:13:38.070

Dallas: Because I've been married for six years. Then I wasn't fitting their picture of what a transsexual would be like, or should be like because transsexual said character disorders and personality disorders and histories of run ins with the law and unemployment and poverty and wasn't

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00:13:39.210 --> 00:13:50.850

Dallas: Well, to do by any means, but I had a job. I could pay the rent and so they turned me down, which made me wonder, was I transsexual. After all, because after all, they were the experts. And I think that's what

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00:13:51.870 --> 00:13:57.000

Dallas: radicalized me about gender because they just pissed me off.

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00:13:57.480 --> 00:14:00.720

Evan Taylor: And what year with this event 7878

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00:14:01.410 --> 00:14:02.130

Yeah.

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00:14:03.600 --> 00:14:16.080

Dallas: And then in 1979 I saw the cross dresser support group. Try a society for the second sex on probably the Phil Donahue show. It was a daytime TV show.

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00:14:16.860 --> 00:14:30.210

Dallas: And they printed their address, and I knew that, but from from the show that it was not eligible as a transsexual to be a member, but they were the only people I've ever seen in my entire life might have answers.

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00:14:30.690 --> 00:14:47.940

Dallas: So I wrote. And I told him my story and I asked him to put me in touch with Virginia prints. Mm
hmm. Um, who was one of the founders of the group and had been active on behalf of heterosexual
cross dressers since the 60s, at least right and

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00:14:49.440 --> 00:14:54.360

Dallas: She wrote me back and she she told me I could never be a female and at the time.

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00:14:55.080 --> 00:15:04.650

Dallas: Almost no one made the distinction between sex and gender they were just viewed as
synonymous, and only in the labs and john money in the 50s. Did that they become separated

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00:15:05.010 --> 00:15:14.340

Dallas: And almost no one understood it. So, Virginia was telling me I couldn't be female, which I
thought, Man, I couldn't be a woman and I was I was sort of crushed ice.

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00:15:14.940 --> 00:15:25.320

Dallas: She said it. She sent my letter back with it and her letter, and she ended up riding around in
circles around the side of the Virginia was the character. What can I say and

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00:15:26.490 --> 00:15:29.310

Dallas: I have those I have those letters on my website now.

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00:15:30.870 --> 00:15:35.670

Dallas: And the originals. Right. The University of Michigan with my with my papers, um,

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00:15:37.530 --> 00:15:50.670

Dallas: So I didn't join the group and was without community for 10 years because of her know transsexuals know gays in my groups policies which further radicalized me. And then finally, after 10 years

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00:15:51.960 --> 00:15:58.560

Dallas: I saw them again. And I said, You know, I don't care. I'm going to join because surely I can get from point A to point B.

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00:15:59.310 --> 00:16:06.210

Dallas: If I could get to this point. Surely they will know something that can help me move forward. And that's indeed what happened after

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00:16:06.750 --> 00:16:23.010

Dallas: Going to a half dozen or so meeting someone came in with a copy of tapestry, right, which was IFC International Foundation for general education magazine which I later edited. I'm in there was the transsexual support group in Atlanta, and I made contact with them and

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00:16:24.060 --> 00:16:33.690

Dallas: A year later, like they're in a transition and actually kind of transition on the way and in Atlanta for the next 25

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00:16:36.060 --> 00:16:43.770

Evan Taylor: And was where these would be sort of the magazines and so forth with these the ways that you primarily getting information or finding other people

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00:16:44.160 --> 00:16:51.570

Dallas: Well, yeah. I mean, when I was 14 I went to the library, the public library in Murfreesboro, Tennessee was not yet.

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00:16:52.260 --> 00:17:00.480

Dallas: I'd finished eighth grade and not yet started the the night and I went to the library and they had two books in the library and the town of 30,000 people

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00:17:01.230 --> 00:17:06.120

Dallas: Um, I used every term I knew when there weren't many and I knew, I'm

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00:17:06.690 --> 00:17:14.790

Dallas: One of them was in the was in reference section and I was scared stiff to ask the librarian, because I was afraid to call the police or something.

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00:17:15.270 --> 00:17:23.910

Dallas: The other one was in the stacks, but it wasn't present in it. And after I graduated from high school that books still hadn't shown up in the stacks Choudhary radically

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00:17:24.360 --> 00:17:42.000

Dallas: So probably someone like me stole it or someone that couldn't stand the idea someone like me stole it destroyed it. Right. So, I mean, I just had no information, my first piece of actual information was I was at a conference of the animal behavior society, which is the theology conference.

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00:17:44.400 --> 00:17:48.960

Dallas: And there was a copy of Catherine MacKinnon gender and ethno methodological

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00:17:52.530 --> 00:18:00.120

Dallas: We're getting the last word. Anyway, I'm there sociologist and they were looking at gender and they they had

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00:18:02.310 --> 00:18:10.290

Dallas: an appendix in which they talked about their work with a transsexual woman of whose identity, they had

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00:18:11.190 --> 00:18:20.100

Dallas: Very well disguise, but who I recognize the only transsexual I've ever met. And I was arriving about the time she was departing so I never

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00:18:20.820 --> 00:18:27.270

Dallas: I only saw a couple of times the first time she taught me about transistor transistor logic, the second time I

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00:18:27.900 --> 00:18:41.130

Dallas: I gave her a ride to her to her apartment because she was on her way to our new job and our new life and I almost killed her, but I didn't really know or well enough to tell her, but here's she has in this book and I recognize

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00:18:41.430 --> 00:18:53.010

Dallas: Right. But the book. The book was a really good way to look at gender and what gender is and how people attribute gender and it became a very well respected and protected in on book.

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00:18:53.850 --> 00:19:00.660

Dallas: So that's, that's what I had when I was in my late 30s when I went to the trial group mean you know

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00:19:01.290 --> 00:19:08.280

Dallas: However, after I was rejected by Vanderbilt, I went to the University Library medical library there.

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00:19:09.090 --> 00:19:21.300

Dallas: And read everything I could that transsexualism, both of which supported what people at the clinic said because the people at the clinics around the country were writing all the medical literature. So transsexuals were kind of sad cases.

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00:19:23.070 --> 00:19:24.600

Dallas: And I

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00:19:25.980 --> 00:19:28.890

Dallas: Just went out and wrote a prescription for hormones.

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00:19:29.910 --> 00:19:46.110

Dallas: And so I started estrogen. At age 30 maybe maybe 29 so by the time I was 14 I was quite feminized so my transition, I always had a baby face and I've been going out from age 14 or 15 and having no difficulty passing

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00:19:47.310 --> 00:20:03.510

Dallas: Which is just a matter of genetic roulette. Um, but with hormones for 10 years and electrolysis. I had a very easy transition when I finally did and only needed was you know that much information to kind of let me go across what seemed like an impossible. Impossible threshold.

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00:20:04.560 --> 00:20:04.980

Dallas: Yeah.

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00:20:07.650 --> 00:20:13.860

Dallas: Yeah, I watched it, I knew how to to read prescriptions because I'd worked in a mental hospital while I was in college.

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00:20:14.340 --> 00:20:20.250

Dallas: Which essentially taught me how to write them and I knew about the meds and the dosages from the medical literature so

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00:20:20.820 --> 00:20:30.750

Dallas: Right, I broke the law, you know. And now, no one has to do that. And I tell people no, don't do that. But really, the only choice. I had yeah I need to know where else to go.

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00:20:32.100 --> 00:20:41.130

Dallas: The people at the clinic told me I could go to California, where there was a clinic and apply there and but you know my life was in Tennessee. Couldn't you know

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00:20:44.190 --> 00:20:55.770

Evan Taylor: Like the very first time you you heard about or even understood what what Trent. I mean, whether it was transsexual or how it was understood that what was your very first encounter with with this concept.

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00:20:56.100 --> 00:21:02.040

Dallas: My very first encounter was just my my feelings and, you know, and they became

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00:21:03.180 --> 00:21:06.510

Dallas: Very focused by time. I was about 13 and

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00:21:07.680 --> 00:21:20.820

Dallas: Mostly I posed the lead out myself. But in look or Saturday Evening Post or life magazines and probably all three in the early 60s mid 60s. They announced

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00:21:22.500 --> 00:21:28.830

Dallas: The first gender clinic in the US was formed at Johns Hopkins University, and they were announcements in all the magazines about it.

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00:21:29.310 --> 00:21:38.010

Dallas: And I remember reading that they took you know eight or nine people a year and I thought we know what are my chances of doing that they're going to take boys that are just

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00:21:39.360 --> 00:21:47.700

Dallas: So feminized that it's impossible than live is boys are going to take people with money, you know, so I have no choice. I have no chance.

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00:21:49.200 --> 00:21:57.060

Dallas: So really it was finding the triumph group and getting that copy of tapestry and getting to a transsexual support group when I learned about the

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00:21:58.380 --> 00:21:58.800

Dallas: The

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00:21:59.820 --> 00:22:08.730

Dallas: The standards of care right and and met other trans people for the first time, with the exception of the woman from grad school. I never really knew

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00:22:09.930 --> 00:22:11.670

Dallas: And and

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00:22:13.350 --> 00:22:17.880

Dallas: I was looking for was answers for myself. I had no particular

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00:22:19.080 --> 00:22:24.150

Dallas: Desire or idea of being an activist, but I was

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00:22:25.590 --> 00:22:31.740

Dallas: I was drafted to run a support group within a couple months that people running the group were so impressed with my credentials.

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00:22:32.460 --> 00:22:42.720

Dallas: And I guess with me that they they they help bridge my transition, by giving me a place to stay. When I move because I quit my job. I moved away. I didn't know if I ever have a professional job and

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00:22:43.500 --> 00:22:49.230

Dallas: Then three weeks. I did. I worked for the state as the behavior analyst for, you know, for 20 years

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00:22:50.400 --> 00:22:55.680

Dallas: But there was no guarantee. I'd ever have a job because so many of us don't ever get jobs again and I was very lucky.

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00:22:57.480 --> 00:23:03.930

Dallas: And and I ran the support group and I liked it but we started to have a conflict because they were very old school.

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00:23:04.800 --> 00:23:12.990

Dallas: You know, it was like these are our girls with is mostly male. The females and they have this they have this illness.

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00:23:13.740 --> 00:23:28.830

Dallas: In we fix it, you know, and then they go around and they're perfectly normal women and they have so they were kind of denying transmissions what they were doing. I didn't think I could do. And I also realized that, you know, being well educated being smart.

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00:23:30.900 --> 00:23:39.240

Dallas: And not being able to find any information meant that there were a whole lot of other people out there like me that couldn't have any information and I just couldn't walk away from it. So I founded

164

00:23:40.680 --> 00:23:52.410

Dallas: A nonprofit called the American educational gender information service for the first six weeks. It was Atlanta. I choose the acronym. So that was a eg is in either case, right.

165

00:23:52.830 --> 00:24:05.100

Dallas: I'm thinking, well, if this works. I might eventually go national and it got such a great reception that it wasn't six months. It became a mirror and we got 501 c three nonprofit status and

166

00:24:06.270 --> 00:24:15.750

Dallas: They were still friction. I was no longer running the support group was still attending until they told me I couldn't because I was just such a threat to them because of the way I were thought about

167

00:24:16.800 --> 00:24:18.480

Dallas: Myself and other people like me.

168

00:24:19.560 --> 00:24:24.690

Dallas: Um, so I found I launched the Atlanta gender exploration support group which

169

00:24:26.520 --> 00:24:27.630

Dallas: Is still in existence.

170

00:24:29.070 --> 00:24:32.100

Dallas: And so I'd have a place for support for myself.

171

00:24:32.820 --> 00:24:36.090

Dallas: Right, and I launched, he just launched

172

00:24:37.170 --> 00:24:48.900

Dallas: Christmas Quarterly Journal and it was it was done on laid out on the Macintosh and this was when desktop publishing was just starting. So everyone was having these

173

00:24:49.980 --> 00:24:51.450

Dallas: Type written magazines.

174

00:24:52.020 --> 00:24:52.320

Evan Taylor: Right.

175

00:24:52.350 --> 00:25:00.990

Dallas: It, this one, this one was was laid out professionally and it really gave Aegis of an astonishing.

176

00:25:03.270 --> 00:25:05.340

Dallas: Sort of reputation and

177

00:25:06.810 --> 00:25:13.260

Dallas: A woman I know transsexual woman did an identity package and chose a font for us to use for letterhead.

178

00:25:14.910 --> 00:25:24.630

Dallas: But he just just had a professional year right out of the beginning and guess and just suddenly, you know, it was like having a tiger by the tail and I chased that for great years

179

00:25:25.290 --> 00:25:25.830

Evan Taylor: Wow.

180

00:25:26.070 --> 00:25:42.270

Dallas: You know, I was writing like crazy. It was writing putting articles and magazines and newsletters all around the country. I was going to a lot of conferences I was publishing my magazine. I was going to support group meetings and running that part of the time.

181

00:25:43.290 --> 00:25:54.330

Dallas: Um, it was calling full time job. You know, I had to help one. And so, you know, the helpline would ring until midnight didn't watch a lot of TV in the States. I come home and

182

00:25:55.170 --> 00:26:01.170

Dallas: Work until about one in the morning or to go to bed and get up and do it again the next day, which I didn't mind that it was

183

00:26:03.270 --> 00:26:10.710

Dallas: It was it was worth it because I was reaching hundreds, thousands of people giving them good information.

184

00:26:11.370 --> 00:26:24.450

Dallas: And my whole shtick was, you know, I'm not going to tell you what to do. I'm going to give you information. So you can make a smart and informed decision. Right. And a lot of people did. I'm sure a lot of people didn't too, but I'm

185

00:26:25.770 --> 00:26:27.120

Dallas: Already around the mid 90s.

186

00:26:28.590 --> 00:26:30.180

Dallas: If he did this.

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00:26:31.680 --> 00:26:36.060

Dallas: A lot of people put their faith in if Stephen, I always felt like if G kind of didn't

188

00:26:37.920 --> 00:26:40.140

Dallas: Have it together at some level.

189

00:26:41.340 --> 00:26:57.150

Dallas: Um, and they spent a lot of money on this. This assessment of of the community, they called the vision 2000 and it just, it was very corporate if he'd made almost no sense at all, in my opinion, but

190

00:26:58.590 --> 00:27:11.340

Dallas: It may need look at the community and then I wrote a series called vision 2001 and gender Odyssey in he just his newsletter, which was separate from Christmas the magazine and we'd edit about a six part

191

00:27:13.590 --> 00:27:22.440

Dallas: Analysis of the community, is it was in the mid 90s, you know, looking at the national organizations. The locals. The print magazines.

192

00:27:24.240 --> 00:27:39.570

Dallas: About the same time also transgender political organizations are starting to form gender and it was like a founder, one of the on the founding board of agenda pack before it kind of went rogue um

193

00:27:41.580 --> 00:27:42.030

Dallas: But

194

00:27:43.680 --> 00:27:51.390

Dallas: People were really willing to throw a lot of money at the gender at the political organizations, you know, they had no problem making getting a lot of money.

195

00:27:51.990 --> 00:28:04.950

Dallas: And the educational organizations like I actually an Aegis we're always struggling for money. And suddenly, most of the money that was going into the educational is we're going to the political organizations and I just didn't think

196

00:28:06.090 --> 00:28:08.760

Dallas: Brick and mortar organizations, we're going to be able to

197

00:28:10.110 --> 00:28:22.350

Dallas: to persist. Indeed, they did it. But fortunately, the internet became available to the public in 1993 and I saw that as a way to

198

00:28:23.490 --> 00:28:30.780

Dallas: Distribute limitless amounts of information to an infinite number of people at a very low cost and instantly.

199

00:28:31.230 --> 00:28:38.310

Dallas: So before, then you would read something in a book or see a tag on a TV show, write a letter and

200

00:28:41.430 --> 00:28:47.670

Dallas: Get back and an anvil open three weeks with all this information and with as much information as a nonprofit could

201

00:28:48.930 --> 00:28:54.090

Dallas: Could afford to send you considering you didn't send them a stamped addressed envelope, you know,

202

00:28:55.110 --> 00:29:01.980

Dallas: So it was a slow process. And maybe they didn't quite answer the question you wanted either, you know, so you have to do it all again.

203

00:29:02.490 --> 00:29:15.690

Dallas: On the internet, you know, so I just predicted that the grip the nonprofit's we're going to the brick and mortar nonprofits. We're going to have a hard time and I begin transitioning ages to gender education and advocacy.

204

00:29:17.010 --> 00:29:28.230

Dallas: To be to be online presence, you never really quite became because by then the internet exploded and there was so much information available. I have a slideshow somewhere where

205

00:29:31.260 --> 00:29:34.380

Dallas: I got like 40 million hits on the word transsexual

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00:29:35.310 --> 00:29:38.670

Dallas: Wow opposed to the two I got at the library. When I was 14 years

207

00:29:40.800 --> 00:29:58.140

Dallas: So, um, so, so from 89 from from 90 to 91 I was running them a gummy Institute, which was the the transsexual support group and then around ages from 1993 19 2000

208

00:29:59.280 --> 00:30:01.560

Dallas: And rap about that time.

209

00:30:03.780 --> 00:30:22.140

Dallas: I was approached by turning the late Terry Murphy, who was on the board and he just asked me to be the editor of transgender tapestry. And I did that until 98 lat the Time magazine was winding down, it's still writing a lot. I did like about 20 book chapters.

210

00:30:24.060 --> 00:30:27.930

Dallas: 10 or 1215 keynote speaker, you know, speeches.

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00:30:29.340 --> 00:30:45.720

Dallas: I've been involved with Fantasia fair from on so I you know I've been stay very busy and then still writing but still involved with Fantasia failure and Atlanta gender explorations is still going. And I'd like to drop by some time and say hi.

212

00:30:46.740 --> 00:30:51.000

Dallas: And but I retired from my day job in 2009

213

00:30:52.710 --> 00:31:00.210

Dallas: And I haven't been able to do any more than I was when I was working for some reason. But you know, I enjoy my life I'm happily married. I'm

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00:31:02.040 --> 00:31:05.250

Dallas: Doing better financially than ever did when I was working and

215

00:31:06.360 --> 00:31:10.620

Dallas: Continuing to write continue to go to conferences and

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00:31:10.710 --> 00:31:19.350

Evan Taylor: Thinking back to some of those early, early days, who are some of the folks that you that you looked up to, or that were role models for you and doing this kind of work.

217

00:31:19.740 --> 00:31:24.330

Dallas: Well, you know, the community at the time was really changing

218

00:31:26.610 --> 00:31:40.530

Dallas: And Berlin, who's an anthropologist that Ilan University in North Carolina in a book called in search of Eve. It was grew out of her doctoral dissertation and she found that if people come in in the community this big support group in Denver.

219

00:31:42.030 --> 00:31:48.240

Dallas: Had kind of three choices about identities. They can be a cross dresser or transsexual or

220

00:31:49.410 --> 00:32:04.470

Dallas: Drag Queen and they were kind of career paths for all three. You know, if you were across dress you didn't need to be thinking about hormones or transition or or any kind of body augmentation right if you were transsexual there's something wrong with you if you weren't

221

00:32:05.160 --> 00:32:17.310

Dallas: Right and but can Holly boss will no longer with us wrote an article in 91 that I published in tech and chrysalis and

222

00:32:18.180 --> 00:32:26.340

Dallas: She sent a di F, G, and they published in taps D, but it's called the transgender alternative and she positive. A third way of looking at things is being transgenders mean

223

00:32:26.850 --> 00:32:44.250

Dallas: Not quite male not quite female with something else entirely. And that just reverberated with the community. And I think eventually the where we are today with all this gender diversity and freedom of pronouns and freedom of expression and freedom of identity that was, yeah.

224

00:32:45.570 --> 00:32:51.720

Dallas: Um, so a lot of the people I worked with were kind of got that and some didn't come

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00:32:52.740 --> 00:32:54.120

Dallas: Marissa Cheryl Lynn.

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00:32:55.950 --> 00:32:58.020

Dallas: Was the director of ice.

227

00:32:58.470 --> 00:33:00.150

Evan Taylor: Okay, the first director

228

00:33:01.020 --> 00:33:19.050

Dallas: I'm and she kind of got it. She was a difficult person Joanne Roberts was wonderful. She's also no longer with it. She was a founder of Renaissance Education Association in Philadelphia and a writer. She also had a publishing house she published one my books about

229

00:33:20.250 --> 00:33:26.310

Dallas: Dealing with your identity and you know like managing your identity and because you have this paper identity, you have to

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00:33:27.120 --> 00:33:38.910

Dallas: You have to change, incidentally, my name was always Dallas and I never realized it worked as a as a as a woman's name as well as it did as a man's name until I actually set the point of transition

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00:33:39.510 --> 00:33:40.050

Evan Taylor: Right.

232

00:33:40.110 --> 00:33:47.730

Dallas: And probably also explains why I never really kind of had a name picked out for myself, because many transsexuals know from a very early age, what their name should be

233

00:33:48.900 --> 00:34:00.870

Dallas: Uhm, Allison Lang worked with me at IFC she was with ice and she was involved with Fantasia fear Jamison green and I have collaborated on many things over the years.

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00:34:02.100 --> 00:34:02.700

Dallas: And

235

00:34:03.810 --> 00:34:06.630

Dallas: Nancy an angel, and he was the director of if g

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00:34:08.250 --> 00:34:09.690

Dallas: There were there were a lot of people

237

00:34:10.860 --> 00:34:16.200

Dallas: And I just missed a lot of people. Christine Jorgensen diverged about the time that transition the year so later.

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00:34:17.400 --> 00:34:20.010

Dallas: Lou Sullivan died about the same time.

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00:34:21.510 --> 00:34:22.020

Dallas: Um,

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00:34:24.150 --> 00:34:36.990

Dallas: But, you know, at the state level, they were all kinds of people doing all kinds of thing I've always admired Mercer Richmond, who are the Tennessee Valley in in Nashville, which is one of my hometown's yeah and and

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00:34:38.670 --> 00:34:44.700

Dallas: There were people who kind of didn't accept the whole transgender term.

242

00:34:45.720 --> 00:34:51.090

Dallas: In fact, Virginia, who was the color stuff with transgenders didn't like it.

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00:34:54.120 --> 00:34:54.600

Dallas: Has anyone

244

00:34:56.040 --> 00:35:03.210

Dallas: Been talk to you for hours about Virginia. She was a very interesting person. I did a at Fantasia fair. I was her roommate.

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00:35:05.460 --> 00:35:14.910

Dallas: And I did a week long kind of oral history with her on tape, which I finally transcribed talking a lot about her life, but she was very, very

246

00:35:16.050 --> 00:35:18.030

Dallas: Much sold on the idea of

247

00:35:20.340 --> 00:35:36.270

Dallas: Only heterosexual cross dressers being in groups and it kept me and the community for 10 years and god knows how many other people. So, at the same time she got nabbed by the post office by postal authorities got arrested.

248

00:35:38.220 --> 00:35:43.350

Dallas: Because they took it as their mission at the time to sit in the 50s to save the world from homosexuality

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00:35:43.680 --> 00:35:57.150

Dallas: Right. And she was corresponding about cross dressing, which they took to me homosexuality and she was conveyed and she pled guilty and she was convicted of a felony all she did was write a letter to somebody

250

00:35:58.290 --> 00:36:05.130

Dallas: And they told her that she stopped publishing the magazine, you should close the post office box, then they would drop charges.

251

00:36:06.300 --> 00:36:17.040

Dallas: And she refused. And so she became a convicted felon for her constituency, you know, heterosexual cross dressers which I have to admire, but at the same time. She was also such

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00:36:18.510 --> 00:36:26.010

Dallas: A bigger in so many ways that she's just kind of a problematic figure who I respect and love that the same time.

253

00:36:26.580 --> 00:36:39.870

Evan Taylor: If that may. Mm hmm. I mean, it sounds like she had she had both the the side of her that was very strong in her own convictions, but that also had the reverse effect of being strong something more beginning connections.

254

00:36:39.870 --> 00:36:46.590

Dallas: Yes, a very linear thinking thinker. I remember being on a bus and an IFC conference going out to dinner.

255

00:36:47.490 --> 00:36:56.190

Dallas: And I told her that I had. I know I always had trouble with religion. I was brought up in which was Baptists and I always felt like the Baptist.

256

00:36:56.670 --> 00:37:03.930

Dallas: Didn't kind of have an idea, who God was, you know, I mean, they're just back with people how to make my pipeline, do they have to have it.

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00:37:04.710 --> 00:37:21.000

Dallas: Yeah, and yet I was always spiritual and and I made that distinction sometime in the 90s that I realized that God probably three different than but the Baptist thing. God is about, you know, right now it's kind of excellent very angry with God because of all the shitty things God did.

258

00:37:22.140 --> 00:37:32.160

Dallas: Look, you know, set yourself up for a sacrifice, or, you know, set your own sign up for a sacrifice of Isaac, you know, an Abraham, but in Jesus but

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00:37:33.990 --> 00:37:44.340

Dallas: Once I kind of made that distinction I stopped being mad at God, because if there is a God, I thought it was probably much more feminine than the one in the Bible right and and

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00:37:45.690 --> 00:37:49.170

Dallas: So I tell Virginia on this bus that I have sort of

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00:37:51.480 --> 00:38:01.260

Dallas: An experience I had sort of realized my my my spirituality and she says in her linear way and her gruff voice define spirituality

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00:38:03.900 --> 00:38:05.040

Dallas: That was her reaction to

263

00:38:08.970 --> 00:38:15.570

Evan Taylor: And so this this this particular trip that you have these spent that week together what around when was that

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00:38:16.290 --> 00:38:18.120

Evan Taylor: 93 okay

265

00:38:18.390 --> 00:38:28.080

Dallas: We just happened to be assigned to the same room at Fantasia fear and we had this week long discussion about the illness and femaleness. Mm hmm.

266

00:38:28.500 --> 00:38:39.990

Dallas: And if you're very linear way. It was almost like she walked around the universe in a straight line and met herself, because what I posited to her was, you know, she has to say. You have to admit, if you took a tribe of Native people somewhere.

267

00:38:41.760 --> 00:38:50.610

Dallas: And that, that you can, you know, you can differentiate the penises from the no penises people right you know and I said well we're genuine white if

268

00:38:51.960 --> 00:38:53.280

Dallas: The people in that tribe don't

269

00:38:55.170 --> 00:39:03.210

Dallas: Use external genitalia to differentiate gender. What if it's whether someone has long hair or not.

270

00:39:03.540 --> 00:39:04.110

Evan Taylor: Right.

271

00:39:04.560 --> 00:39:12.810

Dallas: And that's in her off on this on us off on a discussion and lasted the entire week before trying to back around and met herself again.

272

00:39:13.320 --> 00:39:16.200

Dallas: Right, never, never could quite reconcile that

273

00:39:17.280 --> 00:39:25.140

Evan Taylor: And how for you. I mean I there's been so many terms and phrases from transgender transsexual trends and now even now, we talk about gender diversity and

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00:39:25.620 --> 00:39:32.790

Evan Taylor: Howard. How have you related to all these different movements around language because certainly Virginia was very passionate about it. So how did you relate to it.

275

00:39:32.880 --> 00:39:42.720

Dallas: Well, I definitely was right up there at the forefront of people being able to define their gender. Like they wanted and not having to go into

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00:39:43.320 --> 00:39:56.220

Dallas: preordained boxes and then didn't include Cooper that not only included maleness femaleness but transsexualism than being a cross dresser. She don't feel like you fit in those two boxes, you should be able to find your own identity.

277

00:39:57.720 --> 00:40:12.060

Dallas: Myself, I always identified as transsexual. And I realized that now that's sort of an archaic term. Right. Yeah. And you know, I think a lot of people who formerly would have been called transsexuals um

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00:40:13.290 --> 00:40:24.000

Dallas: Now, identify as a term transgender, but so two people who were formerly called cross dressers he kind of like everybody is transgender, which is good is an umbrella term, but

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00:40:24.630 --> 00:40:39.780

Dallas: It also doesn't differentiate kind of life choices that people make. So I kind of missed the term transsexualism a little bit. Mm hmm. In fact, I was giving a keynote at a conference and a woman took exception to my use of the term.

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00:40:40.800 --> 00:40:46.470

Dallas: And I said, Well, number one, one of the period. I'm talking about transgender wasn't in common use.

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00:40:46.800 --> 00:40:47.190

Evan Taylor: Right.

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00:40:47.250 --> 00:40:55.320

Dallas: Do I have right to define my identity. Anyway, I want. Mm hmm. So I still consider myself transsexual. And I use the term on occasion.

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00:40:55.770 --> 00:40:56.250

Evan Taylor: Right.

284

00:40:56.490 --> 00:40:59.250

Dallas: But I'm not offended if someone calls me transgender

285

00:40:59.760 --> 00:41:15.720

Evan Taylor: Okay, but also very well for yourself that how when when and how you came to define yourself and your identity. And this was the term that was accurate at that time and the change in umbrella terms doesn't change for you how you identify with that word.

286

00:41:15.780 --> 00:41:34.050

Dallas: No, it doesn't. And when I was 13 years old kind of figuring out what was happening with me, my very first thought was, oh my god you know I can't possibly be like this. I'm the all American boy, you know, I can't, I can't be this way but I very quickly realized, probably one of the better.

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00:41:35.820 --> 00:41:41.850

Dallas: realizations. I had in my life that if there was not anything I could find it that if I tried to fight it would destroy me.

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00:41:42.450 --> 00:41:50.460

Dallas: Right. I've seen a lot of people who have been destroyed by fighting those feelings about their life. You know, they go often

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00:41:51.660 --> 00:42:00.480

Dallas: Do you hyper masculine or hyper feminine things are the abuse substances or other things all kind of trying to walk away from

290

00:42:01.350 --> 00:42:12.900

Dallas: That their identity. They can acknowledge their identity. I think that probably still happen so it's certainly a lot more information. Now, but it doesn't automatically make it easier for people. Right. Yeah.

291

00:42:14.130 --> 00:42:25.560

Evan Taylor: And what about the movements around no clear, clear theory we are movements LGBT to all the, you know, the alphabet soup that you've seen sort of change over time.

292

00:42:26.010 --> 00:42:27.030

Dallas: What are the things that

293

00:42:28.500 --> 00:42:38.880

Dallas: Sorry. Didn't mean to skip on one of the things when I first came into the community. One of the big items into the discussion was I line with the lesbian and gay community because they kind of

294

00:42:40.200 --> 00:42:48.210

Dallas: LG and emerging be at the time, and they were having the same discussion among themselves, and we were considered kind of trainees come lately.

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00:42:48.690 --> 00:42:59.970

Dallas: To use the term this I guess some people now consider offensive. But, um, that was an affectionate term in the early 90s that we use for ourselves right um

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00:43:01.050 --> 00:43:01.680

Dallas: So,

297

00:43:02.970 --> 00:43:13.440

Dallas: There were a lot of discussions. A lot of people in the community didn't want anything to do with the gay men and lesbians and others felt like it was a natural alliance and I was in the latter group.

298

00:43:14.970 --> 00:43:22.020

Dallas: So, you know, I mean, obviously, obviously. I mean, when gay men and lesbians get into

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00:43:23.820 --> 00:43:30.120

Dallas: Conflict with society. In other words, when they get picked on, or abused right it's often because of

300

00:43:32.160 --> 00:43:39.090

Dallas: Not because of who they are attracted to be something to do with their with their periods and presentation.

301

00:43:39.240 --> 00:43:50.520

Dallas: Right. Same with us. And I just felt like, you know, we were all on one big bus and it would benefit us to all work together, especially since, especially with trans people, there's only a

302

00:43:51.660 --> 00:44:02.070

Dallas: Limited number of people and a lot of them are in the closet and then a lot of them are in a lot of transsexuals would go into the what I call the closet at the end of the rainbow.

303

00:44:02.580 --> 00:44:08.550

Dallas: Is they get trans, they get past transition and they drop all their transference and they live in the woodwork.

304

00:44:08.880 --> 00:44:09.600

Right.

305

00:44:11.400 --> 00:44:11.940

Dallas: So it's

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00:44:12.360 --> 00:44:13.080

Dallas: Never going to grow, uh,

307

00:44:14.250 --> 00:44:14.700

Dallas: Huh.

308

00:44:14.940 --> 00:44:21.510

Evan Taylor: There's I'm hearing what I'm hearing you correctly, that there's a commonality there where we're naturally a lot aligning in the sense of

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00:44:21.780 --> 00:44:32.250

Evan Taylor: The transgressions that both trans people and gay or lesbian folks the transgressions that we're faced with an oppressed based on art more often gender transgressions.

310

00:44:32.400 --> 00:44:34.230

Evan Taylor: That they are a special transcriptions

311

00:44:34.260 --> 00:44:46.290

Dallas: And as for us. It's kind of like if you're transsexual everyone is the opposite sex. I wish I had said that first right it's it's considered a queer relationship, whether you're attracted to males or females.

312

00:44:46.410 --> 00:44:52.200

Dallas: Mm hmm. Depending on where people are defining your actual real gender.

313

00:44:52.620 --> 00:44:56.610

Dallas: Yeah, I'm courses not actual real

314

00:44:58.530 --> 00:45:02.400

Dallas: Since the cadence. The case someone's listening and not watching the TV to see my air quotes

315

00:45:03.630 --> 00:45:16.470

Dallas: Exactly. I just felt it was a natural alliance. It was the only way that things could really proceed and. And fortunately, pretty much. It's not an item of discussion much anymore, which is good and and yeah there needed to be

316

00:45:17.520 --> 00:45:20.640

Dallas: There needed to be transgender theory, just like this. Queer Theory.

317

00:45:20.910 --> 00:45:36.150

Dallas: Uh huh. You know, the opening shot, of course, was fired by Sandy stone who analyzed what happened at those very same gender clinics. I went to fight you know because I experienced a lot of what she wrote about it or sad. The Empire Strikes Back. Huh.

318

00:45:37.980 --> 00:45:41.640

Evan Taylor: And that was really the the opening for transparency and trans studies.

319

00:45:41.940 --> 00:45:54.810

Dallas: It really, it has been considered that. Yeah. And I'm now I you know I get these notices from from academia.edu all these papers and it's just easily being explored.

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00:45:56.460 --> 00:46:01.110

Dallas: in all kinds of ways. Now, which is, I think, healthy, and of course trans Gender Studies Quarterly.

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00:46:02.670 --> 00:46:06.450

Dallas: Works in a lot of queer theory trans theory to

322

00:46:07.740 --> 00:46:18.900

Evan Taylor: I'm wondering, I'm a bit of a language. Language nerd. I'm interested in that the evolution of language. And you mentioned, you know, back then, we know we use the word trannies and an affectionate way.

323

00:46:19.200 --> 00:46:23.730

Evan Taylor: And certainly that has, you know, there's that that history is very much

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00:46:24.480 --> 00:46:34.830

Evan Taylor: I would, I would say it's not. It was not a prominent history. So I'm wondering, can you can you talk a little bit about that because that's something that, you know, certainly young folks right now won't, won't know the history of that work.

325

00:46:35.760 --> 00:46:45.960

Dallas: Yeah, well I don't know when that word. And that word actually popped up. But he was certainly in use in the early 90s. In, in, I guess we were probably called trannies

326

00:46:46.740 --> 00:46:55.410

Dallas: By trans phobic people also right but that's the term, we often used. You know, we're just a bunch of trainees out or having a good time tonight.

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00:46:56.610 --> 00:47:03.630

Dallas: And like I said, the meaning of that term is changing so has the term transsexual, which I think is good now be called archaic

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00:47:04.080 --> 00:47:04.590

Evan Taylor: Right.

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00:47:05.070 --> 00:47:06.870

Dallas: And transgender wasn't even

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00:47:08.190 --> 00:47:14.670

Dallas: In discussion. It was had been coined of Virginia call herself will transgenders and the term transgender had been

331

00:47:15.330 --> 00:47:25.500

Dallas: Was kind of banded around in the 70s and 80s, but it didn't really hit until about 1993 right and there was this march on Washington

332

00:47:26.070 --> 00:47:35.910

Dallas: Phyllis fry and some other people were protesting exclusion of trans people from that march and all of the coverage, use the term transgender and suddenly it just

333

00:47:37.020 --> 00:47:52.770

Dallas: You know, it just exploded in Holly boswell's use of the term transgender. She wrote about in 1991 and also affected us and so am suddenly. That's the big umbrella term a lot of transsexuals TOOK EXCEPTION OF IT.

334

00:47:54.690 --> 00:48:02.850

Dallas: Because they felt like it didn't adequately describe them or it put them under the big tent with people in rather not be under the big tent with right

335

00:48:05.340 --> 00:48:12.780

Dallas: But you know it was a good thing, even if it kind of is making my identity antiquated

336

00:48:13.680 --> 00:48:24.090

Evan Taylor: And so what's it. What's the word tranny in a way between folks to be able to say, well, you know, we don't know if it's transsexual transvestite who's using whatever word today. Was it an affectionate term.

337

00:48:24.240 --> 00:48:32.100

Dallas: That wasn't specifically I could it could it could be a little broader than just transsexual you know cuz i mean they're always were people who

338

00:48:33.690 --> 00:48:40.710

Dallas: weren't looking to have surgery, you know, they might be cross living, they weren't looking to have surgery and they might not be on hormones.

339

00:48:42.000 --> 00:48:43.800

Dallas: And so

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00:48:45.090 --> 00:49:01.140

Dallas: You know the variability was always there. It just wasn't named and there was a lot of peer pressure within our community for people to cleave to the whole cross dresser transsexual binary right it's just as damaging as the male, the female binary

341

00:49:02.010 --> 00:49:10.170

Dallas: One of the big things is, is now that you know sex and gender have been so thoroughly disentangled

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00:49:11.220 --> 00:49:19.890

Dallas: Is that there's all these ways of defining yourself that really weren't possible. There's a website. I'm trying to think, in the name of it.

343

00:49:21.510 --> 00:49:28.170

Dallas: Word fork. Is it and I can't think of em 70 years old life sometimes grassroot for nouns, um,

344

00:49:29.280 --> 00:49:37.680

Dallas: When Smith is a moderator of it. But all these young people get on there and define themselves in thousands of different ways. It's just marvelous

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00:49:38.970 --> 00:49:47.790

Evan Taylor: And it's that one of the major things you've seen differently between when you were young and you know that folks were young. Now that the explosion of

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00:49:48.960 --> 00:49:50.640

Evan Taylor: Opportunities of identity, I guess.

347

00:49:51.060 --> 00:49:56.370

Dallas: Yeah, I mean, like, what, like like ends and you know I had a friend.

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00:49:58.110 --> 00:49:59.370

Dallas: Who was kicked out of

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00:50:00.420 --> 00:50:06.570

Dallas: A transsexual support group in Pittsburgh, because she wasn't moving rapidly enough with her transition to suit them.

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00:50:07.080 --> 00:50:13.110

Dallas: Well, she was pretty much indigent she didn't have any money to see therapists and such.

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00:50:14.100 --> 00:50:25.680

Dallas: So she was moving in her own paces fishy could, and yet she got kicked out and I invited to write an article for for Christmas about that which pissing people off and I kind of liked to seen people often

352

00:50:27.900 --> 00:50:34.050

Evan Taylor: Is that where is that where a little bit of the the activism heart comes from is is quite enjoying doing a little bit of talks during

353

00:50:34.560 --> 00:50:47.460

Dallas: Yeah, I got away kind of wake with a lie, I'm my personas keels at overland but but I tried to not be like an angry activists, I was a determined activists.

354

00:50:47.580 --> 00:50:56.340

Dallas: I'm in my little town in Georgia where I live. There was the sky and he was just so nasty about his activism foot around the city.

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00:50:57.750 --> 00:51:06.060

Dallas: That he put people off. Even when he was right. And I wanted to not so huge deal of bad karma. I wanted to

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00:51:07.110 --> 00:51:09.450

Dallas: I wanted to affect change and in a way that

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00:51:11.310 --> 00:51:17.280

Dallas: And I wanted the way I did it to not make people dig in their heels. So I always worked for that I always tried to use humor.

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00:51:18.600 --> 00:51:23.640

Dallas: And they always tried to use common sense whole lot of people in the community would have

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00:51:25.530 --> 00:51:30.690

Dallas: Kind of global ideas about what people were like, like all transsexuals are crazy effect. It was a joke.

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00:51:32.280 --> 00:51:34.680

Dallas: What's the difference between a transsexual in

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00:51:37.320 --> 00:51:46.260

Dallas: A terrorist you can negotiate with terrorists. That was a job that was the way people looked at transsexual at the time. And the fact is transsexuals

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00:51:47.610 --> 00:51:54.690

Dallas: At the time of transition are almost all of us under huge stress, you know, it's redefining or breaking our relationships.

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00:51:55.980 --> 00:51:59.370

Dallas: Three defining are breaking our employment and employability.

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00:52:00.420 --> 00:52:01.830

Dallas: In our relationships with

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00:52:02.880 --> 00:52:06.870

Dallas: Our community institutions like schools and the church.

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00:52:08.340 --> 00:52:09.930

Dallas: Social social groups.

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00:52:12.420 --> 00:52:28.080

Dallas: And you know where that can come poverty, you know and and hostility and you know people scrolling words on the side of your car and it's just a huge least stressful environment. So there might be some, you know,

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00:52:31.080 --> 00:52:36.390

Dallas: It might be some resulting rigidity, but you know you can't define the people by that it's just

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00:52:36.990 --> 00:52:39.420

Dallas: It's situational and it's temporary

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00:52:40.020 --> 00:52:40.800

Evan Taylor: Yes, but

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00:52:40.830 --> 00:52:43.920

Dallas: You bet. The, you know, then suddenly you get this joke. So I made one

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00:52:45.930 --> 00:52:50.610

Dallas: What's the difference between a cross dresser and a transsexual. And the answer is about three years.

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00:52:53.460 --> 00:52:54.990

Evan Taylor: That I've heard before.

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00:52:55.230 --> 00:53:01.470

Dallas: That was the other thing, because the transsexuals would be very active on some of the early community bulletin boards.

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00:53:02.370 --> 00:53:16.890

Dallas: The cross dressing to be very anti anti anti anti transsexual and then two or three years later, they're they're identifying this transsexual in and putting down cross dressers same ways. And the fact is, you know,

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00:53:19.350 --> 00:53:26.670

Dallas: How we live and who we are, what group, we end up being pin to may have a lot to do with our ability to do something about that we feel we are

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00:53:27.060 --> 00:53:27.660

Evan Taylor: Right now.

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00:53:27.990 --> 00:53:29.670

Dallas: I always respected people who

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00:53:30.720 --> 00:53:37.950

Dallas: Who honored their marriages and who honored having children and deprive themselves of things.

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00:53:40.140 --> 00:53:45.480

Dallas: Because they did not want to hurt the people that they loved only honor that the same time I also

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00:53:46.920 --> 00:54:01.020

Dallas: Understood that for some people, the gender dysphoria was such that it was a half to situation. Mm hmm. And if they didn't do something that you know there was questionable whether they'd even be alive in a year or two. Yeah, both sides.

382

00:54:02.910 --> 00:54:08.580

Evan Taylor: Well, this is one of the things that I think is so interesting about talking about activism is that it's so generationally

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00:54:08.940 --> 00:54:24.990

Evan Taylor: You know relevant to particular generations that what is trans activism now means a completely different thing, and a completely different approach than what it meant then and then what it meant was, if you're just even out and able to get your needs met. You basically have to be a rigid

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00:54:26.460 --> 00:54:30.480

Evan Taylor: Rigid person with a very strong personality or you weren't going to get your needs met.

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00:54:30.780 --> 00:54:40.920

Dallas: And you almost have to be an activist sometimes just get things you need, you know, we go to the courts and the judges would refuse to change their names.

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00:54:41.820 --> 00:54:47.010

Dallas: Allow them to change their names and they wouldn't end up getting radicalized and become activists, because

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00:54:48.000 --> 00:54:58.170

Dallas: That's exactly what happened to me at the agenda clinic at Vanderbilt. I've just got a very non political person but I walked out of that situation. Having then become much more political

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00:54:58.890 --> 00:55:05.760

Evan Taylor: Right. How did you relate to the many movements of feminism that you've seen in that time.

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00:55:06.660 --> 00:55:25.860

Dallas: I was very much a feminist before the term is even in Joosten in around me. I remember the first time I heard boys, and I must have been about nine or 10 talking about women as if they were body parts. How shocked. I was and how aghast, you would not participate in that.

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00:55:26.880 --> 00:55:31.320

Dallas: When I got married. I was about 21 and my wife said,

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00:55:33.360 --> 00:55:42.180

Dallas: We bought out, you know, we were in college and we bought a use mobile home and, you know, which actually was very nice for \$3,000 um

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00:55:43.410 --> 00:55:51.900

Dallas: But she said, Okay, great. Now, you know, I'll do the dishes and wash the clothes and you can mow the lawn and work on the cars. And I'm like, wait a minute. Let's negotiate this

393

00:55:54.150 --> 00:56:00.630

Dallas: You know, and that is we can both mow the lawns. I know more about car. So I'll work on the cars, you know, and I'm, I'm a good cook.

394

00:56:01.050 --> 00:56:18.090

Dallas: I'm crappy at washing dishes. So let's, let's figure out how we're going to do this, and I, I didn't even have a word for that at the moment. Mm hmm. You know about men, supposing to be this, and women, supposing to the dad and everything they did following I did, I guess. By the time I was

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00:56:19.410 --> 00:56:32.730

Dallas: I think when I think when it wasn't UT. I came across Alan all this article in the very early issue of Ms. Magazine about testosterone poisoning the humorous piece about wine and behave the way they do.

396

00:56:35.700 --> 00:56:42.840

Dallas: But, you know, then by the 70s. I was aware of the term. And I realized I was a feminist done. And then, of course,

397

00:56:44.730 --> 00:56:47.520

Dallas: Janice Raymond's screed came out.

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00:56:47.760 --> 00:56:51.630

Dallas: Right. The, the transsexual empire.

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00:56:52.980 --> 00:56:53.550

Dallas: And

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00:56:54.870 --> 00:57:07.440

Dallas: I went to. I went to Vanderbilt, where they had no I'm sorry I went to Emory in Atlanta University, where they had a copy of her dissertation and it's just a screen and it, it's just a polemic. It's just a array.

401

00:57:08.850 --> 00:57:15.510

Dallas: Um, is highly personal towards certain people, individuals. There's no research that was done.

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00:57:17.460 --> 00:57:24.090

Dallas: In the whole thing seems to have stemmed from her having had a crush on sandy stone back in the 1970s.

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00:57:25.470 --> 00:57:31.590

Dallas: And Sandy did a he's still around, Sandy did a interview in

404

00:57:33.570 --> 00:57:35.130

Dallas: In one of the trans journals.

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00:57:36.990 --> 00:57:46.200

Dallas: Journal, a transsexual feminism. I can't remember the first word. The first title. Um, but certainly Raymond picked picked

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00:57:47.880 --> 00:57:49.170

Dallas: Sandy stone out

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00:57:49.530 --> 00:57:50.490

Evan Taylor: Right. Yes.

408

00:57:51.270 --> 00:57:53.730

Dallas: And she was writing in the San Francisco.

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00:57:55.260 --> 00:57:57.000

Dallas: Feminists newsletter and

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00:57:58.140 --> 00:58:10.830

Dallas: revving people up to attend and attacked Olivia records for for sandy be in their sound engineer and Olivia love Sandy and didn't want sandy lean and sadly finally realized she had to just

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00:58:12.300 --> 00:58:15.690

Dallas: The good of the good of the organization. But it was it was a highly

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00:58:16.890 --> 00:58:25.830

Dallas: I got the sense when I read it the first time that it was a highly political highly personal book. And I think it is and I think. And yeah, that got a lot of got a lot of

413

00:58:27.780 --> 00:58:45.240

Dallas: A lot of the bad quality is we're just ignored it was treated as if it was a serious book right it was never a serious book you know anyone who writes it takes trance. It takes castrated balls to play women's tennis, are you, Renee Richards is just not writing a scientific book. I'm sorry.

414

00:58:45.360 --> 00:58:45.990

Grace.

415

00:58:47.280 --> 00:58:49.740

Dallas: And, and, of course,

416

00:58:52.770 --> 00:58:56.280

Dallas: That continues today. And a lot of the people who have

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00:58:57.660 --> 00:58:58.500

Dallas: Were called

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00:58:59.520 --> 00:59:07.860

Dallas: terse which stands for trans exclusionary Lesbian Feminist, which I will point out is absolutely

419

00:59:09.720 --> 00:59:11.130

Dallas: An operational term it is

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00:59:12.150 --> 00:59:26.010

Dallas: Literally defines who they are and what they do. Mm hmm. So you can't consider it a slur. Because if it's a slur. It's only because of your nastiness has led at a certain aplomb to

421

00:59:26.250 --> 00:59:29.460

Dallas: Certain aplomb. It is a description all term and

422

00:59:30.810 --> 00:59:44.370

Dallas: They need to have to learn to live with it. But, you know, it continues to happen. And sometimes people surprise us with that like Roseanne Roseanne Barr heard it, you know, the left in mm hmm on

423

00:59:45.450 --> 00:59:46.560

Dallas: A couple of years ago.

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00:59:47.610 --> 00:59:48.180

Dallas: And

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00:59:50.070 --> 00:59:52.350

Dallas: Sheila Jeffries wrote a very similar book.

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00:59:52.830 --> 00:59:56.700

Dallas: Right. Yes. And I knew what was coming in.

427

00:59:58.920 --> 01:00:03.900

Dallas: Talk with Jameson green about and then we wrote a letter to the publisher who was the publisher, one of my books.

428

01:00:05.130 --> 01:00:13.020

Dallas: And ask them to please have some fun moderate her language and they did it.

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01:00:15.480 --> 01:00:16.770

Evan Taylor: Did they respond to you at all.

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01:00:18.450 --> 01:00:21.780

Dallas: I think thank me for anything that's writing letter but no they didn't do it in

431

01:00:21.810 --> 01:00:22.230

Evan Taylor: Right.

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01:00:22.260 --> 01:00:25.770

Dallas: Now, full of full of personal stuff and you know

433

01:00:27.840 --> 01:00:43.110

Evan Taylor: How these out these books when they come out. I'm thinking of course around Janice ravens, but also Sheila's as well and out of the out of these change how trans folks are interacting with each other or the the sort of interpersonal relationships between folks.

434

01:00:43.830 --> 01:00:44.880

Dallas: Well, I think a lot of

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01:00:46.080 --> 01:00:46.680

Dallas: A lot of

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01:00:48.570 --> 01:01:03.000

Dallas: Radical is being feminist women's decided they needed to be on that bandwagon bandwagon. They might have not even considered that to be an issue. In fact, a lot of a lot of trans women in lesbian circles got kicked out after her book appeared

437

01:01:04.140 --> 01:01:11.010

Dallas: And in terms of how we feel about it. I think we're mostly just pissed off about it because we recognize it, your trash.

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01:01:11.640 --> 01:01:12.180

Evan Taylor: Right.

439

01:01:12.270 --> 01:01:27.030

Dallas: And I, when I say trash. I mean, it's not a serious book. It's not a serious premise. There's no logic applied. It's just all emotion and that's and if you take it for that. I mean, by the same token, it's the same situation with the man who would be queen.

440

01:01:28.590 --> 01:01:44.190

Dallas: Which is the book written by the psychologists from the University of Northwestern University right blanking on his name. Um, but it was also a very non scientific book that he played off as if it was science and he was even

441

01:01:45.390 --> 01:01:52.560

Dallas: Nominated for what for one of the big literary awards. But the book was just a joke.

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01:01:53.760 --> 01:01:54.870

Evan Taylor: Was with some of this.

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01:01:55.590 --> 01:01:55.890

Michael

444

01:01:56.910 --> 01:01:58.470

Dallas: Sorry, go ahead. Michael Bailey.

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01:01:58.980 --> 01:02:00.330

Evan Taylor: Now that right. Yes, yes.

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01:02:01.020 --> 01:02:14.250

Evan Taylor: And what some of your own desire to write your but I'm thinking and you know the guide to research that you wrote or the, the current concepts and transgender identity. These are books that for me, you know, back in the early 2000s, you know,

447

01:02:14.820 --> 01:02:24.030

Evan Taylor: I could go to the belly of the university library into the very, very back and there's the one shelf, you know, I mean, I know you only have two bucks. But I had a whole shelf.

448

01:02:24.120 --> 01:02:24.540

Dallas: To hold

449

01:02:25.230 --> 01:02:40.980

Evan Taylor: on the shelf and I got. And this was. These were books that were, you know, the only things that were available. And I'm wondering, was was your own sort of was, was it was that kind of your own academic activism and your in your way of making good books good writing

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01:02:41.220 --> 01:02:42.840

Dallas: It was part of Aegis was

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01:02:43.920 --> 01:02:50.400

Dallas: And a part of my reaction to having only the two books. I didn't have the two books, having knowing your two books and having zero

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01:02:52.020 --> 01:02:52.410

Evan Taylor: Sorry, I

453

01:02:53.970 --> 01:02:58.860

Dallas: Was when I finally found the community. Suddenly I had access to all

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01:02:59.970 --> 01:03:10.560

Dallas: You know, I, there were ads in tapestry to buy books, you know, and I knew people who had books and knew about books and the internet was starting to come in.

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01:03:12.030 --> 01:03:16.470

Dallas: And you know, I mean, now I can if I can think of a book I can have it in my hands in three days.

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01:03:16.680 --> 01:03:17.130

Right.

457

01:03:18.510 --> 01:03:23.220

Dallas: Um, from Amazon or advanced book exchange, but

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01:03:25.590 --> 01:03:35.550

Dallas: I started writing. I made it. I made a list of every article i mean i'd also what I knew about a lot of papers extra after Vanderbilt just nobody except

459

01:03:36.270 --> 01:03:55.290

Dallas: Except stuff I stole order, you know, which just kind of this too bad are pathology. Right. Um, but any book I knew any article I knew many book chapter I knew. I've got put in the list. And I was giving it away for free to eating when he was a member of Aegis in the floppy.

460

01:03:56.730 --> 01:04:05.940

Dallas: In the late burn below tell me I should have thought of asked me if I thought about publishing. And I said, no, but I think it's a good idea. And two weeks later I got a

461

01:04:08.400 --> 01:04:23.850

Dallas: Contract in the mail from Taylor Francis, which is, I mean, from garlin publishers, which is now Taylor and Francis right and that's where that book came from. And then I wrote another one. But yeah, I was interested in in in

462

01:04:24.870 --> 01:04:40.770

Dallas: In reaching people I've never written a memoir, I have a lot of personal experiences in a lot of my writing. But I've never really written the more I'm kind of thinking it might be time I was going to do one. One time I was playing a new one called trapped in my own body.

463

01:04:42.120 --> 01:04:52.890

Dallas: Which is kind of a play on the trapped in the wrong body. I was helping my body was just write it was certain attributes of it. That could be changed and should be changed in were changed.

464

01:04:54.870 --> 01:04:59.580

Dallas: But I always I always I would always write a chapter here or

465

01:05:01.410 --> 01:05:09.660

Dallas: Leverage it in an article you know like I will talk about what I did when I was changing my own identity in my book on identity management.

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01:05:12.870 --> 01:05:14.820

Dallas: should write anymore. Maybe I will one day.

467

01:05:15.240 --> 01:05:16.620

Evan Taylor: Please, please do.

468

01:05:19.080 --> 01:05:23.550

Evan Taylor: And I'm wondering as well that think thinking about the

469

01:05:23.850 --> 01:05:38.130

Evan Taylor: Change in in the availability of of academic information and research because you very much had you know more of that that more of a focus on that kind of work. So, what have you. What have you seen there in ways that are not maybe so community based but are more in the academy.

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01:05:38.550 --> 01:05:47.310

Dallas: But one of the things he just did. Was it reached professionals and they reached sympathetic professionals, especially who were looking for an alternative to all of this.

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01:05:48.300 --> 01:05:59.010

Dallas: medicalized crap trap that was in all of the journals and all the textbooks that looked at us as having a pathology and I didn't feel like there was anything wrong with me.

472

01:06:00.030 --> 01:06:04.620

Dallas: And in fact, because there wasn't anything wrong with me. I got turned out of Vanderbilt.

473

01:06:04.800 --> 01:06:14.700

Dallas: Right. And so, so he just always made Aegis as professional as I could and it reached it reached professionals and it made professionals, listen.

474

01:06:15.450 --> 01:06:36.090

Dallas: Here's an example. I got a call on the helpline from a woman who had vaginoplasty and had a problem with hair. Okay, inside the vagina, which I hadn't done down there. And so because of my hypothyroidism and never had thought about that. But I realized it was a problem and

475

01:06:37.710 --> 01:06:42.480

Dallas: Very difficult to remedy after surgery. And they also knew

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01:06:43.800 --> 01:06:53.580

Dallas: From having talked to my own electrolysis and other trans people that a lot of guys will go to electronic just to get a treatment down there right sexual titillation thing.

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01:06:54.330 --> 01:07:08.310

Dallas: So when someone that presents his mail goes to like trial is that would be the first thing they would think of is this person. My electronics would actually just crank her machine at the high and zap at one time and they were out of there. But, but

478

01:07:09.990 --> 01:07:18.750

Dallas: We did a medical ADVISORY ABOUT THAT AND people pass that around and suddenly it became a thing for male to female transsexuals to go to have

479

01:07:19.290 --> 01:07:26.970

Dallas: To get clear down there before they had their surgery. That wasn't a concept until that many advisor came out and it was there was very little.

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01:07:27.810 --> 01:07:38.400

Dallas: Chance if it hadn't been a concept that electrolysis would have said yes but it changed everything. It's very quietly just from one sheet of paper from an authoritative source.

481

01:07:39.630 --> 01:07:40.620

Dallas: Be but

482

01:07:42.450 --> 01:07:48.870

Dallas: We did have an advisory board and I didn't run all the medical stuff by the advisory board, you know, very prestigious advisory board but

483

01:07:52.080 --> 01:08:00.480

Dallas: You know, it's interesting how things change and and and and having a professional appearance to the organization in the magazine.

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01:08:01.140 --> 01:08:11.610

Dallas: Let me make those kinds of changes with our advisory bulletins, you know, we did ADVISORY ABOUT PC iOS, which is polycystic ovarian syndrome, which a lot of FT NS have

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01:08:12.630 --> 01:08:23.280

Dallas: About excess hormones, you know, because some some male two females were were running with the idea that the more you took the better. And the faster you would feminized

486

01:08:25.590 --> 01:08:28.170

Dallas: About about silicone injections.

487

01:08:29.640 --> 01:08:34.980

Dallas: And other things are the surgeon John Romano Brown, who was horrible, horrible plastic surgeon

488

01:08:36.840 --> 01:08:38.490

Dallas: And so

489

01:08:38.850 --> 01:08:42.690

Evan Taylor: He sort of like a warning. Don't, don't go to these particular providers.

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01:08:42.750 --> 01:08:52.830

Dallas: Yeah, sometimes we will be do these things like do get yourself checked your PC. Oh, so do have a mammogram and right you know and do avoid this, this guy because he's bad news.

491

01:08:53.790 --> 01:08:57.510

Dallas: Gotcha eventually went to prison for cutting healthy leg off a man

492

01:08:58.140 --> 01:08:58.920

Evan Taylor: Oh my goodness.

493

01:09:00.960 --> 01:09:02.640

Evan Taylor: My, my actual accident.

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01:09:02.850 --> 01:09:07.980

Dallas: No, he was a plastic surgeon. He liked to cut and the person, the person who

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01:09:09.180 --> 01:09:28.440

Dallas: Had his leg operated on was named Philip bond. He was my age 70 years old and he went with a friend and they were going to have their legs cut off because they felt like they had a condition john money called apartment Ophelia, which is the kind of the body image that you are

496

01:09:29.850 --> 01:09:43.530

Dallas: Disabled that you have are missing a limb. Okay, so they had a fetish about missing a limb and they were both going to have it in the one person saw conditions under which Brown, where he was called tabletop john brown. To give you an idea of the can deal

497

01:09:43.920 --> 01:09:44.280

Evan Taylor: With you.

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01:09:44.310 --> 01:09:46.050

Dallas: Work and

499

01:09:48.060 --> 01:09:53.880

Dallas: He, he went back home and Bondi didn't he died of gaseous gangrene and the motel room. The next day,

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01:09:54.300 --> 01:10:03.330

Dallas: Oh my goodness. The. This was in San Diego County, he probably did the operation in Mexico because it lost his license in the US. Okay.

501

01:10:04.620 --> 01:10:10.830

Dallas: And Stacy writing the sand the San Diego prosecutor da

502

01:10:12.510 --> 01:10:16.530

Dallas: could not figure out why this man. He had his leg removed.

503

01:10:18.660 --> 01:10:23.820

Dallas: And I knew because john had read john brown done monies

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01:10:26.100 --> 01:10:34.680

Dallas: chapter on the hat. Right. And so I call the prosecutor's office and told and then suddenly they had kind of the ways and means to

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01:10:37.950 --> 01:10:50.850

Dallas: To charge him with a crime. They knew what they knew what had happened. They were just mystified until then, and in fact doctrine is working on an article about the documentary about Brown now.

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01:10:53.190 --> 01:10:59.730

Evan Taylor: So for you, is this a moment of i can i can help push this along and get this guy away from our community as well.

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01:10:59.760 --> 01:11:10.920

Dallas: I can, yeah, I can warn people and maybe they will go to more people about silicone injections and maybe they will have them right you know because they occasionally kill people and they disfigure alone anymore.

508

01:11:12.600 --> 01:11:22.920

Evan Taylor: Well, what were some of the other I'm interested in, in that the helpline. So it seems to be a central place that people were getting information also from what you were able to figure out what people need it.

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01:11:23.220 --> 01:11:26.280

Evan Taylor: Out in the community. So what were some of the other other types of calls you were getting

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01:11:27.270 --> 01:11:42.090

Dallas: Oh, I once got it. You know, I once got a call from the man who thought he could not have surgery because he would have two divorces why in some locations at the time, perhaps you might have. But I told him that was not a requirement and he cried.

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01:11:42.870 --> 01:11:44.520

Dallas: Oh, I got a

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01:11:45.900 --> 01:11:54.390

Dallas: Call from the she fetishes one time and i and i was polite and listen for a few minutes and I said, you realize of course that this is not a shoe fetish.

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01:11:56.370 --> 01:11:58.530

Dallas: helpline. This is a, this is a

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01:12:01.350 --> 01:12:05.100

Dallas: A helpline for people talking about their gender identities.

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01:12:06.420 --> 01:12:08.010

Dallas: And he said, Oh, I'm so sorry.

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01:12:09.540 --> 01:12:13.980

Dallas: You know, I apologize. I wasn't thinking about that. I was just kind of on my own little trip here.

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01:12:15.810 --> 01:12:26.940

Dallas: I got a call from someone in the federal government because someone I knew was in transition and referred him to me and he was in charge. And one of the regulatory agencies in Washington. And he had this

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01:12:28.800 --> 01:12:39.450

Dallas: physically disabled transsexual employee who had come to him and he wanted to know about what was going on with her and condition was. And then I told and

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01:12:40.140 --> 01:12:57.000

Dallas: A lot of that I talked to reporters, I would get calls all the time from all of these TV talk shows, um, you know, like the Maury show you know where they say, you know, no matter how the person is living her life, or how feminized she maybe she has to say I'm a man.

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01:12:57.540 --> 01:12:58.290

Evan Taylor: Right as you can.

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01:12:58.350 --> 01:13:05.790

Dallas: See Maury. That's the big kicker, like, well, I would, I kind of call was all like, oh yeah, and then I would tell him I get back to him and and never would. And

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01:13:06.210 --> 01:13:15.540

Dallas: And the way those things are if they don't have something to show them within a week or two. The idea dies and they go do something else. So I probably killed 30 or 40 of those shows just by

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01:13:16.710 --> 01:13:19.440

Dallas: promising them. I would respond and then not responding

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01:13:19.920 --> 01:13:21.810

Evan Taylor: Just, just dragging it out until the deadline.

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01:13:24.330 --> 01:13:29.070

Dallas: A lot of people. I mean, one person was a hairdresser in in

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01:13:30.480 --> 01:13:37.410

Dallas: Alabama and he he would call in all the way through his transition. And then her transition

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01:13:38.940 --> 01:13:49.410

Dallas: To the point of seeing, you know, seeing it finding a therapist and starting hormones and coming out and finally having surgery and finally getting married.

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01:13:50.490 --> 01:13:54.870

After transition all through. I can kind of track this person get

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01:13:55.980 --> 01:13:58.590

Dallas: To know people with

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01:13:59.640 --> 01:14:08.250

Dallas: Never kind of like where I was, you know, I'm 13 years old and I know nothing. You know, and I can send them information and plug them in the resources.

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01:14:09.600 --> 01:14:11.520

Evan Taylor: And did you get calls from young people quite a bit.

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01:14:12.630 --> 01:14:13.830

Dallas: Not calls but letters.

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01:14:14.370 --> 01:14:15.090

Evan Taylor: Um,

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01:14:15.180 --> 01:14:18.180

Dallas: You know, and old people, and people in prison.

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01:14:19.260 --> 01:14:28.470

Dallas: always felt for the people in prison who got cut off from any source of support or hormones. Right. But you know, I didn't have the bandwidth to do anything about it.

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01:14:32.640 --> 01:14:33.330

Evan Taylor: Something

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01:14:33.660 --> 01:14:43.770

Dallas: Yeah, yeah. The Internet if it had been would have been different if the internet had been formed, I probably would have gone with an internet organization right off the bat, right, because it's

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01:14:45.810 --> 01:14:46.710

Dallas: An amazing thing.

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01:14:48.090 --> 01:15:00.510

Evan Taylor: What are some of the ways that folks were communicating or finding each other before the internet and be you know obviously all my supporters, but how they even know about a support group like what would how would you, how would you meet somebody else to talk to them.

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01:15:00.780 --> 01:15:03.090

Dallas: We know we would plant.

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01:15:04.350 --> 01:15:17.580

Dallas: If you could get a TV show, you might be able to talk them into putting your dress up you know try us that TV show that they would talk sellable will come in the only if you'll put her put her mailing address up

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01:15:17.820 --> 01:15:18.810

Evan Taylor: Right, okay.

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01:15:19.710 --> 01:15:22.200

Dallas: But people would advertise in the back of

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01:15:24.720 --> 01:15:35.610

Dallas: These papers and these letters and journals and, you know, especially like if a city had a gay paper we will collect train support group. Add in there or in

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01:15:36.780 --> 01:15:44.460

Dallas: Some of the trying to think of the little magazine like this coffee or some no one faith that was spirituality when there's a little

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01:15:45.720 --> 01:15:51.990

Dallas: Kind of sexual magazine. It was like that in the 60s and 70s, and then we get an ad in there.

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01:15:53.490 --> 01:15:54.990

Dallas: Are in and word of mouth.

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01:15:56.880 --> 01:16:01.530

Dallas: And if you if you had a book chapter you could put contact information in the book, check.

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01:16:02.190 --> 01:16:03.150

Evan Taylor: Right, okay.

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01:16:03.930 --> 01:16:07.590

Dallas: But it was, it was very difficult to get information. I remember my mother.

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01:16:08.940 --> 01:16:25.380

Dallas: Had a book and she was in Book Club before I was born. It's called killers and Africa by a man called Alexander like he was a big game Safari leader in Africa in in in East Africa and Kinzer 10 Kenya and Tanzania in that area.

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01:16:26.490 --> 01:16:27.090

Dallas: And

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01:16:28.320 --> 01:16:30.480

Dallas: I love the book because of his

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01:16:31.980 --> 01:16:37.200

Dallas: Wonderful descriptions of the behavior of the of the animals. Sometimes the hunters.

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01:16:38.940 --> 01:16:43.620

Dallas: But he was clearly affectionate towards the animals and he talked so much about their behavior. I loved it.

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01:16:44.280 --> 01:17:00.720

Dallas: And of course, my mother gave that book, which I must have read every year to one another, another of my siblings and I look at that book for 20 years before I finally found it again. And now if I want that book. I can get on advanced buki change and have it here in three days, right.

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01:17:02.610 --> 01:17:13.290

Evan Taylor: And so I'm hearing that one of these, the major sort of drivers for you was around information and just making sure that you're able to to can make that information available wasn't you know when it hadn't been for you.

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01:17:13.830 --> 01:17:22.920

Dallas: All I needed was enough information to make an informed decision. And that's what I tried to give to people. Mm hmm. So yeah, that's probably exactly why I did it. And I didn't have

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01:17:23.670 --> 01:17:31.830

Dallas: An idea about what they should do with that information, right. I just wanted them to have the information they needed to make a good decision. Mm hmm.

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01:17:33.390 --> 01:17:46.650

Evan Taylor: Obviously the internet has been a huge change in, you know, in that time. And so you know that without considered. What are some of the things that you think are possible. Now for, you know, so looking looking things intergenerational

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01:17:47.040 --> 01:17:55.860

Evan Taylor: This work always is intergenerational words when we're talking with you know from from very different ages. So I'm almost I was born at one. I'm almost 40

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01:17:56.070 --> 01:18:06.750

Evan Taylor: And there's kids now that are you know 20 years old that are just, sort of, you know, starting to think about these ideas or or whatever or even younger you know that they certainly kids are doing things differently.

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01:18:06.990 --> 01:18:11.790

Evan Taylor: What do you think is possible for that generation that wouldn't be possible for yours or maybe even mine.

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01:18:12.420 --> 01:18:15.180

Dallas: Well, first, just in the first person in the schools.

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01:18:16.860 --> 01:18:21.330

Dallas: People are much more out about it. There were two people in my high school

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01:18:23.100 --> 01:18:29.010

Dallas: besides myself. And one of them was a game, and he was kind of a farmer boy, but

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01:18:30.270 --> 01:18:41.580

Dallas: We're very clearly a gay man because he was always pinching the boys in class when they couldn't do anything about it. And then there was a very feminine boy was always surrounded by girls.

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01:18:42.180 --> 01:18:53.610

Dallas: Who might have been trans. Okay, there was me, you know, and I was not letting the show I could provide always perform masculinity, just as much as I had to, to not be questioned and have a hard time

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01:18:53.640 --> 01:18:54.810

Evan Taylor: Because they didn't mean

570

01:18:55.140 --> 01:19:05.370

Dallas: I didn't want to be teased or ridiculed and I never was right and when I transition. All I did was stop performing that little bit of masculinity. I didn't have to do it anymore.

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01:19:06.300 --> 01:19:07.950

Evan Taylor: Just take take off that veneer be done.

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01:19:08.280 --> 01:19:09.690

Dallas: Absolutely, you know,

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01:19:09.720 --> 01:19:11.490

Dallas: Right. Um,

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01:19:15.300 --> 01:19:31.500

Dallas: Let's look so kids are able to meet one another at school and they can correspond with one another with their phones. Mm hmm. You know, they can go on to YouTube and see people have the same age, talking about their own issues in their own processes.

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01:19:32.910 --> 01:19:33.600

Dallas: And

576

01:19:35.070 --> 01:19:38.610

Dallas: There's a whole literature of transformation for sale on Amazon.

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01:19:38.970 --> 01:19:40.260

Evan Taylor: Right and young people.

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01:19:42.420 --> 01:19:54.450

Dallas: Um, and they're much more likely to get sympathy from all the people I could not get sympathy from parents, family pastors guidance counselor's teachers.

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01:19:55.470 --> 01:19:57.450

Dallas: Officials friends.

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01:19:58.560 --> 01:20:07.140

Dallas: And so they have the information if they need it. They still have to parse it and figure out what's good information and what's not.

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01:20:07.620 --> 01:20:20.550

Dallas: Mm hmm. But they least they have a bunch of ways to to look through it and of course from looking through the information you find other sources and you can hone in on what's important to you, right.

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01:20:21.870 --> 01:20:27.360

Evan Taylor: What about and and I'm thinking about you mentioned something this idea of

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01:20:27.990 --> 01:20:37.410

Evan Taylor: humor and how important that is. And in terms of making, making change. And certainly, you know that that wasn't something that people. People didn't

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01:20:37.680 --> 01:20:46.800

Evan Taylor: People there wasn't an a reference around gender in, you know, in the early days. And now there's a little bit more of a different take on it. So how have you seen a humorous played into the community.

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01:20:47.160 --> 01:20:52.230

Dallas: Well, I mean, I always had a good sense of humor in it always was a social lubricant

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01:20:52.800 --> 01:20:53.220

Evan Taylor: Right.

587

01:20:53.310 --> 01:20:55.740

Dallas: You know, um, I remember

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01:20:57.120 --> 01:21:02.370

Dallas: When I had my surgery in Brussels in 1998 and

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01:21:03.420 --> 01:21:18.420

Dallas: The US passport people had a policy that if you were going out of the country for purposes of genital surgery, you could have a one year passport and your target gender and then you would need to go back and

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01:21:19.470 --> 01:21:28.140

Dallas: pay fees pithy, and he would get the other nine years. Okay, so I went to. I was in Georgia. I went to the post office box.

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01:21:29.370 --> 01:21:35.460

Dallas: mojo into the post office if for some reason they were taking passport applications right in the middle of the lobby.

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01:21:36.330 --> 01:21:41.280

Dallas: And there was the line. And I'm standing there and I'm giving them a letter from my surgeon surgeon, you know,

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01:21:41.820 --> 01:21:51.960

Dallas: Can my old passport and have an application. And I'm telling them all they have to do is send this off to Jacksonville and they will send my passport back and she says, I've just never seen this before.

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01:21:54.270 --> 01:22:04.950

Dallas: Never seen in one your passport before. This is amazing. Um, you know, how come you got this young people are in line and she says persisting and persisting and I found said

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01:22:04.950 --> 01:22:07.260

Dallas: Okay. And I told her, and she said,

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01:22:09.390 --> 01:22:13.860

Dallas: You mean you want to be a guy. And I said, yeah, one more guess

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01:22:15.930 --> 01:22:16.830

Evan Taylor: All Mike and

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01:22:16.890 --> 01:22:21.990

Dallas: So, I mean, it could have been a big issue. I just decided it was a good time to ensure. Oh my god.

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01:22:22.320 --> 01:22:33.450

Dallas: You know, and my father in law. My mother in law was very cool and my transition and my father in law tried to be my second marriage my recent marriage.

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01:22:34.410 --> 01:22:44.790

Dallas: Really nice guy, but he just struggled with it, you know, especially with pronouns. And I remember they came to visit us right after we were married, and then bought the house and

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01:22:47.010 --> 01:22:51.180

Dallas: I had to run off to the Home Depot store.

602

01:22:52.290 --> 01:23:03.810

Dallas: To, to get a gender change or for a hose or something and I came back and we were talking about that. And I said something about agenda change. And I said, there's a lot of that going around in this family.

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01:23:04.290 --> 01:23:06.150

Dallas: That just kind of broke the ice with him.

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01:23:07.080 --> 01:23:13.650

Dallas: Totally that from then on, you know, like I can, I can make fun of myself and he was not having to feel

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01:23:14.220 --> 01:23:32.910

Dallas: Really repressed because he might make a mistake that I wasn't going to get off if he did I find there's an inertia around pronouns and people have a hard time on some someone deliberately have our time, but a lot of them really just, it's just habit.

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01:23:33.120 --> 01:23:34.500

Evan Taylor: And they can time

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01:23:34.980 --> 01:23:36.660

Dallas: Changing the pronouns for people

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01:23:37.320 --> 01:23:41.520

Dallas: Right. And he was just worried that he was going to offend me, I think.

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01:23:43.800 --> 01:23:46.290

Dallas: So, you know, and I do that in my writing. I wrote

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01:23:46.290 --> 01:23:48.690

Dallas: An article and we've got three printed element place.

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01:23:49.920 --> 01:23:53.520

Dallas: In the early 90s about just having a sense of humor through your whole transition

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01:23:53.940 --> 01:23:54.570

Right.

613

01:23:56.220 --> 01:24:02.250

Evan Taylor: It seems to me that that's a very core piece for you around making sure to to

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01:24:04.200 --> 01:24:13.740

Evan Taylor: To, to, to, to, I don't know, maybe this is true or not to to address your own sort of so you don't get that rigidity, right, that that humor allows that that that free flowing

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01:24:14.040 --> 01:24:18.540

Dallas: It does. You know, I think humor is is a is a good thing to have.

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01:24:18.930 --> 01:24:22.440

Dallas: Mm hmm. I've known people without any and it's not been pretty

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01:24:23.070 --> 01:24:23.310

Right.

618

01:24:25.920 --> 01:24:31.770

Evan Taylor: And so many cases in our community. It really gets you know like beaten out of people. They are literally and figuratively. Right.

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01:24:31.770 --> 01:24:34.110

Dallas: And I think so too. Yes. Yeah.

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01:24:35.700 --> 01:24:42.900

Evan Taylor: So I've asked you a little bit about three of these, these intergenerational pieces and how things have gone. I'm now wondering about in

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01:24:43.170 --> 01:24:53.670

Evan Taylor: In the in in the future and how do you see what we now think of as a trans community in some way and also recognizable group of people and how do you see that changing into the future.

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01:24:54.570 --> 01:24:57.960

Dallas: Hard to kill you know who could have predicted the internet, you know,

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01:24:59.520 --> 01:25:13.020

Dallas: I'm eight and the repercussions from the internet are just going on and on and on, you know i mean it's it's shaking up newspapers and magazines print newspapers and magazines.

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01:25:13.980 --> 01:25:25.170

Dallas: It's shaped up the way people get their news, they're now getting their news on Facebook and with disastrous political consequences, um, again, having

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01:25:29.880 --> 01:25:38.520

Dallas: Results of people thinking sources of bad news or source of good news, and vice versa. Right. Um,

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01:25:39.780 --> 01:25:57.720

Dallas: And who could predict it, all of that. So we don't know, but we do know now that we have a lot of young people that are being open. We have a lot of people who are questioning. We have people declaring the pronouns and schools all over the place and we have more people who are these sisters

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01:25:58.650 --> 01:25:59.730

Dallas: Coming forward on

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01:25:59.820 --> 01:26:09.060

Dallas: On YouTube. They're always were some and I don't think they'll ever be a whole lot, but, you know, and many of them are victims of just

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01:26:10.620 --> 01:26:18.000

Dallas: For counseling. You know, sometimes for self control you're running away from their problems. But, you know,

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01:26:19.170 --> 01:26:29.220

Dallas: I don't know what's going to happen. It's hard to tell. We don't know what new piece of technology is going to come around and what technologies. I mean, if you've ever read.

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01:26:30.420 --> 01:26:45.510

Dallas: John barley science fiction's books, you can kind of get a sex change kit and change your gender in the privacy of your home in about an hour in a very thorough away, you know, including being strange fitter and having a different skeletal structure.

632

01:26:47.340 --> 01:26:50.250

Dallas: And what would happen if that was put on the market, you know,

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01:26:50.310 --> 01:26:56.580

Dallas: Not that it probably but but i don't know i could have not have predicted everything that happened.

634

01:26:57.660 --> 01:27:08.310

Dallas: All right, let's certainly being people being open and out and getting support is a good thing. And I think that hopefully will continue their forces that are fighting against that.

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01:27:09.510 --> 01:27:10.170

He

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01:27:11.250 --> 01:27:11.610

Dallas: Cannot

637

01:27:11.640 --> 01:27:16.470

Evan Taylor: Hold on, two seconds just cutting out for a second here. Let me. Sure. I'll be right with ya.

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01:27:22.770 --> 01:27:22.920

Evan Taylor: Hello.

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01:27:24.120 --> 01:27:24.960

Evan Taylor: Can you hear me, yes.

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01:27:25.680 --> 01:27:28.320

Dallas: Yes, oh yeah, I gotta continue button to push here.

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01:27:29.460 --> 01:27:30.420

Evan Taylor: Okay, perfect.

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01:27:30.810 --> 01:27:31.470

So,

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01:27:33.300 --> 01:27:42.330

Dallas: You know, things can happen really fast in a bad way. I wrote a piece about the Weimar Republic and what a sexually liberated.

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01:27:43.890 --> 01:27:45.420

Dallas: Place Germany was

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01:27:46.470 --> 01:27:56.640

Dallas: In the 1920s and what happened there. Um, you know, we can't say that can't happen here because it can in some ways it is, I mean,

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01:27:58.770 --> 01:28:02.520

Dallas: One of the states is trying to get a law passed that would

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01:28:04.470 --> 01:28:07.800

Dallas: Make it illegal to do any kind of gender affirming treatment for money.

648

01:28:07.950 --> 01:28:10.890

Evan Taylor: Right yeah just seen that in Florida. It is, I think, right.

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01:28:11.250 --> 01:28:13.620

Dallas: I don't remember what state. It was uh yeah I

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01:28:13.650 --> 01:28:15.240

Evan Taylor: Just saw something this morning on that.

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01:28:16.950 --> 01:28:21.720

Dallas: You know, we're being you know excluded from the military. Again, all kinds of things.

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01:28:22.770 --> 01:28:30.570

Dallas: And the whole world is taking a nationalist turn and which is very scary. Mm hmm. And

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01:28:31.980 --> 01:28:50.610

Dallas: And so, so either the freedom. We're having might or might not persists, so we can only push it as far as we can to making, making it part of our society and making it permanent so that you know people growing up will have enough information to make good decisions.

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01:28:51.450 --> 01:28:56.550

Evan Taylor: About themselves and certainly technology is a big driver there.

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01:28:56.790 --> 01:29:09.390

Dallas: It is, it is. I mean, I think of all the trans people who lived before there were human sex hormones. In fact, literally only died as a result of the transplantable variant issue at a time when

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01:29:10.620 --> 01:29:15.540

Dallas: Nothing was known about tissue transplant rejection. Right.

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01:29:16.740 --> 01:29:28.230

Evan Taylor: And we've talked a lot about the the internet as being the sort of big, big changer and would you would you would you say it's fair to say that would be the the most monumental change. You've seen

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01:29:30.240 --> 01:29:36.750

Dallas: Definitely. You know what I mean. Plus, in the fact that I mean it's if it's really important that as of the mid

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01:29:38.220 --> 01:29:44.820

Dallas: 20th century technologies were available that weren't before that allowed people to change their bodies.

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01:29:45.390 --> 01:29:52.560

Dallas: Right to become more masculine or more feminine and those are the synthesis of human sex hormones, the rise of plastic surgery.

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01:29:54.960 --> 01:30:04.350

Dallas: And a model by way of Christine Jorgensen, that kind of woke up the world of the fact that perhaps sex was not immutable, and could be

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01:30:05.460 --> 01:30:12.270

Dallas: Changed to some extent where at least gender could end the differentiation of sex and gender, which was a psychological thing.

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01:30:12.450 --> 01:30:25.410

Dallas: Right, without all that, you know, we would still be doing things that the hitter in India, they're doing in terms of being people without well they would actually did do a

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01:30:26.460 --> 01:30:27.720

Dallas: primitive form the surgery.

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01:30:28.860 --> 01:30:33.720

Dallas: But, you know, without those technologies that would be a lot harder to live authentically, I think.

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01:30:34.380 --> 01:30:47.040

Dallas: Uh huh. And I mean, it's important to live authentically and it's it's good to not have a presentation that causes you to be be victimized range look like a mismatch and your gender.

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01:30:47.730 --> 01:30:57.450

Dallas: It's very rough way to live. I don't know if my skin is big enough to live in my head had a lot of features that made it difficult to pass.

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01:30:58.620 --> 01:31:02.220

Dallas: Like I said its genetic roulette nothing to do with your character, it's just

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01:31:03.690 --> 01:31:04.830

Dallas: Way the dice cavemen.

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01:31:04.890 --> 01:31:05.820

Evan Taylor: Yeah, just lock.

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01:31:07.260 --> 01:31:22.920

Evan Taylor: And and i would you say it's fair to look at the technology that that the advent and having hormones and surgery as being something that actually created in some ways the differences between like transsexual or transgender, or whatever.

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01:31:23.340 --> 01:31:33.300

Dallas: I think it's certainly exacerbated that you know it was coming. Christine went to Denmark, because she read about hormonal studies in rats and mice.

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01:31:34.740 --> 01:31:48.300

Dallas: And talk to doctors in the given her procedure. And actually, she did not have a badge on the class that she just had stuff removed and hormonal therapy. Right. But those were options that people could take that they couldn't take before

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01:31:49.560 --> 01:32:02.460

Dallas: And we didn't have the advantage of, say, the Plains Indians of having established social roles for people with your differently gendered and so actually

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01:32:04.110 --> 01:32:16.860

Dallas: Christine and and the follow up to Christine sort of did create a new class of people. We didn't have got to have a new then you been to gender people in terms of transsexuals right

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01:32:18.180 --> 01:32:24.630

Dallas: Mm hmm. There were almost a class of people in our society. Now who weren't before because everyone was in the closet.

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01:32:25.320 --> 01:32:27.450

Dallas: Yeah, communicating with one another.

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01:32:28.470 --> 01:32:33.210

Evan Taylor: What do you see, what do you see as both the the pros and cons to being a recognizable community in that way.

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01:32:34.140 --> 01:32:54.540

Dallas: Well, if your heads up your target. Um, so, you know, we have the full attention of the radical right now and the taking aim at us, other hand, we cannot we can identify one another and band together in solidarity and band together with with gay men and lesbians and bisexuals and

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01:32:55.860 --> 01:33:00.780

Dallas: Other people in solidarity, which makes us stronger so definitely

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01:33:02.370 --> 01:33:18.630

Evan Taylor: Definitely. And so we're talking a little bit about a little bit about the future and so forth. What do you, what do you see as the if there's an ideal. Ideal future for trans folks, you can snap your fingers. What would, what would you, what would you put in place.

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01:33:21.000 --> 01:33:27.870

Dallas: Well, it will be nice when when people who are born within within or sex genitals.

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01:33:28.950 --> 01:33:35.160

Dallas: Are not operated on and and until they're old enough to say what genitals, they would prefer they had

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01:33:35.520 --> 01:33:36.090

Evan Taylor: Right.

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01:33:36.900 --> 01:33:38.610

Dallas: It would be nice when

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01:33:42.450 --> 01:33:51.180

Dallas: The misogyny in America and the world is gone and men and women have equal places in society and women don't get judged by the way they look.

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01:33:52.350 --> 01:33:55.290

Dallas: When they when they do anything. Of note.

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01:33:57.840 --> 01:34:14.940

Dallas: It's never about, you know, the President suit is or it's always about the the congresswoman's you know about his appearance. It's all about her appearance and I think those just help set the stage, but you know when people are able to declare their gender.

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01:34:16.740 --> 01:34:23.070

Dallas: From whatever age they wanted. It's no big thing and people will just adjust to that. That would be an ideal.

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01:34:25.050 --> 01:34:31.890

Dallas: Side. They wanted to read declare their gender, then they get a little older than they would be allowed to do that to

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01:34:32.190 --> 01:34:32.730

Evan Taylor: The right

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01:34:32.880 --> 01:34:35.190

Dallas: there being any negative negative repercussions.

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01:34:35.310 --> 01:34:43.800

Evan Taylor: Mm hmm. I like that. I get that people can they can they can make that decision, then they can make that decision. Again, and maybe again that however many times they near want to

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01:34:44.040 --> 01:34:59.190

Dallas: Exactly. I have London and proponent of just taking the gender marker off of our caliber designations because one time, it made sense. But now there's people with all kinds of genders and it doesn't describe everybody at adequately.

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01:35:00.360 --> 01:35:10.320

Dallas: Fact, one of the things I did, I wrote about it in my book on identity management. I had three schools that I needed to change my transcripts and one of them was

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01:35:11.910 --> 01:35:12.300

Dallas: An

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01:35:13.500 --> 01:35:18.930

Dallas: undergraduate school Middle Tennessee State University and I just asked him to leave the gender marker off and they did.

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01:35:20.400 --> 01:35:31.890

Dallas: At the University of Tennessee. I wrote. And they said, sure. And they changed Vanderbilt, they said, Oh, no, this is legal document we can't, we can't do it. And I started crying and said, You're ruining my life and they changed it.

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01:35:34.440 --> 01:35:34.770

Evan Taylor: Again,

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01:35:37.530 --> 01:35:41.400

Dallas: But, but why do you need that marker on a college transcript anyway.

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01:35:41.940 --> 01:35:42.510

Yeah.

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01:35:43.560 --> 01:35:46.110

Evan Taylor: What. Yeah. What is it, what is actually saying about anybody really

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01:35:46.440 --> 01:35:52.830

Dallas: Actually, now you can have a third gender declaration on your Connecticut driver's license. I think that's a recent law that

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01:35:54.600 --> 01:35:58.320

Evan Taylor: That we have that on our passports here. Now you can now have an X on your passport.

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01:35:58.710 --> 01:35:59.820

Dallas: In British Columbia.

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01:36:00.030 --> 01:36:01.590

Evan Taylor: And yeah, well that that Canada Wide

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01:36:02.730 --> 01:36:16.050

Evan Taylor: Yeah. And so in all the things that you've, you've seen that if you know over, over time, what has what has stayed the same, or consistent and throughout the many iterations of trans community that you see.

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01:36:17.100 --> 01:36:22.650

Dallas: People using the technology and ideas that are available.

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01:36:23.850 --> 01:36:36.330

Dallas: To figure out where they fit what describes them and in claiming their identities and then moving forward with that and helping other people forward with it too.

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01:36:37.620 --> 01:36:47.160

Dallas: So that's, that's the struggle that does. We all have to, we'll have to do that. And we all come up with slightly different answers. Mm hmm.

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01:36:48.360 --> 01:36:58.050

Evan Taylor: I like the idea of thinking about the trans community and all its different iterations as being both a bunch of very resourceful people as well as a bunch of very supportive people

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01:37:00.510 --> 01:37:07.950

Dallas: Yeah, it's you know, it's good to see that we have so many allies now that people are not as scared of us.

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01:37:09.030 --> 01:37:17.640

Dallas: As they once were. We don't have the level of ridicule, we once did not that we still weren't rumored and significant number of still

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01:37:18.120 --> 01:37:19.500

Yeah, absolutely.

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01:37:21.600 --> 01:37:28.440

Evan Taylor: Is there anything about your, your activism specifically that I haven't asked you about or probe to you about that you were hoping that I would get to get to

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01:37:31.440 --> 01:37:37.500

Dallas: Know think we've pretty much we pretty much cover the waterfront. I have been

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01:37:40.290 --> 01:37:49.110

Dallas: Very active I've done a lot of things. It would be hard to talk about all the things that I have done all of them are things like can I get away with this and

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01:37:50.730 --> 01:38:05.550

Dallas: Can I get away with with being a transsexual and writing a book about transsexualism because until then we were relegated to writing memoirs and autobiographies and in fact in my, in my book on

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01:38:06.810 --> 01:38:11.490

Dallas: Current concepts Richard green was one of the authors of the

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01:38:12.600 --> 01:38:27.870

Dallas: You know he's one of the proponents of the first gen clinic at Johns Hopkins and of the book by john money by Richard Greta john money transsexualism the secretary Simon 69 wrote, perhaps the most I sent you know the most kind of biggest change in this book in our book.

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01:38:29.430 --> 01:38:35.220

Dallas: 27 years 30 some years earlier 69 and 98 for about 30

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01:38:36.720 --> 01:38:48.330

Dallas: Almost 30 years is that the author, the editor of this book is a transsexual that was and thinkable at that time. Right, so

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01:38:50.850 --> 01:38:52.590

Dallas: That made me made me feel really good.

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01:38:54.240 --> 01:39:06.480

Dallas: But but but you know it's it's like I never set out to be an activist, or to be known. I just tried to do what needed to be done, and I've gotten more claim and honors for that. Then if I had

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01:39:07.740 --> 01:39:11.280

Dallas: Done one or two things and then blow my trumpet for the next 30 years so I

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01:39:11.970 --> 01:39:32.910

Dallas: I try not to be overly modest, but I always just kind of look at what needs to be done and do the job if there's good fallout from it. That's okay. And if it's bad fallout from it, you know, which happened when we Jamison, and I wrote about the Sheila turret book that's okay too.

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01:39:33.390 --> 01:39:34.050

Right.

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01:39:35.940 --> 01:39:40.500

Evan Taylor: I think one of the things I appreciate you saying that because this was one of those interviews that

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01:39:41.160 --> 01:39:50.190

Evan Taylor: I was, I was kind of nervous about sounds like there is so much to cover. There are so many things that you've done where I know we're going to not hit on every, you know, like we haven't even talked about

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01:39:50.850 --> 01:39:58.020

Evan Taylor: The transgender Pioneer Award, and Virginia friends Lifetime Achievement Award, like those haven't even but what was important to me was to be able to get

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01:39:58.830 --> 01:40:06.870

Evan Taylor: You know those things are already going to S3, those things are already there. Those are already recorded and but what I wanted to do. And I think we've we've been asked to do quite a bit of is, is talk about

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01:40:07.590 --> 01:40:17.160

Evan Taylor: The overall approaches and the you know the the passion and the drive behind the activism, as opposed to the individual pieces because, frankly, there's just too many to cover

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01:40:19.410 --> 01:40:28.800

Dallas: Yeah, I'm very happy and sometimes I think I could have done so much more. But then again, I look at my CV and I'm like holy shit. This is Things 80 pages long.

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01:40:28.890 --> 01:40:35.610

Evan Taylor: And it's too low. Yeah, you have, you have to be printing it on 100 feet of CV.

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01:40:36.360 --> 01:40:46.440

Dallas: If, if anyone cares to look at my website, which is my name. You'll see kind of most of the things I've done is documented up there. Mm hmm.

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01:40:46.680 --> 01:40:50.370

Evan Taylor: And it's and it's already very full website with all of those things.

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01:40:51.780 --> 01:41:03.090

Evan Taylor: And so I have two questions that I want to make sure that that that I do cover that I that I think are important. And so the first one that I want to make sure to ask you is looking back on all of the activism, you've done

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01:41:03.780 --> 01:41:08.730

Evan Taylor: What advice would you give your, your early self either as an activist, or just as a person.

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01:41:09.300 --> 01:41:15.510

Dallas: People always always asked that question a lot and I usually say, brush your teeth more, you know, but

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01:41:17.010 --> 01:41:20.310

Dallas: I did not do a good job in my 20s, but

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01:41:21.600 --> 01:41:23.370

Dallas: You know, I think.

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01:41:24.750 --> 01:41:28.650

Dallas: For an activist this look after yourself because many activists burnout.

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01:41:29.700 --> 01:41:38.550

Dallas: And and do it for the work and not for the glory, because there's not a lot of Gloria, right, someone asked me one time.

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01:41:40.740 --> 01:41:48.570

Dallas: How to get paid for being an activist and I told her, most of us do as much activism, as we can afford the cancer cells.

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01:41:50.760 --> 01:41:53.310

Dallas: Don't get paid for us for for being an activist.

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01:41:53.400 --> 01:41:54.060

Evan Taylor: Exactly.

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01:41:54.450 --> 01:41:56.100

The trans community anyway.

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01:41:58.470 --> 01:42:06.360

Evan Taylor: And so my very last question that that I want to ask, and I asked everybody that's in it might be very much premature.

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01:42:06.840 --> 01:42:11.730

Evan Taylor: But it's still. This is my opportunity to ask and find out even my own interest and so

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01:42:12.330 --> 01:42:17.370

Evan Taylor: Looking at looking at all the all the work you've done, you know, knowing that this, this is we're recording this, and we're going to

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01:42:17.580 --> 01:42:28.860

Evan Taylor: Permanently archive and they'll be many generations of folks will be very interested in knowing about you and learning about what you've done in 100 years from now, what would you like to be remembered for what legacy. Would you like to leave.

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01:42:29.190 --> 01:42:44.460

Dallas: We don't, you know, I did not have any children. So that's the legacy. I won't have but if someone were to read something I wrote, whether it be fiction or something about trans or read about me in general in the impressed with the work I did that would

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01:42:45.570 --> 01:42:53.640

Dallas: That gives me a good feeling, you know, 100 years of someone picks up a copy of the book in a dustbin somewhere reads it and likes it. That's, that's really cool.

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01:42:54.660 --> 01:42:59.880

Evan Taylor: Well, I think we can make sure we have a copy of those in our archives in the library so that they don't have to search for dustman

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01:43:00.900 --> 01:43:05.070

Dallas: Super duper I thank you very much for doing this interview Evan. Oh.

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01:43:05.100 --> 01:43:11.430

Evan Taylor: Thank you, it's been it's been lovely just to just to just to get to know you have the of the last little while. I mean, it's not it's not a long conversation but

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01:43:11.640 --> 01:43:22.530

Evan Taylor: It's, it's, it's an honor for me because I can absolutely tell you that the legacy you'd like to leave in 100 years you already left for me a few years ago. And, you know, it was, it was so important to me to be able to

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01:43:22.980 --> 01:43:34.830

Evan Taylor: Read, you know, an actual academic book edited by an actual trans person about trans people. And that was just, it was a magical thing for me to know that that was possible to

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01:43:34.920 --> 01:43:36.000

Evan Taylor: Know when the doors.

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01:43:36.630 --> 01:43:37.590

Dallas: Thank you very much.

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01:43:38.100 --> 01:43:48.870

Evan Taylor: Thank you so much. I'll be in touch with you. I'll send you a copy of this for your own records. And so you can take a look, take a look and and let me know if there's anything that you're like, I wish I haven't said that we can always cut those things out.

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01:43:49.350 --> 01:43:50.010

Dallas: Thank you very much.

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01:43:50.460 --> 01:43:51.840

Evan Taylor: Thanks so much. Bye for now.