

WEBVTT

1

00:00:07.710 --> 00:00:07.950

deirdre2: Yes.

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00:00:07.980 --> 00:00:11.790

Evan Taylor: You are on to me. I can see you. I can hear you. And you can see me and hear me.

3

00:00:12.269 --> 00:00:15.480

deirdre2: Okay, but the lights are terrible. Let me

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00:00:16.529 --> 00:00:17.490

deirdre2: Try to get them white

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00:00:18.720 --> 00:00:19.380

deirdre2: Look like

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00:00:19.860 --> 00:00:20.880

Evan Taylor: And not backlighting

7

00:00:23.820 --> 00:00:24.870

Evan Taylor: Doesn't help anybody

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00:00:25.170 --> 00:00:25.500

Know,

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00:00:26.520 --> 00:00:33.660

deirdre2: Let me try to get some fruit lighting here I have some right here. So maybe I can do it and see if I can do this. Whereas it

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00:00:38.130 --> 00:00:39.510

Evan Taylor: Okay, good. That's not too bad at

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00:00:39.510 --> 00:00:40.830

deirdre2: All. Is it okay

12

00:00:41.490 --> 00:00:42.390

Evan Taylor: That's great.

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00:00:42.540 --> 00:00:44.910

deirdre2: Okay, here I go like this. Now,

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00:00:46.230 --> 00:00:47.580

deirdre2: Am I okay do I look

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00:00:50.430 --> 00:00:52.470

deirdre2: Do I look attractive and beautiful.

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00:00:53.250 --> 00:00:57.960

deirdre2: Fabulous. This meeting is being recorded. That's fine with me. Okay, good.

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00:01:00.990 --> 00:01:03.600

Evan Taylor: The relaxed smile now that it's working now you look even better.

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00:01:07.320 --> 00:01:09.810

Evan Taylor: Okay. Well, thank you for joining me today.

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00:01:10.500 --> 00:01:12.480

deirdre2: I'm very glad to be here.

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00:01:14.190 --> 00:01:18.510

Evan Taylor: So, um, I have to do the the obligatory little blurb at the beginning so that

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00:01:19.560 --> 00:01:20.700

Evan Taylor: Folks who are listening to this.

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00:01:20.760 --> 00:01:29.850

Evan Taylor: In the, in the coming years. And so my name is Evan Taylor and I'm here in Vancouver right now and I'm interviewing theater McCloskey who's in Chicago. I believe

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00:01:30.360 --> 00:01:32.160

deirdre2: Me. He has downtown Chicago

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00:01:32.580 --> 00:01:33.930

Evan Taylor: Downtown and

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00:01:35.130 --> 00:01:40.020

Evan Taylor: You have any questions. I know you've been overly concerned for anything, any last questions before we get started.

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00:01:40.380 --> 00:01:41.970

deirdre2: No, no, I, I certainly

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00:01:43.110 --> 00:01:44.910

deirdre2: Certainly consent, anything you want.

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00:01:46.110 --> 00:01:48.000

Evan Taylor: Fantastic. So

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00:01:49.530 --> 00:01:50.010

deirdre2: Offers

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00:01:51.240 --> 00:01:54.330

deirdre2: Marriage, for example on gratefully accepted.

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00:01:55.890 --> 00:01:57.810

Evan Taylor: Note no reasonable offer refused.

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00:01:58.110 --> 00:01:58.590

No worries.

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00:02:02.460 --> 00:02:09.570

Evan Taylor: So we get started here. I'll ask you a bunch of young kids quick demographic questions things they would ask on like form.

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00:02:09.750 --> 00:02:12.270

Evan Taylor: And then we're gonna be fun, interesting stories and stuff.

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00:02:12.600 --> 00:02:17.100

Evan Taylor: Certainly. And when we end, I'll ask you some questions about your thoughts for the future and so forth.

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00:02:17.400 --> 00:02:23.250

Evan Taylor: Okay, okay. So first, can I get you to state your name and pronouns, for the record, please.

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00:02:23.640 --> 00:02:25.110

deirdre2: My name is

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00:02:26.730 --> 00:02:29.220

deirdre2: Deirdre Manson McCluskey

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00:02:31.500 --> 00:02:37.620

deirdre2: See my my birthday was Donald also Manson mccleskey

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00:02:39.780 --> 00:02:42.420

deirdre2: I'm a retired.

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00:02:44.610 --> 00:02:53.790

deirdre2: Read retired prof Esser of economics and history at the University of Illinois at Chicago

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00:02:54.960 --> 00:02:58.950

deirdre2: live downtown in a loft apartment in Chicago.

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00:03:00.630 --> 00:03:05.310

deirdre2: I had a dog, but he died last year. His name was will Shakespeare

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00:03:07.170 --> 00:03:08.040

Evan Taylor: Great name.

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00:03:08.610 --> 00:03:09.150

deirdre2: And then

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00:03:09.270 --> 00:03:11.970

deirdre2: He heard pronouns. How's that again.

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00:03:12.270 --> 00:03:13.620

Evan Taylor: You use she heard from them.

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00:03:13.620 --> 00:03:19.950

deirdre2: So yeah i i didn't have a pronouncing. Yeah. Yeah. And she she will be fine. Thank you.

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00:03:21.510 --> 00:03:31.530

deirdre2: Actually, my, my mom was 97 years old still alive and she had no problem with my gender change at all.

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00:03:32.850 --> 00:03:44.970

deirdre2: Though she she was as as everyone was extremely surprised but but of course she occasionally calls me your Donald, you know, because she's you know it's not

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00:03:45.060 --> 00:03:49.260

deirdre2: Not as nice as she's known me longer than anyone else.

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00:03:50.100 --> 00:03:54.300

Evan Taylor: No kidding. Wow innovation to. That's pretty impressive.

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00:03:54.660 --> 00:03:57.210

deirdre2: Yes, she was born in 19 that

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00:03:58.980 --> 00:04:04.710

deirdre2: She's Martin 1922 and she's got some of the

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00:04:06.390 --> 00:04:07.230

deirdre2: Some of the

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00:04:08.370 --> 00:04:15.900

deirdre2: baggage that you'd expect from a person of that age, but she's been a or her rock of support.

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00:04:16.350 --> 00:04:17.100

Wow.

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00:04:18.390 --> 00:04:19.140

Evan Taylor: Very lucky.

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00:04:19.530 --> 00:04:20.520

deirdre2: I wasn't with you.

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00:04:21.660 --> 00:04:26.640

Evan Taylor: Oh, I've got, I've got all sorts of all sorts of luck in my life and my generation, I think, is part of it, you know.

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00:04:27.000 --> 00:04:29.610

deirdre2: That's right. If I had been born. I don't know.

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00:04:30.690 --> 00:04:35.460

deirdre2: Half a century later, I'd be it'd be a completely different story and I

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00:04:36.900 --> 00:04:42.930

deirdre2: By the change really since I transition in 1935

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00:04:44.220 --> 00:04:46.740

deirdre2: That was not terribly early but

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00:04:47.910 --> 00:04:57.300

deirdre2: early enough that it was startling to people and they hadn't heard about know and the psychiatrists were just they were crazies what they were, they were insane.

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00:04:58.650 --> 00:05:03.630

deirdre2: Because they didn't know much of anything about it either. No, that's completely changed.

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00:05:04.290 --> 00:05:12.720

Evan Taylor: Well, that's the point for me at this project is, I think, no matter what we do, we're doing oral history. It's an inherently intergenerational activity.

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00:05:13.170 --> 00:05:18.540

Evan Taylor: Of course, yeah, so I I think about it, you know, I'm 38 right now and I'm

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00:05:18.600 --> 00:05:27.030

Evan Taylor: Thinking, there's no whole generation behind me. That's going to be coming up and will be this history that neither of us had that opportunity where we

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00:05:27.030 --> 00:05:30.900

Evan Taylor: Could just go to a library or go online and click, click, click, and then see

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00:05:32.310 --> 00:05:32.670

Evan Taylor: So,

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00:05:33.420 --> 00:05:33.750

Yeah.

73

00:05:36.570 --> 00:05:36.870

deirdre2: Yeah.

74

00:05:37.350 --> 00:05:39.210

Evan Taylor: How long have you lived in Chicago.

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00:05:40.560 --> 00:05:50.910

deirdre2: In Chicago, since 2000 I trenches and I transitioned. When I was a professor at the University of Iowa GO, HAWKS.

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00:05:52.350 --> 00:06:07.740

deirdre2: In 1985 and then I I was away for a year in Holland, where I taught a cam in 1996 locality or 96 came back and then taught for a few years that I was there was no essentially no problem in Iowa.

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00:06:08.310 --> 00:06:23.370

deirdre2: And then I got an offer from the University of Illinois at Chicago to come and you know I lived in i was i was i was it's

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00:06:26.070 --> 00:06:30.960

deirdre2: It's me since 1980 I raised my

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00:06:33.210 --> 00:06:45.810

deirdre2: Rates raise my children marathon and I thought it was nice to move on. So if I've been in Chicago. I say since 2000 and

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00:06:46.890 --> 00:06:51.030

deirdre2: Lived in Chicago. Before I was for 12 years

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00:06:52.440 --> 00:07:06.840

deirdre2: A professor at the University of Chicago. I'm from 1968 as long ago as that to 1980 so now I've lived in Chicago, more than anywhere else.

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00:07:08.310 --> 00:07:09.420

Evan Taylor: feels, it feels like home.

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00:07:10.110 --> 00:07:19.560

deirdre2: Yeah, although i'm also home feeling in in in New England as well. I come from, from Boston originally

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00:07:20.490 --> 00:07:21.240

Evan Taylor: Is that we are born.

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00:07:21.960 --> 00:07:24.780

deirdre2: No, I was born in Ann Arbor.

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00:07:26.730 --> 00:07:34.650

deirdre2: in Ann Arbor of but but i was what was I was five years old when I came to came to Boston

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00:07:35.670 --> 00:07:38.850

Evan Taylor: And I was gonna say, I heard you mentioned a couple of applicants.

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00:07:39.540 --> 00:07:42.330

deirdre2: Yes. Well, I was married for 30 years

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00:07:43.440 --> 00:07:54.900

deirdre2: to bubble up to the love of my life. Um, so we had a son and a daughter, the sudden now is, let's see, he's

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00:07:56.520 --> 00:07:57.060

deirdre2: He's

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00:07:58.500 --> 00:08:09.960

deirdre2: 50 years old and my daughter's 4044. But the bad news in it's it's the only serious badness. And the story of my

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00:08:11.970 --> 00:08:26.610

deirdre2: Transition isn't my family hasn't, but that is my my marriage, family hasn't spoken to me for since 1995 essentially oh three I have three grandchildren. I've never seen.

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00:08:28.470 --> 00:08:40.020

deirdre2: Which is which is a shame. I've tried to reach out to them again and again and they've just been interested so that

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00:08:41.340 --> 00:09:01.020

deirdre2: That's as I always say that that's hard on me, you know, was me, but my attitude is and into every life some rain must fall. And if that's the worst thing that ever happens to me. I've done fairly well in life. But my main

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00:09:02.070 --> 00:09:14.190

deirdre2: Sadness. Is that my children like my son and my daughter and my three grandchildren don't have the advantage of this other person to love them.

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00:09:15.090 --> 00:09:33.840

deirdre2: I think it's all better to have another person to lucky if I'm an economist, and I don't think that I think that love is scarce in the world. I'm much better to have more of it. So that's my, my concern. Yeah, absolutely.

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00:09:34.080 --> 00:09:35.970

Evan Taylor: And do you have any relationship with your son.

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00:09:36.810 --> 00:09:50.250

deirdre2: No with my daughter, they will not either answer phone calls or hers or anything for a while. I did various things I would send gifts to other children at Christmas and so forth, but

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00:09:50.910 --> 00:10:03.270

deirdre2: That seems pointless because I'm not sure they even open them right. For example, I doubt. But either of my children, and maybe not my wife either my former wife.

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00:10:04.410 --> 00:10:07.320

deirdre2: I'm somewhat doubtful that they've read my

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00:10:08.850 --> 00:10:25.320

deirdre2: My autobiography about all this. My account of my transition called crossing, which was first published in 1999 by the University of Chicago Press, and has just been reissued not in a new edition, but with

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00:10:26.640 --> 00:10:34.470

deirdre2: an afterword in 2019 and I sure wish they would read that. But I don't think so. Right.

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00:10:34.920 --> 00:10:39.600

Evan Taylor: I mean they close themselves off to it Friday, pretty much after soon they close right off.

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00:10:39.930 --> 00:10:50.610

deirdre2: Yeah, that's right. And it's, it's the pride that people have, I mean, when I tell my sad story outcome stories of other people having nothing to do with

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00:10:52.620 --> 00:11:03.240

deirdre2: Gender crossing and Harriet's and something on into uncle john at Thanksgiving 20 years ago and they haven't spoken again families do this.

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00:11:04.320 --> 00:11:14.490

deirdre2: Crazy to throw away loving this way over, over this issue, especially I was. I wasn't, I was a good father

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00:11:15.690 --> 00:11:18.570

deirdre2: And husband and

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00:11:20.280 --> 00:11:26.490

deirdre2: I didn't abuse anyone I didn't be anyone or sexually abused anyone and

109

00:11:27.600 --> 00:11:30.990

deirdre2: So it's a harsh punishment but

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00:11:32.220 --> 00:11:40.920

deirdre2: Again, it's the it's on the other side that I'm more concerned that is there the damage to their lives.

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00:11:42.330 --> 00:11:46.920

deirdre2: If chosen to do essentially it's too bad. Yeah.

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00:11:47.280 --> 00:11:49.260

Evan Taylor: Especially the damage their own kids to, you know,

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00:11:50.460 --> 00:11:51.360

deirdre2: I robbing them.

114

00:11:52.500 --> 00:11:56.520

deirdre2: Oh, that's, that's right. My, my grandson.

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00:11:58.560 --> 00:12:12.120

deirdre2: And granddaughter, and the grandson is now I'm 20 years old and a year and a half ago, I sent him a letter because I, I reckon he was of age.

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00:12:12.810 --> 00:12:13.770

Evan Taylor: Right, I

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00:12:13.890 --> 00:12:22.920

deirdre2: Can tell you I spent a long time and composing lab. So it's very carefully compose, and was meant to be not intrusive at all or demanding.

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00:12:23.790 --> 00:12:41.280

deirdre2: And just hoped he would meet with me, and so forth. I didn't get any reply. So I don't know what their attitude is, I don't know if it's a phobia I some I doubt that in the modern in the modern times that we were just speaking about it seems kind of silly.

119

00:12:41.850 --> 00:12:44.580

deirdre2: Yeah, when I when I

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00:12:45.810 --> 00:12:48.900

deirdre2: Nami occasions when I tell people that I was once a man

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00:12:51.300 --> 00:12:56.070

deirdre2: Younger people, especially, you know, hey, so what

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00:12:57.480 --> 00:13:01.110

deirdre2: Oh, that's interesting say about those Chicago Bears.

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00:13:05.550 --> 00:13:06.030

Evan Taylor: Yeah.

124

00:13:07.320 --> 00:13:08.550

deirdre2: It's become boring.

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00:13:12.780 --> 00:13:20.760

deirdre2: Boring. Okay. Yes. On a VM banner BE BE BE BE A woman or be whatever you are

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00:13:22.350 --> 00:13:26.370

Evan Taylor: And it's not. Is that how you identify as as woman, or is there more complexity.

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00:13:28.140 --> 00:13:28.830

deirdre2: I'm so

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00:13:30.240 --> 00:13:40.740

deirdre2: Amazed and amused by amused and maybe read the word but admiring indeed of the of my much younger colleagues in all this who

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00:13:41.190 --> 00:13:55.980

deirdre2: They identify and as non gendered and all kinds of amazing things I'm astonished by that because I I wanted when I transition. I wanted to transition for about a year, I was read a lot

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00:13:58.050 --> 00:14:08.220

deirdre2: But, you know, a facelift. And oh, and then I had hell. I have had a lot of facial surgery. Finally, obvious that even with my voice.

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00:14:09.990 --> 00:14:22.770

deirdre2: And that's all I want. I just want to be i'm not i'm not secretive about it is, you've prepped seen. I'm not trying to do this stealth of I've known people who have

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00:14:23.670 --> 00:14:34.650

deirdre2: And that's fine. I have no objection, people can do what they want. But, I'm, I'm the other hand, I don't want to be seen as amended address

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00:14:35.790 --> 00:14:37.680

deirdre2: I mean I'm tall ish

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00:14:39.180 --> 00:14:45.000

deirdre2: Almost six feet tall. Although, as I get older I get shorter, which is a great thing. I want to get

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00:14:46.260 --> 00:14:47.310

deirdre2: My feet six

136

00:14:49.380 --> 00:14:59.910

deirdre2: And I, I'm the captain of my high school football team, which when I give gender talks is kind of fun to to

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00:15:00.990 --> 00:15:08.670

deirdre2: Feature that i i always say, I think I could if I had to. I absolutely had to, I think I could do a good cross body block.

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00:15:12.210 --> 00:15:15.690

deirdre2: Maybe not a very good one. But I know how to do it.

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00:15:20.010 --> 00:15:21.030

Evan Taylor: Did you ever in that position.

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00:15:21.360 --> 00:15:22.890

deirdre2: Right, like what to it.

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00:15:24.030 --> 00:15:31.680

deirdre2: So it so I'm comparatively open about it with other women.

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00:15:33.150 --> 00:15:34.410

deirdre2: I find that it's a

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00:15:37.260 --> 00:15:38.310

deirdre2: It's a

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00:15:40.140 --> 00:15:41.730

deirdre2: It's a, it's a, it's a

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00:15:43.800 --> 00:15:45.960

deirdre2: It's a friendship, making

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00:15:49.530 --> 00:15:54.960

deirdre2: I come out to them and they're amazed and I sometimes get give them copies of my book.

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00:15:56.130 --> 00:15:57.990

deirdre2: Or something like that and

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00:15:59.010 --> 00:16:00.120

deirdre2: They're interested and

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00:16:01.230 --> 00:16:04.080

deirdre2: Virtually all the women I've met

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00:16:06.450 --> 00:16:17.670

deirdre2: In the years of my change you have been very sis sympathetic and open, for example.

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00:16:18.720 --> 00:16:33.780

deirdre2: Tomorrow I go to the Go, go, go, go to the women's group meets monthly at my church and they're very x, x three, x epic l

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00:16:34.890 --> 00:16:36.150

deirdre2: I tried to

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00:16:37.230 --> 00:16:42.720

deirdre2: follow the rules, so to speak, of being an elderly American

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00:16:45.240 --> 00:16:45.630

deirdre2: Woman

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00:16:48.510 --> 00:16:57.750

deirdre2: I'm a successful professional women of a certain age is the old expression as it so I'm you know i'm not

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00:16:59.730 --> 00:17:03.990

deirdre2: I'm not terribly fam. Look, you know, let's have oh

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00:17:05.220 --> 00:17:07.140

deirdre2: I'm not like that.

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00:17:08.430 --> 00:17:10.050

deirdre2: But either is my mother.

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00:17:13.020 --> 00:17:21.150

deirdre2: That's a, that's a family tree. I'm somewhat forceful in conversation, and so forth. But I've learned the rules of

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00:17:23.670 --> 00:17:24.360

deirdre2: A female

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00:17:25.710 --> 00:17:26.520

deirdre2: Kinda conversation.

162

00:17:29.280 --> 00:17:30.030

deirdre2: And that's

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00:17:32.100 --> 00:17:32.970

deirdre2: What's courteous.

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00:17:34.350 --> 00:17:39.990

deirdre2: But that's only mean to say about that. That is, I don't want to stand out as

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00:17:41.520 --> 00:17:48.180

deirdre2: Masculine and I'm gonna be because for me zero to 53 HOURS, MAN.

166

00:17:49.440 --> 00:17:50.460

deirdre2: But I try to

167

00:17:55.050 --> 00:17:56.670

deirdre2: follow the rules, so to speak.

168

00:17:58.410 --> 00:18:00.840

Evan Taylor: You mentioned you go to work, go to a church. So one of my

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00:18:00.870 --> 00:18:01.830

Evan Taylor: Questions here on the

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00:18:01.950 --> 00:18:05.100

Evan Taylor: Last things. What's, what's your religious and ethnic background.

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00:18:05.730 --> 00:18:10.860

deirdre2: Well, I'm, I'm, I'm a convert or at age and

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00:18:12.060 --> 00:18:25.770

deirdre2: I forget about the age, but in 1998 I was was baptized in the Anglican Church be the the the Anglican Church and Canada In Canada, but in the United States occurs.

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00:18:26.310 --> 00:18:34.950

deirdre2: We had to call ourselves Episcopalian, because after the revolution. We couldn't couldn't go and calling ourselves the Church of England.

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00:18:36.840 --> 00:18:42.630

deirdre2: So he had to make up a new new word, but I'm an Anglican very happy one

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00:18:43.860 --> 00:18:59.490

deirdre2: I hadn't been raised in any church, my, my father was an academic. He taught at Harvard. And my mom was a singer opera singer for a while, and that has wave and they were both

176

00:19:00.600 --> 00:19:01.140

deirdre2: Sort of

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00:19:02.580 --> 00:19:28.050

deirdre2: Well, they were intellectuals is what they were and in their generation is very common to turn away firmly from the church. My father had been raised Catholic my mother's are vaguely. Vaguely Methodist and so after my transition, I was looking for some for the depth.

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00:19:29.070 --> 00:19:36.330

deirdre2: In my life and in in in the world. And I found it through the truth really Anglican church.

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00:19:38.670 --> 00:19:42.720

deirdre2: I'm a happy camper. The great thing of being an Anglican

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00:19:44.370 --> 00:19:45.570

deirdre2: Are you, you and I

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00:19:46.650 --> 00:19:48.000

deirdre2: But in Canada.

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00:19:48.330 --> 00:19:50.340

Evan Taylor: I was raised in the United Church.

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00:19:51.030 --> 00:20:06.000

deirdre2: Oh, well, okay, but my the manager being an Anglican ism anywhere English merchants or soldiers or sailors of them. There is an Anglican church with a service in English.

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00:20:06.840 --> 00:20:07.560

deirdre2: You know, eight

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00:20:07.980 --> 00:20:13.140

deirdre2: That's like, that's very nice. But then you end up with a service in the local language which you don't understand

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00:20:14.670 --> 00:20:33.450

deirdre2: I was in Valparaiso Chile said to myself, Wow, this is a big part of chili on the Pacific Ocean. It must have had American whalers and English navels like, sure enough, there was an Anglican church with a service in English.

187

00:20:34.530 --> 00:20:35.820

deirdre2: So I go all over the world.

188

00:20:36.870 --> 00:20:37.200

deirdre2: Right.

189

00:20:45.510 --> 00:20:47.970

Evan Taylor: Oh, he froze up for a second there. You still can. Can you hear me.

190

00:20:48.360 --> 00:20:49.080

deirdre2: Yeah, I can hear you.

191

00:20:49.470 --> 00:20:55.500

Evan Taylor: Okay, it's just a little glitch. Um, so you were baptized Catholic Church in 1998 so this was three years after your transition

192

00:20:55.710 --> 00:21:03.960

Evan Taylor: Yeah, and I'm wondering at that point in your life. Was there a shift that was happening in sexuality related to your gender transition little

193

00:21:04.650 --> 00:21:08.280

deirdre2: Know what's what's kind of the, the

194

00:21:09.330 --> 00:21:09.690

deirdre2: The

195

00:21:12.570 --> 00:21:17.160

deirdre2: Plumbing operation was done in the summer of 1996 in Australia.

196

00:21:19.980 --> 00:21:28.470

deirdre2: Was his name, trying to remember the surgeons name. He's done quite a few people hair. Okay. Is his name and

197

00:21:30.750 --> 00:21:37.380

deirdre2: In my case, not all, not all of his operations. My case he didn't leave me with

198

00:21:38.400 --> 00:21:39.510

deirdre2: Strong's

199

00:21:40.530 --> 00:22:01.110

deirdre2: Actual feelings down there. Um, and that turned out to be fine with me. And after all, I was 53 years old when I did this and I had had a perfectly normal heterosexual relationship with my wife and deed with some girls when I was younger.

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00:22:02.550 --> 00:22:03.810

deirdre2: So I was

201

00:22:05.160 --> 00:22:17.040

deirdre2: not attracted to men especially all I had some hilarious adventures. When I came back to Chicago. When I came to Chicago in 2000 and set a date.

202

00:22:17.760 --> 00:22:24.960

deirdre2: So I went to a dating service, which in those days you'd make a video and then the men would choose you, and

203

00:22:25.920 --> 00:22:39.600

deirdre2: I had these absurd dates with these men who would talk only about themselves and wouldn't ever asked me to get in every, every women in the room has had that experiment one in the room is at that experience.

204

00:22:41.160 --> 00:23:01.440

deirdre2: So I, I, I've been married happily married for 30 years I'd had the experience of sex and relationships. Now I'm just a sexual witches. You know, I am telling you there's a lot to be said for a sexuality, not having these urges that

205

00:23:02.790 --> 00:23:05.220

deirdre2: Drove Bill Clinton.

206

00:23:06.480 --> 00:23:06.900

deirdre2: People

207

00:23:07.680 --> 00:23:13.920

Evan Taylor: Probably problem. Well, that's certainly something new in my generation of folks and talking about a sexuality, which certainly they didn't in the 90s.

208

00:23:14.040 --> 00:23:16.740

deirdre2: Yo, yo, yo, yeah. Yeah, that's right.

209

00:23:16.950 --> 00:23:18.300

Evan Taylor: At least it's actually an option now.

210

00:23:18.960 --> 00:23:26.280

deirdre2: Well, it's not really an option. It's not something I chose a logical, it's just about the, about the plumbing.

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00:23:28.950 --> 00:23:29.520

deirdre2: And

212

00:23:30.630 --> 00:23:44.970

deirdre2: I and I'm very uncertain what my sexual preferences would have been. I haven't ended up some, you know, for example, just to be completely candid about it. I can't master.

213

00:23:46.020 --> 00:23:46.500

Evan Taylor: Right.

214

00:23:47.220 --> 00:23:52.080

deirdre2: Um, no. Okay, just in case you wanted to know.

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00:23:53.490 --> 00:23:55.380

Evan Taylor: It just doesn't do anything.

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00:23:55.620 --> 00:23:56.670

deirdre2: Doesn't do anything.

217

00:23:56.700 --> 00:24:07.320

deirdre2: Right, and then why I suppose I would sort of speculate. Well, I wonder if I still have that ability might call it or that curse everyone look on it.

218

00:24:09.750 --> 00:24:13.470

deirdre2: What I have grown to be attracted to men.

219

00:24:14.520 --> 00:24:15.150

deirdre2: And I just

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00:24:16.200 --> 00:24:23.880

deirdre2: I i I'm not any more attracted to sexually in that way. I'm not trying to track record the women, either.

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00:24:24.420 --> 00:24:34.110

deirdre2: Right. No, I like them both. I have male friends and lots of female friends. That's cool. Yeah.

222

00:24:34.530 --> 00:24:44.190

Evan Taylor: I guess I've heard from other from other folks as well. They say there has to be a point in life and they're they're telling me this as the young person right thing that gets me a point like that's just not how I understand myself anymore.

223

00:24:45.900 --> 00:24:49.320

deirdre2: Oh, it's not, again, it's not even a matter of understanding. It's a matter of

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00:24:50.370 --> 00:24:55.830

deirdre2: Well, you could say biology. Oh, that's so deep. It's a matter of mechanics.

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00:24:57.480 --> 00:24:58.800

deirdre2: stop caring about it.

226

00:25:00.360 --> 00:25:25.290

deirdre2: Is it is something interesting, because there was a guy like I was kind of more or less normal guy, except I cross dressed. Occasionally, but that was often associated with masturbation. But anyway, but as a guy I thought about sex you know every, every 10 seconds, which is more or less.

227

00:25:26.730 --> 00:25:38.880

deirdre2: That slight, slight exaggeration, but you know, I see a woman. I think of undressing her and now and I si, si, si, si, si

228

00:25:40.320 --> 00:25:43.830

deirdre2: Si one I'm looking at her clothing.

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00:25:50.250 --> 00:25:51.060

Evan Taylor: I'm wondering, I was

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00:25:51.270 --> 00:25:54.420

deirdre2: Sorry, it's a it's a big dream.

231

00:25:55.950 --> 00:25:57.240

Evan Taylor: Well, it sounds like. Yeah.

232

00:25:58.620 --> 00:26:03.630

Evan Taylor: And I'm wondering what because you said there was a period where you were cross dressing before the transition

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00:26:03.840 --> 00:26:04.380

deirdre2: When did you

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00:26:04.740 --> 00:26:06.900

Evan Taylor: First come in, like, when did you first.

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00:26:07.140 --> 00:26:07.560

Evan Taylor: Know about

236

00:26:08.820 --> 00:26:21.450

deirdre2: Was at age. Age 11 I the way I often introduce my my gender dogs that I give to student groups and so forth. Is that age 11 I would go to sleep.

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00:26:22.680 --> 00:26:27.810

deirdre2: Praying that the next day I wouldn't stutter and that would be a girl.

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00:26:28.860 --> 00:26:34.020

deirdre2: And then the joke is that at age 53 I got half of my prayer.

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00:26:35.790 --> 00:26:40.920

deirdre2: And then I also say that's about right for an for an Episcopalian

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00:26:42.990 --> 00:26:51.060

deirdre2: Catholic, I don't know, maybe I went to both of them. But, but, so it was from age 11 I'm not one of those people

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00:26:52.230 --> 00:26:52.710

deirdre2: Who

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00:26:54.000 --> 00:26:59.370

deirdre2: Always from age two or three was saying, I want to be a girl. I want to be a girl, um,

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00:27:01.530 --> 00:27:07.890

deirdre2: Although I was thinking about this today actually just, I believe, and I was thinking I heard

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00:27:09.450 --> 00:27:10.830

deirdre2: I heard on NPR.

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00:27:14.940 --> 00:27:24.420

deirdre2: A guy a gay guy talking about how when he was five years old, you like to play with dolls and he liked to play with girls.

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00:27:26.280 --> 00:27:28.830

deirdre2: I wasn't like that, but

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00:27:30.600 --> 00:27:33.840

deirdre2: I i did play with puppets.

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00:27:35.610 --> 00:27:49.410

deirdre2: And I think there's something there. I've, I've tried to remember what my attitudes towards the, oh, this was when I was five or six or seven years old and I didn't have girlfriends, especially

249

00:27:50.430 --> 00:27:54.330

deirdre2: And I, I played with boys I played, you know,

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00:27:56.070 --> 00:27:58.200

deirdre2: And cowboys and Indians and things like that.

251

00:28:00.720 --> 00:28:03.090

deirdre2: But there was always say, kind of a gentle

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00:28:04.860 --> 00:28:08.580

deirdre2: side to it. I was not a of a tough guy.

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00:28:11.190 --> 00:28:20.550

deirdre2: When I became an academic and I became in sort of professorial terms well known as as a tough guy academically.

254

00:28:21.570 --> 00:28:23.130

deirdre2: But I I've

255

00:28:25.050 --> 00:28:30.540

deirdre2: Always wanted to have families in groups and little

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00:28:31.950 --> 00:28:54.120

deirdre2: Groups around me. That's I feel most comfortable and it's a certain a certain certain feminine side of me. I've always had but but so far as actively thinking about this age 11 on and then I was for all those years a regular cross dresser, but it completely in private.

257

00:28:55.260 --> 00:28:59.460

deirdre2: Curse. It was 1953 we're talking about and

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00:29:00.480 --> 00:29:03.900

deirdre2: Christine jurgensen adjust transition

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00:29:05.490 --> 00:29:07.830

deirdre2: And that was about all I knew, and then there were certain

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00:29:09.450 --> 00:29:18.480

deirdre2: Nightclub performers in France, and so forth. It transitioned, but I didn't. That was just a

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00:29:19.890 --> 00:29:26.910

deirdre2: I don't know is strangely parallel. I had a completely as far as I can tell, normal

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00:29:28.320 --> 00:29:29.850

deirdre2: way of dealing with

263

00:29:32.100 --> 00:29:33.330

deirdre2: Men and women.

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00:29:34.470 --> 00:29:39.660

deirdre2: And had had girlfriends and so forth, and had normal sex with

265

00:29:41.040 --> 00:29:44.340

deirdre2: Some of them, especially with my, my wife to be

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00:29:46.920 --> 00:29:57.780

deirdre2: But then in parallel, was this other thing. And my wife and I construed it as heterosexual cross dressing.

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00:29:59.100 --> 00:30:14.070

deirdre2: As just that. Okay, something strange that Donald does, but as women or men. They have lots of weird things they do that, you know, turn out to not matter very much foot fetish or some crazy thing like that. Well, okay, so what

268

00:30:15.540 --> 00:30:19.770

deirdre2: If he feels better if you put I heels on why not, let's put idealism.

269

00:30:21.990 --> 00:30:30.420

deirdre2: And so I would do it in private, a way for my wife, I wouldn't do it in front of her. She had, she didn't like that. And I didn't either.

270

00:30:32.040 --> 00:30:33.510

deirdre2: And then in this last

271

00:30:35.430 --> 00:30:47.340

deirdre2: Eight months before I twigged as the English say and understood that I was could do it and was going to do it and would be happy doing it I again.

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00:30:48.300 --> 00:31:00.630

deirdre2: I got into I discovered that there were cross dressing clubs and new idea. There were in Iowa City, Iowa. There's a cross dressing club and we went bowling in drag, and

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00:31:02.340 --> 00:31:03.270

Evan Taylor: How did you find it.

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00:31:04.440 --> 00:31:28.560

deirdre2: Well I, I, you know, I find it very it's 1995 we're talking about. And it was very early in the beginning of the internet and I could have have conversations online with people and I discovered that in January of 1995 so I started to talk to people, other cross dressers online.

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00:31:29.610 --> 00:31:44.730

deirdre2: And then they then I learned that there was such a thing, and I was sitting. It's completely harmless, you know, was like that. The guys would go to the Holiday Inn, but the hotel owners love them because they did nothing. And they would get dressed and then they go

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00:31:46.050 --> 00:31:48.630

deirdre2: In the room when you come into the room have

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00:31:49.740 --> 00:31:56.250

deirdre2: You had this strange feeling because they're these, these were women that looked like. But they were larger

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00:31:57.420 --> 00:32:02.670

deirdre2: It was a room full of women, but they were significantly larger than women.

279

00:32:03.270 --> 00:32:07.950

deirdre2: Right. So, your eyes are playing tricks on you, and there they were. And

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00:32:08.970 --> 00:32:18.450

deirdre2: They would talk about, you know, the Chicago Cubs and and auto repair because these were guys who didn't want to be girls.

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00:32:19.950 --> 00:32:20.400

deirdre2: They just

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00:32:21.570 --> 00:32:30.270

deirdre2: Cross dress. Occasionally, and then they go home. So the hotels like them because they rent a room for the night, and then not use it.

283

00:32:32.340 --> 00:32:35.400

deirdre2: There the makeup on the towel. But that was the only problem.

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00:32:36.720 --> 00:32:37.200

deirdre2: So,

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00:32:38.340 --> 00:32:41.460

deirdre2: for about eight months. I did that, I went to conventions.

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00:32:42.780 --> 00:32:52.890

deirdre2: And we went to one in were like, I went to Atlanta, I think, and I went to a weekend in the Poconos in Pennsylvania.

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00:32:54.960 --> 00:32:55.470

deirdre2: And

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00:32:57.060 --> 00:32:59.850

deirdre2: It's not really until August of 1995

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00:33:00.960 --> 00:33:03.060

deirdre2: That I suddenly realized

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00:33:03.960 --> 00:33:10.740

Evan Taylor: That an edge, you know, that whole eight months that difference between cross dressing and transition. Or did you only find out in the August

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00:33:11.040 --> 00:33:28.170

deirdre2: Or no, no. I know about it and i by that time I slowly I'd become sophisticated because course. I tried to read everything I could look in the psychology journals scholarly journals and and then also there was a

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00:33:30.150 --> 00:33:33.750

deirdre2: There was a magazine and I often thought that was about

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00:33:34.800 --> 00:33:44.100

deirdre2: About cross dressing forget what it's called but, you know, is it was photographs and these would be entertainers in Las Vegas and so forth.

294

00:33:45.210 --> 00:33:51.720

deirdre2: The, the, the, the material for for sexual excitement and then I stopped.

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00:33:52.860 --> 00:34:02.130

deirdre2: You know, another two weeks. I do it again. So it was all associated with master patient. So it was very sexualized

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00:34:02.970 --> 00:34:19.920

deirdre2: Which of what we're talking about a few minutes ago and somewhat surprising because it was my cross dressing was about sex sort of ancillary masturbation. I was having sex with my wife. I understand. But this was onside Elsa did that.

297

00:34:21.810 --> 00:34:36.420

deirdre2: My life now has nothing to do with that definition of sex. It's about being being, being a sister and I have any friend female friend daughter.

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00:34:39.060 --> 00:34:40.800

deirdre2: female professor and so on.

299

00:34:44.520 --> 00:34:44.640

Evan Taylor: And

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00:34:44.850 --> 00:34:48.870

Evan Taylor: What was it that made you sort of decide to move from cross dressing.

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00:34:50.100 --> 00:34:52.440

deirdre2: Well, you know. You tell me.

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00:34:53.580 --> 00:34:58.920

deirdre2: It was strange because I told you, I'm an economist by training. I got my PhD at Harvard.

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00:35:11.910 --> 00:35:25.050

deirdre2: Chicago and various other places. Are you still there. Yeah, that it has been a month before I'm not making this up. I sat down and did a cost benefit analysis of age and gender.

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00:35:26.940 --> 00:35:28.680

deirdre2: This is what an economist would do.

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00:35:29.940 --> 00:35:30.600

Evan Taylor: Perfect.

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00:35:32.160 --> 00:35:45.600

deirdre2: That's it's very, very li li li kind of missed the key and it's stupid beyond belief. And then I said, Well, no, I guess I'll just go on being a heterosexual cross dresser and I won't transition

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00:35:48.390 --> 00:35:52.020

deirdre2: Learn, by the way, at one of the conventions.

308

00:35:53.130 --> 00:35:55.200

deirdre2: And what's his name.

309

00:35:56.370 --> 00:35:57.150

deirdre2: Ah,

310

00:35:59.130 --> 00:36:02.970

deirdre2: osterhaus the surgeon in San Francisco.

311

00:36:05.040 --> 00:36:07.110

deirdre2: Does a lot of this. He was

312

00:36:10.200 --> 00:36:16.170

deirdre2: He was at one of the conventions and he would meet with people and say, Well, here's what we do with your face.

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00:36:17.370 --> 00:36:20.970

deirdre2: If you decided to transition. So I knew that.

314

00:36:22.200 --> 00:36:36.450

deirdre2: From that time the first time that my face could be made to look like, but like a woman's face right and that that intrigued me a lot. And actually, by the way, I had started electrolysis.

315

00:36:37.980 --> 00:36:56.490

deirdre2: Um, this was always well in about five months into this eight months, period. Okay. And, you know, but I still didn't think I was going to transition. It's very precise very strange way of thinking, well, I'm just doing this to make my cross dressing for success.

316

00:36:57.180 --> 00:37:07.350

deirdre2: Right. It's nuts. But that's, I thought, and maybe as I said I was driving back from a crazy cross dressing evening.

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00:37:08.520 --> 00:37:12.150

deirdre2: In Chicago, I lived in Iowa City, which is about

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00:37:13.980 --> 00:37:14.580

deirdre2: See about

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00:37:15.600 --> 00:37:20.550

deirdre2: Five hours drive from Chicago driving back

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00:37:21.720 --> 00:37:23.670

deirdre2: And we had gone to

321

00:37:26.760 --> 00:37:37.320

deirdre2: danced in lesbian clubs and and had a wild night. Nothing serious but uh well night that was driving back in Donald drag

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00:37:38.490 --> 00:37:39.000

deirdre2: And

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00:37:40.080 --> 00:37:53.850

deirdre2: Well, let's see, you know, getting this kind of cost benefit mode, let's see, should I transition or not, and it hit me. I described it to people as an epiphany.

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00:37:54.690 --> 00:38:05.070

deirdre2: Which would stake because the psychiatrists who, as I told you are insane on the subject at the time. I think maybe they've gotten more sophisticated now they interpret

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00:38:06.150 --> 00:38:08.730

deirdre2: religious experiences as being crazy

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00:38:10.950 --> 00:38:15.270

deirdre2: As I've known lots of my friends have had

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00:38:16.350 --> 00:38:27.540

deirdre2: religious experiences of various kinds, and a sec. Modern psychiatrist is automatically will will classify that as madness.

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00:38:28.200 --> 00:38:46.410

deirdre2: So called epiphany, which is a specifically theological term so unwise. It turned out. But anyway, but that's how I felt. Bang. Suddenly I knew it was in the middle of August 1995 I rolled into my

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00:38:47.940 --> 00:38:58.200

deirdre2: Driveway in Iowa City got out and told my wife and she cried because she had known months before that this was more serious.

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00:39:01.980 --> 00:39:02.220

deirdre2: Hey,

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00:39:02.610 --> 00:39:03.600

deirdre2: Very hard.

332

00:39:06.600 --> 00:39:09.420

deirdre2: September, October, November.

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00:39:10.500 --> 00:39:13.110

deirdre2: Until we parted. I first

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00:39:14.430 --> 00:39:19.140

deirdre2: Was full time I went to LA.

335

00:39:20.190 --> 00:39:22.020

deirdre2: Important events.

336

00:39:23.100 --> 00:39:29.250

deirdre2: Of that three months was the place my sister, who was an academic psychologist.

337

00:39:30.870 --> 00:39:36.570

deirdre2: Teaching at the time the Harvard School of Public Health tried and succeeded to have me

338

00:39:38.190 --> 00:39:41.940

deirdre2: Committed for observation has been crazy

339

00:39:42.990 --> 00:39:55.890

deirdre2: She decided she decided I wasn't transgendered. I was insane. And she managed to convince two separate judges one in Iowa City and the other in Chicago.

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00:39:56.580 --> 00:40:18.480

deirdre2: So I spent two nights once in Iowa City one in Chicago in a locked word mental hospital and in both cases the sheriff comes and takes you away in handcuffs if necessary. I know I'm was a grown person and I

341

00:40:20.190 --> 00:40:20.460

deirdre2: And

342

00:40:21.540 --> 00:40:27.570

deirdre2: It'll libertarian so I knew that the state was dangerous and so I didn't offer resistance or anything.

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00:40:28.890 --> 00:40:48.090

deirdre2: But because I was upper middle class with a substantial income, I could pay lawyers and I ended up paying \$8,000 in attorneys fees to get out the next day. On each occasion. Anyway, that was going on. And so what I did is there for Thanksgiving.

344

00:40:49.500 --> 00:40:55.410

deirdre2: I went was invited to the house, home of some friends in California.

345

00:40:56.640 --> 00:41:03.000

deirdre2: in Berkeley, actually, California. And so I went there in Donald drag

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00:41:04.200 --> 00:41:08.670

deirdre2: Remember the last time I went to the men's room in a

347

00:41:10.170 --> 00:41:34.770

deirdre2: In a bathroom in the airport in in in Denver transferring going from Chicago to San Francisco. And then the following morning space giving of 1995 I came down those stairs in their house as Deirdre and that's who I've been ever since I had changed my name.

348

00:41:36.270 --> 00:41:40.110

deirdre2: Italy, a few weeks before I'd gotten a

349

00:41:42.300 --> 00:41:45.810

deirdre2: Driver's License F in Iowa.

350

00:41:47.790 --> 00:41:52.350

deirdre2: So that was it was it all this is is explained in

351

00:41:53.760 --> 00:41:57.840

deirdre2: excruciating detail in my book crush crossing

352

00:41:59.310 --> 00:42:01.800

deirdre2: Which would be very boring if it weren't for my

353

00:42:03.270 --> 00:42:04.050

deirdre2: Tears intervention.

354

00:42:06.840 --> 00:42:20.490

deirdre2: Would be well I thought about this since age 11 kind of on the side and then I suddenly realized I could do it in should do it. And I did it. And now, everything's fine. Whereas this this attack.

355

00:42:22.200 --> 00:42:26.880

deirdre2: Made it more interesting fact. I got an offer for a movie.

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00:42:30.060 --> 00:42:40.860

deirdre2: Producer from Hollywood. So I know you want to make this into a movie. Now, of course, you know, for every 5000 proposals for movie one movie gets made. So it's kind of a remote

357

00:42:41.310 --> 00:42:54.300

deirdre2: And but after I'd gotten over the original the original heard of flattery and Koji that they fun Boy Hey. So no, I can't do this because it would destroy my sister's life.

358

00:42:55.440 --> 00:42:58.290

deirdre2: Because she she was having her own mental problems.

359

00:42:59.460 --> 00:43:00.240

deirdre2: At the time,

360

00:43:01.860 --> 00:43:05.220

deirdre2: And that's why she was doing this.

361

00:43:06.300 --> 00:43:13.200

deirdre2: Right. I didn't want to hurt my, my sister who's younger than I am, whom I

362

00:43:14.580 --> 00:43:17.190

deirdre2: love very much. We're now very close

363

00:43:18.960 --> 00:43:28.290

deirdre2: And it was some years before we got close again. But I forgave her very quickly. Good.

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00:43:28.320 --> 00:43:29.580

Evan Taylor: Good for you. That's a

365

00:43:29.850 --> 00:43:30.510

Evan Taylor: Is not

366

00:43:30.570 --> 00:43:34.920

deirdre2: easy feat well by very quickly. I mean, a couple of years and

367

00:43:37.080 --> 00:43:38.430

deirdre2: That's fine. You had me

368

00:43:39.690 --> 00:43:45.510

deirdre2: Take him to a mental hospital and locked up, that's fine dared everything's know it took a while.

369

00:43:45.750 --> 00:43:56.550

Evan Taylor: Yeah, of course. And so at this point and sort of late 95, were there other trans folks that you were in contact with that you looked up to, or that were mentors around this time.

370

00:43:56.820 --> 00:44:00.270

deirdre2: Yeah, the crucial one was

371

00:44:02.250 --> 00:44:04.800

deirdre2: The Great Australian

372

00:44:12.960 --> 00:44:19.830

deirdre2: Whose name is escaping me you know who it is what Christ and forgetting her name. That's terrible.

373

00:44:24.180 --> 00:44:33.600

deirdre2: Was her name. She's very well known Australian trans circle. She's someone older than I am. And she transitioned quite early.

374

00:44:34.830 --> 00:44:42.210

deirdre2: In the sub in the would see in the 80s. Okay, where am I forgetting her name.

375

00:44:43.440 --> 00:44:45.090

deirdre2: She's a dear friend of mine. It's like

376

00:44:45.780 --> 00:44:46.860

Evan Taylor: On the spot that's why

377

00:44:47.400 --> 00:44:58.830

deirdre2: For getting my best friend's name my best friend, but she's very good friend and I've gone to Australia to visit her she she she traveled lot. She was an academic librarian. Now, but

378

00:44:59.880 --> 00:45:04.110

deirdre2: She, she had been in the Australian Navy before and

379

00:45:08.160 --> 00:45:10.560

deirdre2: She's written a lot about it.

380

00:45:11.610 --> 00:45:14.640

deirdre2: Oh, this is embarrassing. I hope she doesn't see this episode.

381

00:45:17.970 --> 00:45:21.090

deirdre2: In any kid. Please don't. She was

382

00:45:23.550 --> 00:45:29.040

deirdre2: She, she was at a couple of these conventions that I was at and I met her.

383

00:45:32.910 --> 00:45:38.730

deirdre2: She was she she she showed me that you could be

384

00:45:40.200 --> 00:45:45.060

deirdre2: Something other than a, I don't know. Las Vegas dancer and do that.

385

00:45:47.310 --> 00:45:49.770

deirdre2: The other influence what, of course, was a

386

00:45:52.710 --> 00:45:53.580

deirdre2: book that I read.

387

00:45:55.530 --> 00:45:56.820

deirdre2: By Jane Morris.

388

00:45:57.960 --> 00:45:59.220

deirdre2: Cold conundrum.

389

00:46:00.720 --> 00:46:06.720

deirdre2: And I've never met her on I'd like to, but that hasn't worked out, but

390

00:46:07.830 --> 00:46:09.900

deirdre2: Again, it was, she was a

391

00:46:11.220 --> 00:46:20.910

deirdre2: journalist and a writer in Britain and showed that you could do this. She transitioned very early on in the 19 the

392

00:46:22.440 --> 00:46:23.730

deirdre2: 1970s

393

00:46:27.060 --> 00:46:38.850

deirdre2: And I'm so appalled. I can't remember my Australian friends, man. But in a case she's going to put me in touch. That is my Australian friend is x

394

00:46:40.290 --> 00:46:41.850

deirdre2: With my with my surgeon

395

00:46:43.380 --> 00:46:44.430

deirdre2: In the summer of

396

00:46:45.510 --> 00:46:48.030

deirdre2: 96 and I was in Holland. I told you.

397

00:46:49.080 --> 00:47:00.360

deirdre2: I'm teaching for that year at Erasmus University in Rotterdam and there I was in vita to a conference in Australia and

398

00:47:02.100 --> 00:47:05.670

deirdre2: So I have I had the plumbing operation them.

399

00:47:06.840 --> 00:47:11.640

deirdre2: And I remember being in her house after the operation doing

400

00:47:13.710 --> 00:47:24.480

deirdre2: Its Bas and reading the books and writing the paper that I was kind of give up the conference in New Zealand actually on the way back.

401

00:47:24.960 --> 00:47:37.740

deirdre2: So it's quite complicated. I go to Australia was their conference there. I can't remember. But then on the way back. I stopped in New Zealand at an academic conference and gave a paper as Deirdre

402

00:47:40.620 --> 00:47:42.750

Evan Taylor: It was your first sort of academic

403

00:47:43.110 --> 00:47:45.090

Evan Taylor: Pursuit in the as director

404

00:47:45.600 --> 00:47:47.640

deirdre2: Know, because I'd been in Holland.

405

00:47:48.900 --> 00:47:49.980

deirdre2: As a professor

406

00:47:50.280 --> 00:47:53.130

Evan Taylor: Okay, so you're teaching and Holly just had the surgery. Yes.

407

00:47:53.700 --> 00:47:57.720

deirdre2: Yeah, so I went went from Holland to

408

00:47:59.340 --> 00:48:08.910

deirdre2: To Australia to to the them to New Zealand, then back to Holland to go on teaching

409

00:48:09.720 --> 00:48:25.560

deirdre2: Gotcha. And finally 9097 97 I came back to Iowa continue teaching there and I was very nervous about it. But in fact, again, the kids didn't care.

410

00:48:26.400 --> 00:48:45.480

deirdre2: And I would. Oh, I know my classes I would always tell them, not just them, but as a practice, I would tell people about my transition so they wouldn't go around saying, oh, you know, Professor McCluskey was once a man. Oh, okay. No, I told them I didn't make a big deal with

411

00:48:48.360 --> 00:48:50.670

Evan Taylor: It just the way we can focus on economics.

412

00:48:51.000 --> 00:48:52.590

deirdre2: That's right, but you know I

413

00:48:53.790 --> 00:48:55.110

deirdre2: I often say this

414

00:48:56.820 --> 00:49:00.270

deirdre2: In that fall of 95

415

00:49:01.410 --> 00:49:04.260

deirdre2: And subsequently for a while.

416

00:49:06.150 --> 00:49:06.690

deirdre2: Actually

417

00:49:07.890 --> 00:49:12.420

deirdre2: It was fairly clear that things are going to be okay if the University of Iowa where I was teaching

418

00:49:15.030 --> 00:49:23.010

deirdre2: There was a big excitement in the big news newspaper in the state front page news I our professor changes gender.

419

00:49:23.700 --> 00:49:45.030

deirdre2: And very conservative government State said to the journalists, well, can, can she still teach it. She got the same CV that you had before. They said, well, yeah, he said, what's the problem. So he wasn't bothered by it but I often say that I would have that I expected originally

420

00:49:46.140 --> 00:49:48.180

deirdre2: To lose my academic career.

421

00:49:49.200 --> 00:50:02.130

deirdre2: And I've often say, I would have been prepared to move to Spokane, Washington and become a secretary in a grain elevator. If that sweat was necessary to be a woman.

422

00:50:03.660 --> 00:50:04.740

deirdre2: I didn't have to

423

00:50:05.820 --> 00:50:08.640

deirdre2: Say, because although I'm sure it's book answering. Nice.

424

00:50:09.660 --> 00:50:11.820

deirdre2: I I like being

425

00:50:13.230 --> 00:50:14.520

deirdre2: A teacher at a writer.

426

00:50:17.070 --> 00:50:28.380

deirdre2: It shows for this very career driven person is I wasn't him, I just by the way this morning finished my 21st book.

427

00:50:29.520 --> 00:50:30.870

deirdre2: I've said it.

428

00:50:32.130 --> 00:50:33.810

deirdre2: It's impress right now.

429

00:50:35.280 --> 00:50:36.000

Evan Taylor: Oh my god.

430

00:50:36.450 --> 00:50:39.090

deirdre2: This was this morning, very pleased. I

431

00:50:40.410 --> 00:50:43.770

deirdre2: went to lunch. It's very happy. But anyway, so

432

00:50:45.390 --> 00:50:53.880

deirdre2: I've written 400 scholarly articles. I'm quite well known in my new field. And so I'm I'm

433

00:50:55.890 --> 00:50:59.520

deirdre2: Driven right. It's a very life.

434

00:51:02.520 --> 00:51:04.290

deirdre2: I was willing to give it up.

435

00:51:05.790 --> 00:51:07.860

deirdre2: And think I would lose my marriage, family.

436

00:51:08.910 --> 00:51:23.220

deirdre2: That in a kind of sloppy male way. I didn't handle well at all. I let my wife, do the emotional work of telling my children, the time my son was 24 so my

437

00:51:24.150 --> 00:51:34.260

deirdre2: My daughter was just a freshman in college and I let her do the emotional work of telling them, which was a terrible mistake on my part.

438

00:51:34.860 --> 00:51:51.240

deirdre2: I don't think she did nasty stuff on my back. She, she's an honorable person, and I'm sure she didn't, but it was a mistake for me not to go to them. She was in my daughter was in Kansas, my, my son was in Chicago, and I should have just gone.

439

00:51:52.920 --> 00:51:54.450

deirdre2: And spoken to them about

440

00:51:56.070 --> 00:51:56.880

deirdre2: But, but

441

00:51:58.380 --> 00:51:59.580

deirdre2: Let's see, so

442

00:52:03.540 --> 00:52:08.220

deirdre2: There was and and it shows how strong this feeling was

443

00:52:08.730 --> 00:52:23.340

deirdre2: It was it I think my marriage, family, I think, although they don't talk to me. So I'm not really any concrete data on this, but I think they construe it as a sexual

444

00:52:25.440 --> 00:52:42.930

deirdre2: hobby or desire or bad behavior in some way. I think that's how they think about it as indulgence. It's kind of like, wait, I'm uninformed people talk about being gay, they'll, they'll say, oh,

445

00:52:44.340 --> 00:52:48.060

deirdre2: You became gay because the parties are better or

446

00:52:49.260 --> 00:52:58.170

deirdre2: Gay people, you know, or you'll be tempted to become gay, which is crazy, psychologically, but that's what they believe.

447

00:52:59.070 --> 00:53:15.840

deirdre2: And so I think they and I think my, my children regard this is something I did to my wife, and that's right yeah it hurt, Joanne quite a lot. But, you know, and I know that it's possible to go through this

448

00:53:17.070 --> 00:53:23.040

deirdre2: With the people around you responding in a sensible and loving way.

449

00:53:24.450 --> 00:53:38.100

deirdre2: In the lab right for my birthday. I mean, my marriage, family, this didn't happen you know and other younger brother. He had no problem. He adjusted. Very quickly I sister had this serious problem.

450

00:53:39.360 --> 00:53:48.810

deirdre2: But she got over it in a few years, and my mom. It took her five minutes to adjust she was, she was, she was wonderful.

451

00:53:51.360 --> 00:53:56.730

Evan Taylor: And so around this time when this big article came out, was this a very

452

00:53:58.860 --> 00:54:01.560

Evan Taylor: Non consensually public outing of you.

453

00:54:02.100 --> 00:54:09.840

deirdre2: Know, there were three articles, actually, to the point where one of the one someone some island wrote to the newspaper and said look

454

00:54:10.320 --> 00:54:30.150

deirdre2: What you think we are a bunch of Hicks. Let's get off the subject. It's okay, let's not let's not keep having front page stories about it in the in the register, which is what they weren't. Oh, it was, it was a conscious choice on my part. And this is the beginnings of my

455

00:54:31.350 --> 00:54:32.910

deirdre2: Activities such as it is,

456

00:54:36.390 --> 00:54:37.170

deirdre2: Activism.

457

00:54:39.690 --> 00:54:41.880

deirdre2: I had sent around a

458

00:54:43.530 --> 00:54:44.070

deirdre2: Email

459

00:54:45.090 --> 00:54:57.150

deirdre2: To my colleagues, no interest in Iowa, but my colleagues in academic life personal friends and so forth, telling them, and a coming out letter.

460

00:54:58.920 --> 00:55:01.230

deirdre2: Because you can't do gender change in private.

461

00:55:03.540 --> 00:55:12.120

deirdre2: You can be gay in private. Yes, you can hide your sexual preference, but you if you're going to be a man or a woman that's kind of pretty public

462

00:55:13.680 --> 00:55:13.950

Evan Taylor: Yeah.

463

00:55:14.670 --> 00:55:21.150

deirdre2: You can't do it secretly and so I did this and it got and then the

464

00:55:23.670 --> 00:55:31.560

deirdre2: Journalist at the divine Des Moines Register heard about it and called me up.

465

00:55:32.700 --> 00:55:46.980

deirdre2: And I remember very vividly. He called me up at home. Of course, he answered the phone. I started talking to him, man. My wife was standing there and she said I, you can't do that by this time, this was when was it was

466

00:55:48.510 --> 00:55:49.560

deirdre2: You know, tuber

467

00:55:51.570 --> 00:56:09.180

deirdre2: Of the five I think anyway um she she got very angry. So I had to go to a gasoline station and call him back but i but i did it consciously, I said to myself, look, this is going to be public anyway.

468

00:56:10.440 --> 00:56:22.590

deirdre2: I said to myself, and I don't want to give the impression that I'm ashamed of this right or that it's some house terrorism terrible thing that you're doing.

469

00:56:23.940 --> 00:56:34.770

deirdre2: And then later on I realized that this was my duty as a professor tenured full professor of economics in history.

470

00:56:36.660 --> 00:56:44.400

deirdre2: To do this to to be forthright express it that way. And that was the first, that was my first

471

00:56:48.630 --> 00:56:48.960

deirdre2: Sort of

472

00:56:50.400 --> 00:56:56.040

deirdre2: My, my first toe dipped into the water of activism.

473

00:56:57.180 --> 00:57:09.630

deirdre2: Whenever journalists would come to me. The New York Times and and various other people would come, or call and I would I would always be very straightforward and

474

00:57:12.060 --> 00:57:12.600

deirdre2: That

475

00:57:13.830 --> 00:57:24.870

deirdre2: I grew to think of that as a as a good thing to do. Now, on the other hand, I'm not, I'm not offended by people to do itself. I know, and

476

00:57:26.190 --> 00:57:27.540

deirdre2: Australian girl who

477

00:57:31.050 --> 00:57:38.760

deirdre2: Was I was actually involved with this mysterious Australian I still can't. It'll come to me.

478

00:57:40.530 --> 00:57:47.970

deirdre2: And she finally decided she was younger and she decided to go stealth entirely

479

00:57:49.350 --> 00:57:52.050

deirdre2: Which in the trailer was at is, I suppose.

480

00:57:54.750 --> 00:57:56.580

deirdre2: That you're always going to be found out

481

00:57:56.970 --> 00:57:57.660

Right.

482

00:57:59.520 --> 00:58:08.070

deirdre2: When Conway is the most famous example of this, and limb with eventually got involved. And we did some

483

00:58:09.360 --> 00:58:20.310

deirdre2: We, we were involved in, we were we were principles, especially len in the Bailey controversy, but she she was stealth for decades. She was married

484

00:58:20.850 --> 00:58:34.080

deirdre2: Her husband knew, but no one else did. Right. And then someone out of her. I don't know why. And then she became this gender warrior, having been a very distinguished

485

00:58:35.160 --> 00:58:38.130

deirdre2: Professor of electrical engineering

486

00:58:40.200 --> 00:58:51.570

deirdre2: One of the pioneers of computers, she was fired from IBM around 1970s very early for transitioning

487

00:58:54.030 --> 00:58:56.280

deirdre2: But you'll have to ask her about that.

488

00:58:58.050 --> 00:58:59.370

deirdre2: They have you spoken to limb.

489

00:59:00.420 --> 00:59:01.950

Evan Taylor: Not yet she's on my list.

490

00:59:02.220 --> 00:59:07.410

deirdre2: He's she's, she's very important to be on your list because she's, she's a major figure

491

00:59:07.800 --> 00:59:11.400

Evan Taylor: And did you know her about the around this time when the newspaper.

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00:59:11.700 --> 00:59:23.700

deirdre2: No, no, I only got to know her, when the, when the, when the Bailey controversy. Gotcha. By that time I was in Chicago and she saw

493

00:59:24.870 --> 00:59:29.670

deirdre2: Some others came to Chicago stayed at my apartment and we we

494

00:59:30.840 --> 00:59:35.940

deirdre2: We sort of power out about this. But what to do about this appalling book.

495

00:59:37.890 --> 00:59:40.230

deirdre2: By by Bailey.

496

00:59:41.490 --> 00:59:45.900

deirdre2: I always call him George Bailey. That's not his name. His name is Michael bailing. Yeah.

497

00:59:47.760 --> 00:59:53.790

Evan Taylor: And so I'm still interested in this sort of this this turn to into activism and

498

00:59:54.090 --> 01:00:05.310

Evan Taylor: Did you feel it was some sort of when you say you know about 10 year and all that was there sort of the sense of, if I can't do this publicly in a dignified way no one can so I

499

01:00:05.490 --> 01:00:19.140

deirdre2: I better have yeah that that I think that was a secondary thought the first thought was, I don't want people to think I'm ashamed of this and I made to be ashamed about. So there's kind of an ethical

500

01:00:21.600 --> 01:00:29.430

deirdre2: Know you could call it selfish. Even the self, self protective thing, but then very quickly because other

501

01:00:29.910 --> 01:00:50.760

deirdre2: Other journalists got onto this. I went to my first American economics Association convention as Deirdre early very early January 26 before I went to Holland and I went as as Deirdre and there is a great commotion. But I was on the executive

502

01:00:52.320 --> 01:01:05.130

deirdre2: Committee of the American Economic Association. That's the ruling body of the Asians. I went to the meeting. And they were very careful to call me Deirdre and she so on and everything was fine.

503

01:01:06.690 --> 01:01:21.840

deirdre2: But there was a lot of journalistic interest and and i got clear that I had to do this. I was being a staying with a wonderful that's been a couple in the Bay Area.

504

01:01:23.610 --> 01:01:32.370

deirdre2: One was a a American Baptist minister and the other was it say it saying something insane.

505

01:01:33.420 --> 01:01:39.540

deirdre2: Well, she was an American Baptist minister and the other was a professor of economics at Berkeley.

506

01:01:40.650 --> 01:01:45.570

deirdre2: They took care of me for a month. And by the way, that experience.

507

01:01:46.680 --> 01:01:51.000

deirdre2: Being in a church centered household for a month.

508

01:01:53.430 --> 01:01:55.470

deirdre2: Over over Christmas.

509

01:01:58.650 --> 01:02:01.530

deirdre2: Was one of the reasons that when I got back to

510

01:02:02.970 --> 01:02:10.800

deirdre2: Iowa. Finally, after the, the year in Holland, I started to look start looking for a church.

511

01:02:13.890 --> 01:02:16.260

deirdre2: So let's see. I forget the line of

512

01:02:17.670 --> 01:02:20.160

deirdre2: Discussion here. Yeah, so I

513

01:02:21.750 --> 01:02:39.420

deirdre2: In, for example in Holland. I was a big excitement about transgendered stuff I interviews and they are all oh this is very interesting. And of course, the Dutch have a a religion of toleration.

514

01:02:40.800 --> 01:02:41.310

deirdre2: People do

515

01:02:42.600 --> 01:02:47.340

deirdre2: So they were determined to to treat it in a nice way. And I did.

516

01:02:48.450 --> 01:02:50.910

deirdre2: I got me major stories and

517

01:02:52.620 --> 01:03:06.420

deirdre2: NSA handled splott which is the times of essentially the New York Times of London tomorrow, which is a Christian origin newspaper in in Holland.

518

01:03:07.500 --> 01:03:18.660

deirdre2: And it was a it was a good place to go. I had a close Dutch friend and he was the one who invited me to go there.

519

01:03:20.610 --> 01:03:26.940

Evan Taylor: And so then when you decided to publish the book. What was the, what was the drive the impetus for that.

520

01:03:28.290 --> 01:03:30.750

deirdre2: You know, it's my job. I write books.

521

01:03:32.850 --> 01:03:43.140

deirdre2: My book writer I die I I write about everything. I'm thinking about. And so I started to write the book really while I was in Holland.

522

01:03:43.950 --> 01:04:01.740

deirdre2: And my friend or your climber. This fellow who had invited me there said to me, well, you know, this a little strange Deirdre you're you've, you've been a woman for six months and now you're writing a book about how wonderful it is this may be a full pre pitch.

523

01:04:03.270 --> 01:04:20.160

deirdre2: And in fact I i what i did it when I did is what I was I was writing about it. In any case, you can think of it as almost therapeutic as, as I was having the experience I was writing about it to myself.

524

01:04:22.590 --> 01:04:25.650

deirdre2: And you know journaling, so to speak.

525

01:04:26.460 --> 01:04:30.090

deirdre2: And became the material for the book.

526

01:04:31.260 --> 01:04:31.680

deirdre2: And it

527

01:04:33.810 --> 01:04:50.160

deirdre2: The new the the first draft is the age only of Xeroxing he couldn't send email attachments in that point is kind of a nice so i was i xeroxed 10 copies of the original manuscript.

528

01:04:50.730 --> 01:05:01.140

deirdre2: Of the book, which is just an account of my transition and I sent it to it to 10 of my dearest friends. And no one replied.

529

01:05:03.030 --> 01:05:21.150

deirdre2: I said, was there something wrong here. And then I realized that what was wrong, is the book was in the first person I i. And if you think about it first person narration is very hard to do.

530

01:05:23.070 --> 01:05:24.420

deirdre2: Mark Twain.

531

01:05:25.470 --> 01:05:34.020

deirdre2: Huckleberry Finn is a beautiful example of doing it very well, but it's much easier to do it in the third person.

532

01:05:35.130 --> 01:06:01.680

deirdre2: And there is a certain art here which which amused me as a as a as a student of English Lit as well that is that i what i do have a book is that the first half of the book actually goes like this. There are three parts. There's Donald there's what I call myself, Jane. Is that right,

533

01:06:03.120 --> 01:06:18.000

deirdre2: No. Double D D and Deirdre. Gotcha. So there are three. They're all the same size three parts, and then exact metal of D I go from here to shake

534

01:06:20.310 --> 01:06:28.260

deirdre2: Went through the book I switched from he was she. But anyway, it's much easier for an amateur writer of fiction.

535

01:06:28.740 --> 01:06:45.750

deirdre2: Which is what autobiography is right. That doesn't mean you're lying. But it does mean you're shaping the story characterizing people and there's mentors of tones on there exactly the same as in the novel. And so I i

536

01:06:47.430 --> 01:06:54.090

deirdre2: It turned out to be easier for an amateur novelist is only time I've done this to

537

01:06:55.530 --> 01:06:56.940

deirdre2: Take the third person view.

538

01:06:57.390 --> 01:07:10.890

deirdre2: Right. He did this. He did this, she did this, she did this and it worked out her right it was 99 came out in 1999 which was quite soon. But it was published by the University of Chicago Press, and it was a

539

01:07:12.180 --> 01:07:22.380

deirdre2: New York Times notable book that year. So I was pleased and it and again on the activism front.

540

01:07:25.170 --> 01:07:48.480

deirdre2: I get emails about once a month, sometimes from some person changing gender, but often from a woman who said I stumbled upon your book in the library. And I find it a very interesting reflection on what it means to be a woman as I as a born woman had never thought about these issues.

541

01:07:50.130 --> 01:07:55.380

deirdre2: How do women talk to each other. What's friendship like among women as against

542

01:07:57.030 --> 01:07:59.460

deirdre2: All these sort of discoveries that I had

543

01:08:00.780 --> 01:08:10.290

deirdre2: And I i'm pleased by that that's that's nice, that that my book has been of some use to people.

544

01:08:12.000 --> 01:08:17.340

Evan Taylor: There's another it when it resonates with people who didn't have to learn that on their own.

545

01:08:17.670 --> 01:08:18.600

Evan Taylor: It tells you that

546

01:08:18.900 --> 01:08:20.940

Evan Taylor: That you've got you're on the right track.

547

01:08:21.480 --> 01:08:29.160

deirdre2: That's right. And I was that that was flattering to that. I mean, right, although I got some I got some

548

01:08:32.010 --> 01:08:33.240

deirdre2: pushback from

549

01:08:34.530 --> 01:08:35.460

deirdre2: Radical

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01:08:36.570 --> 01:08:38.520

deirdre2: What would they be second wave

551

01:08:40.020 --> 01:08:40.620

deirdre2: Feminists

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01:08:43.200 --> 01:08:43.860

deirdre2: And

553

01:08:45.420 --> 01:09:03.450

deirdre2: I find their position very strange because it's essentially just I say that if you've got x y jeans. That's it. If you got x x jeans. That's it. It's sort of the problem that the the the

554

01:09:04.560 --> 01:09:05.370

deirdre2: Women's

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01:09:06.780 --> 01:09:11.670

deirdre2: Music Festival in in Michigan had with

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01:09:13.140 --> 01:09:21.540

deirdre2: dykes going around, you know, inspecting your plumbing and throwing people out had male voices and so forth.

557

01:09:22.590 --> 01:09:33.180

deirdre2: It's sad it's it's it's silly because, you know, although, although the desire to change gender is much, much more common than we thought.

558

01:09:34.140 --> 01:09:49.980

deirdre2: Men Conway inner engineering way as estimated that it's one of 400 births and about equal male, female, and female, male right it's still very small, it's not going to disturb the gender.

559

01:09:51.390 --> 01:10:02.790

deirdre2: Definitions of the society or it's not revolutionary. It's not. It's and for God's sake, certainly, going from male to female is not a career move.

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01:10:05.160 --> 01:10:05.910

Evan Taylor: down the ladder.

561

01:10:06.450 --> 01:10:07.710

deirdre2: You're not going to increase.

562

01:10:08.790 --> 01:10:09.930

deirdre2: And I got, I have

563

01:10:11.040 --> 01:10:19.500

deirdre2: So it's all together their their their position seems to me to be foolish very strangely in Britain.

564

01:10:21.570 --> 01:10:22.380

deirdre2: There's a

565

01:10:24.240 --> 01:10:26.370

deirdre2: Much more harsh.

566

01:10:27.390 --> 01:10:28.260

deirdre2: Reaction.

567

01:10:29.700 --> 01:10:33.150

deirdre2: On Women towards trans

568

01:10:34.470 --> 01:10:36.480

deirdre2: Trans gender women.

569

01:10:38.880 --> 01:10:46.800

deirdre2: The colonists and the conservative newspapers like The Times of London are terrible on this and I've

570

01:10:47.880 --> 01:10:52.140

deirdre2: I again in my minor activism. I've

571

01:10:53.610 --> 01:10:54.600

deirdre2: Written against them.

572

01:10:56.880 --> 01:11:12.480

deirdre2: Said, you're being foolish fact I was just attacked last month in a conservative Catholic journal magazine called first thing viciously attacked

573

01:11:14.790 --> 01:11:27.450

deirdre2: And my one or two, paragraph replied, or a moderate, I think, is they say, is going to be published this month, January for first things as well. Now,

574

01:11:28.140 --> 01:11:42.900

deirdre2: Among conservative Catholics and I was simply stung by the theologically I'm something of an amateur theologian, these days, very amateur. But still, I'm interested in the the theologically

575

01:11:45.900 --> 01:11:46.890

deirdre2: unchristian

576

01:11:48.180 --> 01:11:49.020

deirdre2: To describe

577

01:11:50.370 --> 01:11:54.930

deirdre2: He's one of the the editors of the magazine. Oh my goodness.

578

01:11:56.580 --> 01:12:03.090

Evan Taylor: This is really related to one of the questions I had for you around. And how have you seen yourself included not included, how you felt around

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01:12:03.360 --> 01:12:14.550

Evan Taylor: All of the different alphabet soup of politics, we've had from LG LGBT LGBT then there's queer politic how the all these different movements and how they sort of included you not included, you

580

01:12:15.180 --> 01:12:22.980

deirdre2: Know, I don't feel excluded and I'm not, I don't want to be a professional gender crosser although

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01:12:23.460 --> 01:12:45.690

deirdre2: I admire people who are I mean that they're out there on the front on the front lines and I admire that. But I, and I'm willing to, you know, in the sort of male military analogy I am willing to be a sort of off the front lines as a as a supply personnel and

582

01:12:46.740 --> 01:12:50.790

deirdre2: Articles and so on. So I don't have any

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01:12:51.930 --> 01:12:54.300

deirdre2: strong feelings on that score.

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01:12:55.980 --> 01:12:56.430

deirdre2: I

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01:12:58.950 --> 01:13:00.120

deirdre2: Might my main

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01:13:03.930 --> 01:13:13.830

deirdre2: Well, express it this way if women had not been so graceful and accepting

587

01:13:15.150 --> 01:13:18.390

deirdre2: Um, I would be an unhappy camper.

588

01:13:20.340 --> 01:13:25.260

deirdre2: You must have the same feeling about men if they were nasty and

589

01:13:26.430 --> 01:13:34.170

deirdre2: Rejecting that would be quite depressing, because that's the tribe, you're, you're, you're proposing to join.

590

01:13:35.580 --> 01:13:46.530

deirdre2: As well and this tribe says, No, screw you go away. But that's not what happened. He didn't happen to you. It didn't happen to me, and that's that's the one I care most about

591

01:13:48.060 --> 01:13:54.330

Evan Taylor: There's a sort of a sense of of safety and being recognized by women in that positive way that created that

592

01:13:56.010 --> 01:13:59.130

deirdre2: Exactly. And they have their, their muscle.

593

01:14:01.860 --> 01:14:09.720

deirdre2: And little ways that don't matter much better very satisfying strangers strange women.

594

01:14:11.160 --> 01:14:24.780

deirdre2: I'll deal with them as women to women. Um, we were, I was at the Art Institute this afternoon after lunch, and we were one woman about my age, and I were

595

01:14:25.680 --> 01:14:39.300

deirdre2: Waiting for an elevator and we started talking about how slow the elevator was and, you know, she said, Well, I don't want to climb the stairs, and I said, Boy, I understand. So it was that moment of solidarity.

596

01:14:40.680 --> 01:14:50.190

deirdre2: The. It's a way met men are men who have moments of solidarity about often about making fun of each other.

597

01:14:50.790 --> 01:15:00.120

deirdre2: Right kind of male. Umer that that they go in for or moments of solidarity, about the bears. Again, the Chicago Bears so sports stuff.

598

01:15:02.220 --> 01:15:13.320

deirdre2: So I have lots of those with people who don't know who I am. Don't do that. They don't, they, they see an elderly tall woman right

599

01:15:14.550 --> 01:15:16.530

deirdre2: And but the ones who know

600

01:15:17.880 --> 01:15:23.190

deirdre2: That I come very close to i right now I have a have a roommate.

601

01:15:24.480 --> 01:15:25.770

deirdre2: She's a friend who

602

01:15:28.200 --> 01:15:34.560

deirdre2: Was is having some financial problems. So I have a very large apartment so I invited her to to

603

01:15:34.950 --> 01:15:44.820

deirdre2: Stay with me as long as she wants. And that's working very well she's, she's, she's fun to be with them, and she's in business and she she drives up to Madison to

604

01:15:45.240 --> 01:16:00.900

deirdre2: Do her work and then works remotely here in Chicago, but you know we're we're having conversations girl to girl and I can't, I can't ever have had the history of a girl, I can have

605

01:16:02.010 --> 01:16:04.110

deirdre2: You know, been a girl or

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01:16:05.520 --> 01:16:09.090

deirdre2: Had a husband or something. Um,

607

01:16:10.200 --> 01:16:23.250

deirdre2: So there are sort of limits but not too many. And the target gender. If you're a dark about that way has been very

608

01:16:25.590 --> 01:16:26.220

deirdre2: Nice.

609

01:16:27.330 --> 01:16:50.160

deirdre2: Back in him in my book. I think the women and some trans women in the first in the dedication of the book have helped me in one way or another in small ways and they get nice postcard or inviting me to lunch or something. And there were 240 names.

610

01:16:51.390 --> 01:16:55.170

deirdre2: 240 X of grace in that

611

01:16:56.190 --> 01:16:59.220

deirdre2: Three or four years of transition

612

01:17:01.260 --> 01:17:02.220

deirdre2: Are you still there.

613

01:17:04.740 --> 01:17:05.130

deirdre2: Hello.

614

01:17:09.090 --> 01:17:09.660

deirdre2: Hello.

615

01:17:17.070 --> 01:17:17.670

deirdre2: What's happened.

616

01:17:21.900 --> 01:17:22.470

deirdre2: Call me up.

617

01:17:27.540 --> 01:17:28.470

deirdre2: Tournaments quitter.

618

01:17:43.980 --> 01:17:44.550

deirdre2: We back

619

01:17:45.030 --> 01:17:45.600

Evan Taylor: We're back.

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01:17:45.870 --> 01:17:48.000

deirdre2: Oh good back from the dead.

621

01:17:49.590 --> 01:17:51.090

deirdre2: The electronic debit

622

01:17:51.870 --> 01:17:52.920

Evan Taylor: We should all be so lucky.

623

01:17:53.490 --> 01:18:01.440

deirdre2: Me the the the systems always have this problem. They gotta so all these little glitches. Okay.

624

01:18:01.500 --> 01:18:02.640

Evan Taylor: So I work with somebody

625

01:18:02.700 --> 01:18:09.750

Evan Taylor: Who says that they believe that that these hope escape and the zoom. It's really still just a theory. We don't

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01:18:10.350 --> 01:18:12.630

Evan Taylor: We don't actually have that have had this this

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01:18:12.930 --> 01:18:14.490

Evan Taylor: Internet calling it at all. Yeah.

628

01:18:17.040 --> 01:18:17.310

deirdre2: Yeah.

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01:18:18.780 --> 01:18:29.460

Evan Taylor: Um, so one of the things that I want to ask you though because you know you've seen just so much so much change and around, you know, around France politics.

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01:18:29.670 --> 01:18:30.930

deirdre2: What are some of the biggest things you've

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01:18:30.930 --> 01:18:36.420

deirdre2: Seen what. Come on, but I've, I've written on them. I've written

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01:18:38.850 --> 01:18:39.600

deirdre2: What's your name,

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01:18:41.460 --> 01:18:43.980

deirdre2: Olympic athlete, what, what's her name.

634

01:18:45.240 --> 01:18:46.110

deirdre2: transitioned.

635

01:18:46.860 --> 01:18:47.820

Evan Taylor: At the tennis player.

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01:18:48.120 --> 01:18:54.870

deirdre2: Know the the big Olympic athlete, she she as a guy she was pentathlon champion.

637

01:18:55.350 --> 01:18:55.620

Oh,

638

01:18:59.280 --> 01:19:00.300

deirdre2: Yeah yeah

639

01:19:01.470 --> 01:19:15.300

deirdre2: That's right. Okay. Bruce Caitlyn there. There was a surprisingly good interview on ABC by a journalist who I didn't expect to do a good job. But she did a terrifically. Good job. It was

640

01:19:19.140 --> 01:19:23.190

deirdre2: Respectful and interested in in sympathetic

641

01:19:24.840 --> 01:19:28.110

deirdre2: And then the person has made a lot of difference is Oprah.

642

01:19:29.340 --> 01:19:32.100

deirdre2: About every year and a half, should have a trans program.

643

01:19:33.240 --> 01:19:48.480

deirdre2: I was on at once. I didn't ever meet the Queen, because it was a time when our show is doing finding your spirit which rate. And at the end of the show. Yeah. Five minutes of TV time

644

01:19:49.170 --> 01:20:00.900

deirdre2: And they came and they interviewed me in a hotel and talk to me like like we're talking and four, and five minutes of TV time on Oprah makes you very famous

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01:20:01.290 --> 01:20:05.400

deirdre2: No kidding, or for the little brief time that the next person.

646

01:20:06.900 --> 01:20:11.160

deirdre2: So I was back in California, when it aired i was i was

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01:20:12.930 --> 01:20:19.650

deirdre2: Briefly in California and an institute just before in 1999

648

01:20:21.780 --> 01:20:34.980

deirdre2: California and I was walking through a parking lot and I overheard a woman saying to her daughter 12 year old daughter. Oh look, there's the woman who was on Oprah yesterday.

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01:20:39.210 --> 01:20:52.410

deirdre2: But the interview is in Chicago her studio was in Chicago. I mean, it's just amazing. And that's what made for me it's it's it's the same with the

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01:20:54.030 --> 01:20:59.340

deirdre2: gay gay gay and lesbian stuff you know when Ellen.

651

01:21:00.390 --> 01:21:10.920

deirdre2: Ellen DeGeneres came out that just softened people. I thought, jeez. Nice. I guess it's not so bad. And the same thing happened with these trends.

652

01:21:13.080 --> 01:21:13.950

deirdre2: Show.

653

01:21:16.320 --> 01:21:36.810

deirdre2: Back in the day, Hollywood was very hostile to trans people in the mess weird and dangerous right I'm dressed to kill or or or psycho right and the contrast is with this beautiful movie.

654

01:21:39.030 --> 01:21:49.260

deirdre2: Cold trends America. Yes, she got an Oscar nomination for her role as a man transitioning

655

01:21:52.680 --> 01:22:11.580

deirdre2: And she alas also got into trouble for buying people to help her child get into college, but she's I'm so so glad to see that she was on the good side in the sense that, though she was caught at it. She confessed to it and was ashamed.

656

01:22:13.230 --> 01:22:23.970

deirdre2: Like some of these other jerks spent a million dollars cheating on you know entrance exams and so forth. So, and

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01:22:25.500 --> 01:22:29.550

deirdre2: It's, it's the way things change in public opinion.

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01:22:30.570 --> 01:22:39.570

deirdre2: They it's the artists would change public opinion. I don't mean the high artists. I mean sort of where the rubber meets the road is in

659

01:22:40.920 --> 01:22:50.700

deirdre2: Is a cannon in movies and ordinary talk on the TV and that's just changed immensely.

660

01:22:51.960 --> 01:22:53.520

deirdre2: I complete surprise.

661

01:22:54.570 --> 01:23:03.360

deirdre2: I was startled by this, but it's it's it's it's normalized this. Now, some people say, oh, it's conservative say, oh, that's terrible.

662

01:23:05.070 --> 01:23:11.160

deirdre2: Like this guy in the magazine first things I told you about, oh, that's terrible.

663

01:23:12.510 --> 01:23:23.580

deirdre2: By the way, him his short article he did on me in system calling me he all the way through, you know, he Donald. He was just being a jerk. Yeah.

664

01:23:24.660 --> 01:23:26.460

Evan Taylor: I haven't been so long.

665

01:23:26.910 --> 01:23:37.200

deirdre2: Yes, right here. Who's Donald, actually. This is absurd. I want someone asked me six. I'm a kind of naive.

666

01:23:38.400 --> 01:23:46.500

deirdre2: Economist academic said to me, say, Are you any relation to Donald McCluskey

667

01:23:49.590 --> 01:23:58.470

deirdre2: I I I I forget how I answered, actually. But the sort of the sort of Correct answer is yes I'm her smarter sister.

668

01:24:02.190 --> 01:24:03.750

Evan Taylor: Nearly with them to figure that out.

669

01:24:04.260 --> 01:24:04.710

deirdre2: Right, it's

670

01:24:05.910 --> 01:24:06.900

deirdre2: Quite a while.

671

01:24:08.700 --> 01:24:09.150

deirdre2: Yeah.

672

01:24:12.420 --> 01:24:17.130

Evan Taylor: So thinking about all these different changes. One of the biggest things of course has been the Internet.

673

01:24:17.670 --> 01:24:23.250

Evan Taylor: Yeah, and I'm remembering that you said when you first started you know if 99

674

01:24:24.600 --> 01:24:25.440

Evan Taylor: It was just beginning.

675

01:24:25.800 --> 01:24:26.190

Evan Taylor: What do you

676

01:24:26.760 --> 01:24:31.560

Evan Taylor: What do you think would have been different if we didn't have the internet. Do you think that your trajectory would have been different.

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01:24:32.580 --> 01:24:32.940

deirdre2: My

678

01:24:35.700 --> 01:24:39.120

deirdre2: Suppose we have the internet. When I was in my 20s.

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01:24:40.950 --> 01:24:43.140

deirdre2: Then I would have transitioned, then

680

01:24:44.310 --> 01:24:45.150

deirdre2: I'm almost sure

681

01:24:46.830 --> 01:24:50.670

deirdre2: If we had. Well, that's not quite sure if we if we have the the

682

01:24:51.840 --> 01:24:57.570

deirdre2: The, the internet and well I don't know the kind of information we have now.

683

01:25:00.150 --> 01:25:13.680

deirdre2: Well, I don't see how that would happen in the 1960s, but still if I had known that there are cross dressing clubs, I would have joined 140 years ago, right. I didn't

684

01:25:15.870 --> 01:25:20.700

deirdre2: And if I so it's the, it's the informational content.

685

01:25:22.170 --> 01:25:39.090

deirdre2: Actually got on the internet in order to have discussions which you can have on the internet. This is no talking about January 1995 about cricket. The English game. Yeah I become I became obsessed with it when I was a graduate student.

686

01:25:40.440 --> 01:25:52.080

deirdre2: And actually I played it in in the United States. I played it. I played for the University of Chicago. T. Importantly, have to say, but still I loved it. So anyway, I am

687

01:25:55.650 --> 01:26:01.860

deirdre2: And that's what the internet does it makes it very easy to form communities.

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01:26:03.900 --> 01:26:05.160

deirdre2: And I think that's

689

01:26:06.300 --> 01:26:11.280

deirdre2: It has its bad side, as we've seen in American politics.

690

01:26:13.170 --> 01:26:23.940

deirdre2: In the people go off and do white nationalism, right, and then they have lots of material they they have chat rooms and they're talking to each other and

691

01:26:24.540 --> 01:26:38.790

deirdre2: To convince each other that the white nationalism and so it can have a very dark and dangerous side I think Donald Trump is in part of consequence of this, but

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01:26:39.960 --> 01:26:50.970

deirdre2: But it. But then also, you know, it's, I'm a historian, as well as an economist, and I'm very much aware that this is all happened before.

693

01:26:52.680 --> 01:26:53.640

deirdre2: The printing press.

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01:26:54.870 --> 01:26:56.010

deirdre2: It, you could

695

01:26:57.120 --> 01:27:07.020

deirdre2: You can see people in the late 15th and 16th century 17th, for that matter, railing against the printing press.

696

01:27:07.410 --> 01:27:28.440

deirdre2: As this terrible thing that's putting people in touch with the with each other that do shouldn't be a should stay in their silos and shut up and and and by the way, from the very beginning of printing in Europe in the late 15th century, a large proportion of it was pornography.

697

01:27:29.370 --> 01:27:30.780

Evan Taylor: really early on.

698

01:27:31.170 --> 01:27:45.570

deirdre2: Oh yeah, very significant portion was pornography first Venice and then then Holland became famous for their free presses who may they they did a lot of sermons and then a lot

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01:27:47.520 --> 01:27:52.410

deirdre2: And a lot of scandalous scandalous sheets of various kinds.

700

01:27:54.210 --> 01:28:01.590

deirdre2: So it's, it's not as if this hasn't happened before we the the press.

701

01:28:02.970 --> 01:28:05.640

deirdre2: change radically in the 19th century.

702

01:28:06.960 --> 01:28:09.030

deirdre2: And by that I mean the newspapers.

703

01:28:10.770 --> 01:28:17.100

deirdre2: With the invention of the steam. Press the rotary steam press

704

01:28:17.220 --> 01:28:18.270

Evan Taylor: Right where they can start pumping

705

01:28:18.270 --> 01:28:19.620

Evan Taylor: Them off a lot quicker that way.

706

01:28:19.950 --> 01:28:21.750

deirdre2: Half a million copies a day.

707

01:28:22.770 --> 01:28:24.690

deirdre2: As opposed to 5000 a day.

708

01:28:25.890 --> 01:28:48.150

deirdre2: Change just the advertising became a way of supporting in this paper and you got yellow journalism in teen century in both Britain in the United States, and he I mentioned in other countries, but those are the ones I know about. And, you know, it had the same kind of

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01:28:50.910 --> 01:28:51.930

deirdre2: nastiness.

710

01:28:53.010 --> 01:29:01.980

deirdre2: That that the silo talk or we're conservatives together and we hate gays and that kind of thing that you get mad.

711

01:29:03.060 --> 01:29:07.500

deirdre2: But it also had the result of freeing people he

712

01:29:08.550 --> 01:29:10.920

deirdre2: making them aware of the world.

713

01:29:12.150 --> 01:29:20.340

deirdre2: Making people making white people. Well, I was in, I was in China. This summer for a bit.

714

01:29:22.200 --> 01:29:29.880

deirdre2: I went to then Jane with my with my with my, my sister. We're very close, as I said,

715

01:29:32.010 --> 01:29:36.090

deirdre2: And there's this wonderful museum and then saying about the so called rape of Nanjing

716

01:29:37.110 --> 01:29:38.040

deirdre2: Was a hideous

717

01:29:39.090 --> 01:29:50.850

deirdre2: episode in the Japanese invasion of China 1938, I think it was 37 or they, they, the Japanese army.

718

01:29:51.930 --> 01:29:56.220

deirdre2: Attacked base it even enjoying and killed.

719

01:29:57.810 --> 01:30:08.880

deirdre2: Hundreds of thousands of people. I was just brutal. Well, it turns out that that was covered day by day in the American newspapers.

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01:30:11.100 --> 01:30:12.900

deirdre2: It was, I think, a substantial

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01:30:14.520 --> 01:30:23.160

deirdre2: Element in forming the opinion in the United States that the Japanese Empire was a bad idea. Right.

722

01:30:24.480 --> 01:30:39.570

deirdre2: And we in this I mentioned museum because in the museum and section. The museum where they showed the front pages of the Chicago Tribune and the Milwaukee Journal with stories about the rape of mentoring.

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01:30:41.070 --> 01:30:46.020

deirdre2: So it can go both ways. It can be a good thing or bad thing this tool we have

724

01:30:46.860 --> 01:30:48.390

Evan Taylor: The beginning of fake news.

725

01:30:49.020 --> 01:30:55.260

deirdre2: I know it's but all news is fake. And since you know I, as I said about my

726

01:30:56.760 --> 01:30:59.550

deirdre2: My autobiography, right.

727

01:31:01.230 --> 01:31:02.970

deirdre2: It's all shaped

728

01:31:04.230 --> 01:31:05.730

Evan Taylor: It so writing is fiction in that

729

01:31:06.240 --> 01:31:13.590

deirdre2: Writing is fiction, in that sense, because it's the it's, yeah, that's right, it's, it's a, the taking of a persona.

730

01:31:15.090 --> 01:31:31.470

deirdre2: Even even academic scientific writing is this character because you have to establish enough us as a believable scientist. He and there you know you have to follow the rules, as it were, and

731

01:31:31.620 --> 01:31:33.750

Evan Taylor: every frame work as a theoretical framework.

732

01:31:34.200 --> 01:31:37.500

deirdre2: That's right, every frame there. There's no view from nowhere.

733

01:31:37.920 --> 01:31:38.460

Right.

734

01:31:39.480 --> 01:31:41.400

Evan Taylor: That's a great, that's a great thing. I'm going to quote that

735

01:31:41.850 --> 01:31:43.350

deirdre2: Yeah, what's important one.

736

01:31:44.370 --> 01:31:51.300

deirdre2: Of my saying, by the way, that's a quotation forget for that, but it's true.

737

01:31:55.710 --> 01:31:56.490

deirdre2: Philosophical

738

01:31:57.990 --> 01:32:01.200

Evan Taylor: That's really the whole point of the conversation. So that's a really good thing.

739

01:32:02.010 --> 01:32:08.940

Evan Taylor: And I'm wondering as well as. So what my other questions about the scene, all these different all these different changes and

740

01:32:09.210 --> 01:32:21.570

Evan Taylor: What do you think has been made possible for maybe my generation of transports or even folks who were in their late teens, early 20s. Now, what, what do you think is possible for trans trans folks. Now that that wasn't possible

741

01:32:22.050 --> 01:32:28.770

deirdre2: I think what's what's sort of obviously easily possible is that people can start homework, very early.

742

01:32:29.400 --> 01:32:35.340

deirdre2: Right. And the result is that they can go stealth entirely if they wish they don't have

743

01:32:36.960 --> 01:32:48.270

deirdre2: So that must be much easier. I mean, in the in the female to male case, of course, you guys have the advantage that you started taking male hormones and you get a beard.

744

01:32:49.410 --> 01:32:58.290

deirdre2: If your family's male pattern pattern baldness, you get it. You, you, your, your, your muscles get a little bigger, you can't get any taller.

745

01:32:58.770 --> 01:33:15.330

deirdre2: Is that happens when you were an adolescent, but that's the point. If you start, as you well know, we all know you start the hormones at the right time. You can have very good results. You know, I did this at age 53 so I had all the male secondary characteristics.

746

01:33:17.100 --> 01:33:22.320

deirdre2: And fake out. I wasn't six feet for and

747

01:33:24.030 --> 01:33:27.450

deirdre2: You know, very big I'm big enough as it is. Thank you.

748

01:33:30.360 --> 01:33:39.900

Evan Taylor: And looking back at this time as well. Now there's been so much change. But what has stayed the same. Do you think and what do you know and and trains generations now versus maybe 2025 years ago.

749

01:33:40.980 --> 01:33:50.670

deirdre2: Well, from the point of view of the society generally they're still you know it's there are still people who are back in the 1950s mentally thinking

750

01:33:51.540 --> 01:34:06.240

deirdre2: I think of the United States. It's like an onion or aura or phyllo dough ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE BACK IN THE 40s and 50s. Some people are in the Martin understand are in 2014

751

01:34:08.550 --> 01:34:10.410

deirdre2: And there's everything in between. So

752

01:34:11.610 --> 01:34:15.420

deirdre2: There. That's what stays the same. There's still people who have

753

01:34:16.620 --> 01:34:19.950

deirdre2: very primitive silly views about

754

01:34:21.600 --> 01:34:36.060

deirdre2: About gender change. Um, but if it goes like this in public opinion and look, take a look at the gay marriage matter, you know, 20 years ago.

755

01:34:37.170 --> 01:34:47.370

deirdre2: Most Americans are Joe No, none of that I can have any gay marriage. Don't be absurd. Now, a majority of Americans warmly approve of gay marriage.

756

01:34:49.110 --> 01:35:01.170

deirdre2: I mean that's if tips and then suddenly, people say, well, oh, oh, mean that that's happened with lots of things. My favorite example is a very stupid one, but I'll give it to you anyway.

757

01:35:02.190 --> 01:35:04.020

deirdre2: Picking up your dog's poop.

758

01:35:05.340 --> 01:35:10.680

deirdre2: 30 years ago in the United States President candidate to when you

759

01:35:11.940 --> 01:35:18.810

deirdre2: took your dog to their neighbor's yard and he did his duty, and then you walked away. Okay.

760

01:35:20.250 --> 01:35:26.070

deirdre2: You didn't pick up the poop. Now, except in Paris. Everyone picks up the poop.

761

01:35:26.520 --> 01:35:27.060

Evan Taylor: Right.

762

01:35:27.600 --> 01:35:38.100

deirdre2: And that changed very quickly and it wasn't because of laws, people say, Oh, no, it's not. It's not. It was a sharp shift in social customs.

763

01:35:38.730 --> 01:35:45.810

deirdre2: People started getting ashamed if they left the book. I live in a neighborhood in Chicago with a lot of very young couples.

764

01:35:46.470 --> 01:35:59.190

deirdre2: Or or individuals and then a lot of old people like me. So we both have lots of dogs. Right. They haven't moved out to the suburbs to get the get the better schooling for their, their children. They don't have children.

765

01:35:59.850 --> 01:36:14.790

deirdre2: And so it's my neighborhood that just south loop and Chicago is a dog zoo and there's every conceivable variety of dog. There are lots of dogs and there's no poop on the ground.

766

01:36:15.600 --> 01:36:17.490

Evan Taylor: Is everybody's watching out for each other.

767

01:36:17.880 --> 01:36:23.400

deirdre2: Everyone's there and they're watching becomes in their thrones.

768

01:36:26.250 --> 01:36:27.960

deirdre2: Or be should walk away.

769

01:36:28.470 --> 01:36:31.110

Evan Taylor: Right, so he's going to take a picture of it, it's going to become public

770

01:36:32.580 --> 01:36:36.030

deirdre2: Without the enforcement. That's what I'm saying. It becomes internalized

771

01:36:36.600 --> 01:36:37.410

Evan Taylor: Oh, OK.

772

01:36:37.680 --> 01:36:41.820

deirdre2: I met you, you get to your sense of self respect.

773

01:36:42.810 --> 01:36:44.130

Evan Taylor: What you said about the phones.

774

01:36:44.640 --> 01:36:45.750

deirdre2: Yeah, that's right.

775

01:36:47.880 --> 01:36:48.480

deirdre2: About the web.

776

01:36:48.960 --> 01:36:50.340

Evan Taylor: I missed what you said about the phones.

777

01:36:50.940 --> 01:36:53.370

deirdre2: Phones. There's nothing about phones. Oh, I didn't see me.

778

01:36:53.790 --> 01:36:54.090

Okay.

779

01:36:55.980 --> 01:36:56.640

deirdre2: Said poop.

780

01:36:58.440 --> 01:36:59.370

Evan Taylor: Well, I cut out, man.

781

01:37:03.450 --> 01:37:10.230

Evan Taylor: So there's all these social customs that have obviously changed last 20 years. What do you think is going to change in the next 20 years for trans folks.

782

01:37:11.130 --> 01:37:14.400

deirdre2: Well, I think it's going to become completely conventional now.

783

01:37:15.600 --> 01:37:16.230

deirdre2: The danger.

784

01:37:17.280 --> 01:37:24.570

deirdre2: That these things can slip back I mom, I told you about my mom. She's 97 and she's very worried about

785

01:37:26.460 --> 01:37:43.230

deirdre2: Trump isn't you know this stupid thing he did within the military right that and that's why he did that, not because he's personally convinced of it, Donald Trump doesn't have any personal convictions and

786

01:37:44.670 --> 01:37:55.020

deirdre2: Vice President Pence does have and he's dangerous in this way, too. But Trump just does things that they think will get the approval of his

787

01:37:57.000 --> 01:37:59.010

deirdre2: socially conservative base.

788

01:38:01.140 --> 01:38:07.620

deirdre2: And that if if Trump wins the next election. I'm gonna move to Vancouver.

789

01:38:08.820 --> 01:38:10.230

Evan Taylor: Please, we'd love to have you.

790

01:38:11.880 --> 01:38:14.130

Evan Taylor: I assume you mean bc not Washington

791

01:38:15.450 --> 01:38:18.120

deirdre2: Is there where you are, Vancouver, Washington.

792

01:38:18.690 --> 01:38:21.060

Evan Taylor: There is another Vancouver, so please come to the Canadian one

793

01:38:21.480 --> 01:38:36.870

deirdre2: So I'm going to come to the Canadian. In fact, I'm going to be there in August. I mean, there's a there's a big convention. It's surprisingly large called the the Academy of Management. Okay. People who academics.

794

01:38:37.950 --> 01:38:42.690

deirdre2: from from from from business schools and it's meeting in Vancouver.

795

01:38:43.740 --> 01:38:46.380

deirdre2: In August, I'll be there. I'll be speaking

796

01:38:47.580 --> 01:38:48.390

Oh, fantastic.

797

01:38:50.010 --> 01:38:52.560

Evan Taylor: Be nice to meet you in person. If I can get that chance know

798

01:38:53.190 --> 01:38:55.290

deirdre2: Vancouver is a wonderful place I envy you

799

01:38:56.340 --> 01:38:59.910

Evan Taylor: Thank you, I, I'm not from Vancouver, but I love your very happily.

800

01:39:00.390 --> 01:39:01.140

deirdre2: Where are you from,

801

01:39:01.590 --> 01:39:03.150

Evan Taylor: I'm from Ottawa, Ontario.

802

01:39:03.720 --> 01:39:05.790

Evan Taylor: Right, I came, I came to Vancouver for the good weather.

803

01:39:08.190 --> 01:39:09.900

deirdre2: For the, for the sunshine.

804

01:39:10.140 --> 01:39:17.910

Evan Taylor: Exactly, exactly. And also I I'm a redhead. It gets too hot out there. I can't deal with that. I like a much more moderate climate.

805

01:39:19.980 --> 01:39:24.900

deirdre2: Time. I'm surprised you haven't. Maybe that's why your, your red, you know, by the way, I had a red beard.

806

01:39:26.670 --> 01:39:29.880

deirdre2: Yeah. My hair's not read, but my beard was very red

807

01:39:30.600 --> 01:39:32.130

Evan Taylor: I would, I would have taken that from yeah

808

01:39:34.140 --> 01:39:35.340

Evan Taylor: Avoid the whole thing.

809

01:39:36.390 --> 01:39:37.710

deirdre2: Trade strange

810

01:39:39.180 --> 01:39:45.780

Evan Taylor: Um, if you have to think back to when you were first, you know, writing, writing the book when you were first thinking

811

01:39:45.780 --> 01:39:53.100

Evan Taylor: Okay, I'm just gonna be very public about this and advice would you give yourself, then that you know now that perhaps you didn't know that.

812

01:39:53.610 --> 01:40:04.830

deirdre2: Well the main thing would be to be more forthcoming with my with my children, as I mentioned, um, let's see. Why would I advise myself.

813

01:40:06.780 --> 01:40:13.230

deirdre2: Well, I'm, I'm an optimist. I'm a natural optimist. And I would say to myself there it's

814

01:40:17.130 --> 01:40:17.790

deirdre2: Because

815

01:40:22.230 --> 01:40:37.260

deirdre2: I was very anxious I was worried, but I should have. I would tell myself. No, it's gonna be okay you're you're you're you're you're you're going to be fine now sort of episodically but I was

816

01:40:38.550 --> 01:40:42.390

deirdre2: I was very focused on making this work.

817

01:40:43.530 --> 01:40:52.800

deirdre2: I had a vocal operation which as you can see, didn't work. And I was, I had facial. These are my cheekbones, I paid for.

818

01:40:53.880 --> 01:40:55.860

deirdre2: And I'm an economist, I believe in the market.

819

01:41:00.480 --> 01:41:02.700

deirdre2: Yeah, so I i

820

01:41:04.050 --> 01:41:21.750

deirdre2: I, I, I wish I had met the vocal operation, but surgeons have to be very confident he can just see in their business. They have to be. And this very good surgeon in Philadelphia vocal surgeon said oh yeah I can make your voice.

821

01:41:22.980 --> 01:41:23.850

deirdre2: Sound female

822

01:41:39.660 --> 01:41:50.850

Evan Taylor: Did you do find as you get a little bit older, that be the voice sort of falls into it, it doesn't have as much of an issue for you in terms of that because it's dropped into a postmenopausal

823

01:41:51.600 --> 01:41:54.810

deirdre2: Well, but. Exactly. That's exactly right. I don't

824

01:41:55.980 --> 01:42:02.850

deirdre2: Even on the phone if I'm careful about it in terms of information and approach.

825

01:42:04.350 --> 01:42:05.730

deirdre2: I'll get me and

826

01:42:06.810 --> 01:42:14.460

deirdre2: By the by the person on the other end. If I just speak away I'm speaking now I get a lot of Sir

827

01:42:19.020 --> 01:42:23.880

deirdre2: No, I just have a low voice, and actually a woman, um,

828

01:42:24.960 --> 01:42:30.780

deirdre2: But yeah, that's right. And I'm I'm I'm 77 years old.

829

01:42:39.210 --> 01:42:42.870

deirdre2: Not sounding voices. Yeah. Yeah, so it's

830

01:42:46.860 --> 01:42:51.450

Evan Taylor: Um, so we're getting to the last couple of questions here.

831

01:42:52.500 --> 01:42:59.430

Evan Taylor: First of all, make sure if there anything about your, your activism, or your history that you think's important information records. I haven't asked you yet.

832

01:43:00.150 --> 01:43:08.460

deirdre2: Roaming. The most important thing is I'm not an important person when Conway and some other people on

833

01:43:14.370 --> 01:43:26.010

deirdre2: I met I met her, and those very amused by her. What is her name I can't remember her name, either. But, you know, there, there are people like my friend in Australia that

834

01:43:27.360 --> 01:43:31.620

deirdre2: They're serious activists, I'm just kind of a

835

01:43:37.110 --> 01:43:37.470

deirdre2: Watch.

836

01:43:38.520 --> 01:43:41.370

deirdre2: But in, in my case it's maintenance for my writing.

837

01:43:42.630 --> 01:43:50.040

deirdre2: I'm often asked to do editorials if you if you go to my CV. There's a section on

838

01:43:53.160 --> 01:43:54.570

deirdre2: Gender, you'll see

839

01:44:09.750 --> 01:44:10.350

Evan Taylor: For a second there.

840

01:44:12.360 --> 01:44:15.570

deirdre2: It's so by the end of the world. Um, yes.

841

01:44:17.100 --> 01:44:21.690

Evan Taylor: Right, so I will allow this will be a tough question for you, then

842

01:44:22.110 --> 01:44:25.710

Evan Taylor: But given, given that you see yourself as a peripheral person.

843

01:44:26.940 --> 01:44:40.920

Evan Taylor: I will respectfully disagree with you for forever because because I benefited from this from from from your work from your visibility from your, you know, your, your, even just being

844

01:44:41.940 --> 01:44:43.560

Evan Taylor: An out trans academic

845

01:44:43.830 --> 01:44:44.940

deirdre2: You know, you don't need

846

01:44:46.290 --> 01:44:48.780

deirdre2: The one I'm very glad to be here, but

847

01:44:49.410 --> 01:44:59.520

Evan Taylor: You certainly have a and so I will disagree a little bit with you on your peripheral piece. So I'll ask you a challenging question and and what what activists legacy. Would you like to be remembered for

848

01:45:00.990 --> 01:45:02.190

deirdre2: Well, that she was

849

01:45:06.390 --> 01:45:07.200

deirdre2: Fourth, right.

850

01:45:08.970 --> 01:45:09.480

deirdre2: The first

851

01:45:45.390 --> 01:45:46.440

Evan Taylor: Getting out again. They don't want to

852

01:45:46.440 --> 01:45:46.800

deirdre2: Miss this

853

01:45:48.750 --> 01:46:04.560

deirdre2: Okay, she she might my mom says you have this great experience because for 53 years you're a man, boy, and now you've got this rather long life afterwards. So you can both a great size.

854

01:46:10.290 --> 01:46:14.580

deirdre2: Down to the least a third sentence of my obituary

855

01:46:15.750 --> 01:46:26.790

deirdre2: I know I'm not as a trans activist. I'm not ashamed of it and willing to do it, but as a scholar in as a scientist.

856

01:46:27.840 --> 01:46:37.290

deirdre2: So I want to I want it to be secondary. It's hard to do, but I'm going to keep working at it published 22 books 2323

857

01:46:39.000 --> 01:46:46.080

deirdre2: They started saying, Well, that's your, your mccleskey the economist and storing not there. Drew McCloskey before man right

858

01:46:46.680 --> 01:46:52.440

Evan Taylor: Well as somebody who is doing and trade trans history work right now.

859

01:46:52.980 --> 01:46:55.770

Evan Taylor: As an academic. I'm not helping you at all with that.

860

01:46:59.520 --> 01:47:08.100

Evan Taylor: What I what I'd like to say just to just to sort of wrap things up. One of the things that I like to do is look for a thread, but I can see the flows through the

861

01:47:08.370 --> 01:47:16.380

Evan Taylor: Views and the there's there's a major piece that I that I've written down for myself as we as we were talking

862

01:47:17.190 --> 01:47:23.340

Evan Taylor: And it's also very personal piece for me. So I'd like to just thank you because I think that one of the things that you've done.

863

01:47:23.730 --> 01:47:34.500

Evan Taylor: Whether you see yourself as a major activist or not. And I think that you have done an incredible job at clearing the way like just like a snowplow right you've done it just

864

01:47:34.800 --> 01:47:50.190

Evan Taylor: You clear the way for folks like me to do this work. I have never been doing a PhD and in trans work. I certainly wouldn't be doing a postdoc in it. I certainly wouldn't be interviewing folks like you if there weren't folks like you. So I just like to

865

01:47:50.280 --> 01:47:56.850

deirdre2: Thank you very much for that. No, I have the same feeling about about the other pioneers. I'm like,

866

01:47:58.710 --> 01:47:59.730

deirdre2: My friend.

867

01:48:05.430 --> 01:48:07.020

Evan Taylor: Let me know and we'll catch up the interview.

868

01:48:11.610 --> 01:48:14.580

Evan Taylor: So good. So you feel the same way about those those folks like Lynn.

869

01:48:15.990 --> 01:48:25.560

deirdre2: Absolutely, absolutely. And we should all feel that, you know, we should all be thankful for, for, for the pioneers in

870

01:48:54.450 --> 01:48:57.960

deirdre2: It's not. It was never illegal under French law.

871

01:48:59.040 --> 01:49:08.940

deirdre2: To engage in gay activities. And so it's all the pioneers of GL BT

872

01:49:29.730 --> 01:49:31.350

deirdre2: It wasn't the muscle men.

873

01:49:32.460 --> 01:49:36.180

deirdre2: Who fought the cops. It was the drag queens.

874

01:49:38.550 --> 01:49:39.450

Evan Taylor: stilettos.

875

01:49:39.720 --> 01:49:45.150

deirdre2: You guys in in stiletto heels. We're bashing away at the cops love it.

876

01:49:50.730 --> 01:49:59.760

Evan Taylor: Okay, so next steps here is I will send you a copy of the video. So if there's things that you want to cut out or you wanted to add even

877

01:50:00.000 --> 01:50:07.200

Evan Taylor: We can always do in another another interview if you want to add something or if you want to let me know the name of your friend. I can always get into the records.

878

01:50:08.100 --> 01:50:16.050

deirdre2: Well, I don't have that attitude that is I i think i believe passionately and for your press

879

01:50:17.430 --> 01:50:19.530

deirdre2: Record. So what I've said

880

01:50:21.090 --> 01:50:21.540

deirdre2: Is it

881

01:50:22.410 --> 01:50:31.200

Evan Taylor: Uniform. It was well said eloquently said, and I have to say, I've thoroughly enjoyed the last couple of hours. I feel like I was just sitting here talking to talking to a friend.

882

01:50:33.870 --> 01:50:40.200

deirdre2: You have one you have one in Chicago. Come and see me.

883

01:50:41.820 --> 01:50:42.810

Evan Taylor: Let me know if coming

884

01:50:44.250 --> 01:50:50.400

deirdre2: My heroine is Mae West, you know, Mae West

885

01:50:50.520 --> 01:50:51.510

Evan Taylor: I certainly do.

886

01:50:51.990 --> 01:50:57.180

deirdre2: come up and see me sometime. Is that a pistol in your pocket. Are you glad to see me.

887

01:50:59.820 --> 01:51:03.810

deirdre2: Remarks was come up and see me sometime

888

01:51:04.950 --> 01:51:07.230

deirdre2: A blonde bombshell she was terrific.

889

01:51:07.560 --> 01:51:10.920

Evan Taylor: Well I hope you all and I definitely won't have a pistol. I'll tell you that right now.

890

01:51:12.810 --> 01:51:13.230

deirdre2: Okay.

891

01:51:14.670 --> 01:51:14.970

deirdre2: Okay.

892

01:51:16.290 --> 01:51:16.770

deirdre2: Yep.

893

01:51:19.980 --> 01:51:20.850

deirdre2: dad used to say.

894

01:51:21.210 --> 01:51:24.060

deirdre2: Be good. If you can't be good. Be careful.

895

01:51:24.840 --> 01:51:25.650

Evan Taylor: I'll do that.

896

01:51:25.980 --> 01:51:27.300

Evan Taylor: Okay, thank you.

897

01:51:30.690 --> 01:51:31.680

deirdre2: Um, cheerio

898

01:51:32.250 --> 01:51:33.060

Evan Taylor: Bye for now.

899

01:51:34.710 --> 01:51:35.940

deirdre2: See how do we turn this off.