

FYI: Timestamps listed here are not correct, but know that all of the content from the interview is here.

11

00:01:11,146 --> 00:01:15,227

[BRIAN]: I'm really nervous to share today's episode with you because it is deeply personal

12

00:01:15,247 --> 00:01:21,388

[BRIAN]: to me. It feels incredibly vulnerable. And I am so excited, delighted, and proud to

13

00:01:21,428 --> 00:01:25,650

[BRIAN]: introduce it to this guest. Now, you might already know her. She was named by Out

14

00:01:25,690 --> 00:01:31,671

[BRIAN]: Magazine as one of the most influential LGBTQ plus people of the year. And Peppermint

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00:01:31,711 --> 00:01:36,693

[BRIAN]: gained widespread recognition like all around the world as the first Out trans

16

00:01:36,733 --> 00:01:42,203

[BRIAN]: contestant on RuPaul's Drag Race Season Nine. Now when she was with Mama Ru, she slayed

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00:01:42,223 --> 00:01:47,227

[BRIAN]: the competition and sashayed away as the unforgettable runner up in one of the series

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00:01:47,487 --> 00:01:52,790

[BRIAN]: most talked about finales.

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00:01:52,830 --> 00:01:59,535

[BRIAN]: And she made history again as the

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00:01:59,595 --> 00:02:04,566

[BRIAN]: first trans woman to originate a lead role in a Broadway musical. You may even know

21

00:02:04,586 --> 00:02:09,407

[BRIAN]: her from her recurring roles on CBS's God-Friended Me and FX's Pose or her comedy

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00:02:09,447 --> 00:02:15,109

[BRIAN]: special Peppermint Society Effects on Apple TV. And for my Angelino's listening,

23

00:02:15,749 --> 00:02:20,890

[BRIAN]: you can see Peppermint in the transparent musical at the Mark Taper Forum, which opens

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00:02:20,951 --> 00:02:28,293

[BRIAN]: on May 20th. And if you go on May 21st, I will see you there. Natalie, my podcast producer

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00:02:28,313 --> 00:02:31,886

[BRIAN]: and her husband and me and my fiance, we're going on that night. to see this show

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00:02:31,906 --> 00:02:34,787

[BRIAN]: and I think it's gonna be incredible. So I would love to see you there. So if you're

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00:02:34,807 --> 00:02:37,729

[BRIAN]: gonna be there, let me know, just slide

into my DMs and we'll look for each other on

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00:02:37,769 --> 00:02:41,471

[BRIAN]: May 21st. But no matter what, the show opens on May 20th and I think we should all

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00:02:41,491 --> 00:02:46,894

[BRIAN]: go support. Now, what you need to know is that Peppermint's impact extends way beyond

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00:02:46,914 --> 00:02:51,637

[BRIAN]: her performances. She's a board member of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

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00:02:51,717 --> 00:02:57,580

[BRIAN]: or GLAAD and the American Civil Liberties Union first ever artist ambassador for trans

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00:02:57,760 --> 00:03:02,476

[BRIAN]: justice. I feel so lucky. that we were able to have her on the podcast. And the reason

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00:03:02,496 --> 00:03:06,920

[BRIAN]: why I had her on the show today is because drag is making headlines and not in

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00:03:06,960 --> 00:03:11,384

[BRIAN]: a good way. When lawmakers are trying to stifle the creative expression of artists,

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00:03:11,444 --> 00:03:17,269

[BRIAN]: in this case, drag performers, we need to talk about it here. And I get that this

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00:03:17,309 --> 00:03:21,633

[BRIAN]: episode may seem a little hard hitting for a show that sings about candlestick makers

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00:03:21,653 --> 00:03:26,790

[BRIAN]: and the opening jingle, but the promise of this show, the why behind it all, is that

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00:03:26,950 --> 00:03:32,252

[BRIAN]: we believe creatives can change the world. And we don't talk about this a lot,

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00:03:32,312 --> 00:03:37,174

[BRIAN]: but hey, I am a queer man living in the United States of America. And this matters

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00:03:37,194 --> 00:03:43,117

[BRIAN]: to me on a deeply personal level. I think about when I was growing up in Ohio in

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00:03:43,157 --> 00:03:48,779

[BRIAN]: the 90s, and when I would catch a glimpse of a drag queen on television, it's the only

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00:03:48,799 --> 00:03:52,141

[BRIAN]: place I can think I've ever imagined, I think this is before YouTube, right? Drag

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00:03:52,181 --> 00:03:57,391

[BRIAN]: queens were the most open. radical expression of gay culture that I could see.

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00:03:58,091 --> 00:04:04,014

[BRIAN]: I remember I had the cassette single of RuPaul's You Better Work, and drag queens

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00:04:04,034 --> 00:04:10,216

[BRIAN]: were funny and silly and wild and honest and not afraid to be themselves and beautiful,

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00:04:10,276 --> 00:04:16,999

[BRIAN]: and they didn't groom me into anything. I was born gay, and they gave me the sense

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00:04:17,019 --> 00:04:22,341

[BRIAN]: that there is such a thing as gay joy outside of the closet. It does get better.

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00:04:24,630 --> 00:04:30,072

[BRIAN]: This episode is deeply important to me. And we're gonna talk about, of course,

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00:04:30,152 --> 00:04:34,014

[BRIAN]: this discriminatory legislation that is rearing its ugly head right now, as well

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00:04:34,054 --> 00:04:38,075

[BRIAN]: as the intersectional conversation around body autonomy, women's reproductive

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00:04:38,115 --> 00:04:42,617

[BRIAN]: rights, same-sex marriage, and gender-affirming care. So you've been warned, we're gonna go

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00:04:42,657 --> 00:04:49,600

[BRIAN]: there in this conversation. I am so grateful to Peppermint for joining us. So get

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00:04:49,640 --> 00:04:52,381

[BRIAN]: ready to sashay and slay. Let's do this.

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00:00:00,830 --> 00:00:03,852

[BRIAN]: So Peppermint, thank you so much. Welcome to the show. I'm really glad that you are here.

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00:00:04,573 --> 00:00:07,235

[BRIAN]: And I didn't share this with you before we got on today, but I lived in New York City

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00:00:07,255 --> 00:00:11,618

[BRIAN]: for a decade and I knew about you then. And I had seen you perform then. And then,

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00:00:12,539 --> 00:00:14,821

[BRIAN]: you know, I don't wanna spend much time on RuPaul's Drag Race, but then I was

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00:00:14,841 --> 00:00:18,224

[BRIAN]: like, oh my God, I get to see you again because I've moved across the country. So

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00:00:18,033 --> 00:00:18,414

[Pepper]: I'm sorry.

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00:00:18,424 --> 00:00:22,027

[BRIAN]: I'm really delighted to have you here today. I feel like I'm

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00:00:22,190 --> 00:00:22,546

[Pepper]: Thanks for watching!

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00:00:22,247 --> 00:00:26,510

[BRIAN]: a New Yorker all the way through even though I live in LA now. So I want to get into

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00:00:26,530 --> 00:00:30,792

[BRIAN]: this conversation. This podcast talks to people who create work, who put artwork

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00:00:30,852 --> 00:00:36,094

[BRIAN]: out into the world, and we're seeing litigation against an art form and a people.

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00:00:36,715 --> 00:00:42,337

[BRIAN]: And I want to start for our listeners, can you, in your own words, define what drag

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00:00:42,397 --> 00:00:42,477

[BRIAN]: is?

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00:00:44,874 --> 00:00:51,659

[Pepper]: Yeah, I do think that a lot of people define drag as sort of the most popular definition,

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00:00:51,719 --> 00:00:58,645

[Pepper]: which is in their mind, a man who dresses in women's clothing. Period. I think

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00:00:58,665 --> 00:01:06,291

[Pepper]: that's what most people just think. Drag is an art form. It's not necessarily an

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00:01:06,471 --> 00:01:13,417

[Pepper]: identity. It's really, it can be a career. It can be a form of, obviously a form

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00:01:13,457 --> 00:01:22,044

[Pepper]: of entertainment. Um, but I define drag as an art form that requires someone to

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00:01:22,124 --> 00:01:30,211

[Pepper]: dress in a clothing for the sake of a gendered, a heightened gendered performance.

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00:01:30,872 --> 00:01:36,256

[Pepper]: And so what I mean by that is like, you know, you can wear anything, uh, but you

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00:01:36,276 --> 00:01:40,620

[Pepper]: know, wearing a dress, you're not necessarily just going to wear like something

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00:01:40,660 --> 00:01:44,663

[Pepper]: that looks plain. You'll do something. that's a little over the top or something that's

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00:01:44,683 --> 00:01:51,029

[Pepper]: a little louder or a little more sparkly, which is often the case, but it doesn't have

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00:01:51,049 --> 00:01:57,954

[Pepper]: to be. And then, you know, obviously there's drag kings and it's less about, in

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00:01:57,994 --> 00:02:01,878

[Pepper]: my mind, it's less about the clothing

and more about what you're doing in that clothing.

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00:02:03,539 --> 00:02:09,624

[Pepper]: And drag is, I think one of the things that makes drag so universally understood is

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00:02:09,664 --> 00:02:16,241

[Pepper]: because it does deal so... closely with gender and sex, sometimes sexuality. And

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00:02:16,321 --> 00:02:22,565

[Pepper]: so those are things that everyone has some type of a relationship to, and we

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00:02:22,605 --> 00:02:26,989

[Pepper]: all learn how to understand those notions from childhood. And so when you see,

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00:02:27,269 --> 00:02:36,155

[Pepper]: you know, a person who works in an art form or creates this sort of art that deals

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00:02:36,195 --> 00:02:43,346

[Pepper]: with the sort of currency of gender. as a main aspect, everyone has an opinion about

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00:02:43,406 --> 00:02:43,506

[Pepper]: it.

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00:02:43,902 --> 00:02:44,112

[BRIAN]: Hmm.

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00:02:45,150 --> 00:02:48,458

[Pepper]: And that's both a curse and a blessing,
I think.

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00:02:49,830 --> 00:02:54,298

[BRIAN]: Yeah, for sure. We're like bought in
on the conversation is what I'm hearing you

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00:02:54,338 --> 00:02:57,023

[BRIAN]: say regardless of, and you said curse
and blessing. So that's

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00:02:57,010 --> 00:02:57,330

[Pepper]: Yeah,

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00:02:57,063 --> 00:02:57,484

[BRIAN]: almost like the

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00:02:57,490 --> 00:02:57,650

[Pepper]: even

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00:02:57,564 --> 00:02:58,525

[BRIAN]: art form is, yeah.

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00:03:00,452 --> 00:03:04,576

[Pepper]: if you've never even seen a drag show,
I think the first time someone will see a drag

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00:03:05,096 --> 00:03:09,039

[Pepper]: entertainer, it's not going to take
them long to understand what's going on here.

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00:03:09,499 --> 00:03:13,182

[Pepper]: And then they're going to understand

what the person is doing and then they're probably

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00:03:13,202 --> 00:03:17,586

[Pepper]: going to have a strong reaction or feeling to it one way or the other, either

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00:03:17,646 --> 00:03:20,768

[Pepper]: like elation or sometimes fear

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00:03:20,862 --> 00:03:21,122

[BRIAN]: Right.

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00:03:20,888 --> 00:03:21,609

[Pepper]: or whatever.

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00:03:22,745 --> 00:03:27,093

[BRIAN]: Yeah, well, let's get to that for a second. What is the beef that these people

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00:03:27,113 --> 00:03:31,581

[BRIAN]: in Tennessee in this law are trying to bring against this or that they're seeing?

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00:03:33,718 --> 00:03:41,601

[Pepper]: Well, I do think that, you know, this is a distraction technique for a tactic for

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00:03:42,982 --> 00:03:49,384

[Pepper]: that serves many purposes. The first purpose is to get folks riled up and say, see,

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00:03:49,424 --> 00:03:56,107

[Pepper]: we're doing something. And you know,

suddenly they're passing laws and writing bills

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00:03:56,147 --> 00:04:02,066

[Pepper]: and things like that. But none of them are really addressing what's... what people,

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00:04:02,406 --> 00:04:08,790

[Pepper]: what even they say people are concerned about at the kitchen table. Drag queens are

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00:04:08,830 --> 00:04:14,854

[Pepper]: not a kitchen table concern in this country. But you would think that they were

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00:04:15,354 --> 00:04:21,498

[Pepper]: with all of the hype and all the conversation and all of the energy that's put into creating

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00:04:21,538 --> 00:04:27,862

[Pepper]: these bills and laws that are aiming to stop drag entertainment in some way. And

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00:04:28,002 --> 00:04:34,406

[Pepper]: I think the sad thing about that is Tennessee is the most famous of the many of

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00:04:34,466 --> 00:04:41,850

[Pepper]: the dozens of anti-drag laws and bills that have either been passed or proposed. And

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00:04:42,871 --> 00:04:48,054

[Pepper]: these bills attack the art form of, I believe, attack the art form of drag through

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00:04:48,154 --> 00:04:55,634

[Pepper]: either limiting the entertainer, criminalizing the actual individual, or even the... the venue

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00:04:55,654 --> 00:04:59,735

[Pepper]: that they're performing at, the person that hired them, obviously cutting off their

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00:04:59,835 --> 00:05:07,517

[Pepper]: access to revenue and money by way of either fining them, the businesses, or revoking

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00:05:07,557 --> 00:05:11,458

[Pepper]: their licenses, their liquor licenses, which is obviously how, if you have a liquor

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00:05:11,478 --> 00:05:18,260

[Pepper]: license, that's your main way of making the money. And so that's what these bills aim

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00:05:18,300 --> 00:05:25,238

[Pepper]: to do. But the other distraction, I think, which is also, the other

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00:05:25,278 --> 00:05:31,860

[Pepper]: thing that I think they're using these bills to distract from is their continued effort

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00:05:31,900 --> 00:05:39,844

[Pepper]: to dismantle access to bodily autonomy with, by way of, you know, cutting off access

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00:05:39,904 --> 00:05:44,766

[Pepper]: to not only gender affirming care for transgender people, but also reproductive

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00:05:44,806 --> 00:05:50,408

[Pepper]: healthcare and reproductive rights, abortion. And, you know, we probably, you know,

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00:05:50,468 --> 00:05:55,938

[Pepper]: around the kitchen table, quote, kitchen table to keep that going, are probably thinking

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00:05:55,958 --> 00:06:01,101

[Pepper]: that Roe v. Wade and abortion access was something sadly that was dealt with over

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00:06:01,141 --> 00:06:05,923

[Pepper]: the last summer and that was that. But the truth is they're still passing laws

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00:06:06,323 --> 00:06:16,628

[Pepper]: to dismantle and block access to different aspects of abortion care, whether it's access

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00:06:16,668 --> 00:06:23,684

[Pepper]: to medication that can chemically... uh, aid someone in their, in their, uh, termination

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00:06:23,704 --> 00:06:28,368

[Pepper]: of a pregnancy or a whole myriad of things. That's not my specialty, but I know

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00:06:28,408 --> 00:06:29,769

[Pepper]: that they're continuing to do that work.

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00:06:30,164 --> 00:06:30,353

[BRIAN]: Yeah.

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00:06:30,209 --> 00:06:33,652

[Pepper]: Unfortunately, those things aren't getting the headlines. But the, the thing that's

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00:06:33,672 --> 00:06:37,375

[Pepper]: really interesting to me is that the same people who are the architects behind this

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00:06:37,495 --> 00:06:41,679

[Pepper]: anti-drag bill are the same people who are writing anti-trans legislation and

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00:06:41,719 --> 00:06:46,543

[Pepper]: the same exact people who are writing the, uh, blocking abortion access bills and

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00:06:46,563 --> 00:06:51,094

[Pepper]: legislation are the same people, the same actual individuals. who are the architects

84

00:06:51,114 --> 00:07:01,560

[Pepper]: behind sort of dishonestly framing the accurate accounts of black folks and our

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00:07:01,600 --> 00:07:06,142

[Pepper]: connection to black people in our history of America and framing it as something

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00:07:06,162 --> 00:07:11,845

[Pepper]: called critical race theory, which is not being taught in second grade, third

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00:07:11,886 --> 00:07:15,127

[Pepper]: grade, but they're suddenly saying that it is, which allows them to go in and

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00:07:15,167 --> 00:07:20,759

[Pepper]: say, you know what, get rid of all conversations about black folks. and all conversations

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00:07:20,779 --> 00:07:26,182

[Pepper]: about anyone who's gender expansive, trans, gay, any of that, let's just get it

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00:07:26,222 --> 00:07:30,445

[Pepper]: all out. And so I don't think that will be that successful because people are

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00:07:30,485 --> 00:07:33,627

[Pepper]: born black, people are born queer. I believe

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00:07:33,439 --> 00:07:33,748

[BRIAN]: Mm-hmm.

93

00:07:33,647 --> 00:07:38,751

[Pepper]: that people are born queer and even trans, even though many people have a coming

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00:07:38,851 --> 00:07:44,215

[Pepper]: out journey for themselves, that has less to do with the fact that they weren't

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00:07:44,375 --> 00:07:49,458

[Pepper]: actually queer, but obviously more to do with the fact that they were born into

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00:07:49,478 --> 00:07:53,961

[Pepper]: a world that tells them instantly that that is wrong. I think we learn how to,

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00:07:54,922 --> 00:08:01,406

[Pepper]: once we learn our ego or our understanding of who we are, then the next thing we learn

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00:08:01,446 --> 00:08:06,009

[Pepper]: is how we connect that to everyone else. And it's very, very quickly that we learn

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00:08:08,290 --> 00:08:13,974

[Pepper]: our gender identity and how we identify our sexuality, those different things. we learn

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00:08:13,994 --> 00:08:17,937

[Pepper]: that they're wrong from our atmosphere, from the people around us, even from our families

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00:08:17,977 --> 00:08:23,062

[Pepper]: and obviously from film and television historically, obviously times are starting

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00:08:23,102 --> 00:08:30,728

[Pepper]: to change. And so I think the downside to this distraction is that these terrible

103

00:08:30,748 --> 00:08:34,672

[Pepper]: things can continue to happen sort of in the dark of night or under the cover

104

00:08:34,792 --> 00:08:40,997

[Pepper]: of, you know, protecting children from drag, you know, which obviously a child

105

00:08:41,057 --> 00:08:45,552

[Pepper]: seeing a drag, queen or drag entertainer is not going to make them gay. But that's the

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00:08:45,612 --> 00:08:50,435

[Pepper]: implication. That's what they're implying, is that this is, you're, quote, grooming our

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00:08:50,475 --> 00:08:54,058

[Pepper]: children, you're going to turn them trans, turn them gay. They were born that way,

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00:08:54,298 --> 00:08:59,041

[Pepper]: I believe. But the other more insidious thing is that it allows them to sort of lump

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00:08:59,121 --> 00:09:03,844

[Pepper]: and group drag entertainers and trans individuals as one group, this sort of what

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00:09:03,864 --> 00:09:08,107

[Pepper]: they're calling gender ideology. And then again, just like they did with anything

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00:09:08,127 --> 00:09:12,771

[Pepper]: having to do with black history, getting rid of all of it. And I do believe it's a very

112

00:09:14,072 --> 00:09:19,637

[Pepper]: sort of, I won't even say knee-jerk.
It feels like it's a response to a lot of the

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00:09:19,697 --> 00:09:22,239

[Pepper]: conversations in progress that we
were happening over 2020

114

00:09:22,838 --> 00:09:23,207

[BRIAN]: Mm-hmm.

115

00:09:23,160 --> 00:09:23,340

[Pepper]: during

116

00:09:23,227 --> 00:09:23,473

[BRIAN]: Mm-hmm.

117

00:09:23,380 --> 00:09:27,824

[Pepper]: the pandemic. But when we look a little
deeper, we realize it's the same exact playbook

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00:09:27,844 --> 00:09:32,909

[Pepper]: that was used in the 50s and the 60s
over and over and over again.

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00:09:34,236 --> 00:09:34,462

[BRIAN]: Yeah.

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00:09:34,250 --> 00:09:37,773

[Pepper]: And so I know that was a long answer,
but that's what I have to say about it.

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00:09:39,235 --> 00:09:42,080

[BRIAN]: You know, it's interesting as you shared this and first I thank you for saving that

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00:09:42,100 --> 00:09:44,806

[BRIAN]: perspective because I have these questions I was going to ask you and what came up for

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00:09:44,826 --> 00:09:49,214

[BRIAN]: me is screw the questions for a second because how does peppermint not walk around

124

00:09:49,474 --> 00:09:51,037

[BRIAN]: angry and fearful all day?

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00:09:53,462 --> 00:09:57,843

[Pepper]: Well, I mean, these things definitely are anger inducing, and they are definitely

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00:09:58,984 --> 00:10:05,586

[Pepper]: scary to, you know, I can't imagine that anyone would like want to have their politicians,

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00:10:05,606 --> 00:10:11,029

[Pepper]: that they are their elected officials that are supposed to represent them, voting

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00:10:11,109 --> 00:10:15,110

[Pepper]: to cut off access to things like their healthcare, if they're transgender or things

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00:10:15,130 --> 00:10:18,932

[Pepper]: like their healthcare, if they're

a person who can give birth and get pregnant.

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00:10:20,032 --> 00:10:23,898

[Pepper]: These aren't things that people want or even they don't want. to be told whether

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00:10:23,918 --> 00:10:27,922

[Pepper]: or not they can go to a drag performance. That's not what people want. I don't think

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00:10:27,962 --> 00:10:32,906

[Pepper]: anyone wants that. And so it could certainly be understandable that, this is,

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00:10:34,507 --> 00:10:40,192

[Pepper]: can inspire a reaction. And oftentimes I think understandably so, an emotional reaction.

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00:10:40,753 --> 00:10:49,310

[Pepper]: And, so yes, it is difficult for me to, it can. I have personal feelings about

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00:10:49,350 --> 00:10:53,532

[Pepper]: these things, obviously, and there is some emotion into them. But for two reasons,

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00:10:53,612 --> 00:10:58,954

[Pepper]: I really try my best to operate in a place. Try, don't always succeed, to operate

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00:10:58,994 --> 00:11:09,119

[Pepper]: from sort of a place of calm is that I do believe that for many people who are sort

138

00:11:09,139 --> 00:11:12,100

[Pepper]: of in the middle of this conversation,
I don't mean at the center of the conversation,

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00:11:12,140 --> 00:11:15,341

[Pepper]: but who are on the fence with a lot
of these issues and I'll,

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00:11:14,864 --> 00:11:15,007

[BRIAN]: Mm-hmm.

141

00:11:15,361 --> 00:11:20,557

[Pepper]: you know. don't necessarily have a
lot of experience or haven't yet formed a strong

142

00:11:20,577 --> 00:11:26,042

[Pepper]: opinion, or maybe they have. But people
who are open to hearing different sides of

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00:11:26,202 --> 00:11:31,686

[Pepper]: the conversation, I think that is
an important thing to do is to allow them to

144

00:11:31,726 --> 00:11:38,031

[Pepper]: get to know drag entertainers and
queer people, trans people, whoever, in a non-threatening

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00:11:38,091 --> 00:11:44,577

[Pepper]: way. And while being emotional about
these things is very natural and I think warranted,

146

00:11:46,194 --> 00:11:51,618

[Pepper]: you know, it may make it harder for

people to connect with us if we are favoring

147

00:11:51,919 --> 00:11:56,443

[Pepper]: our emotional feelings over what we're actually talking about. And sometimes those

148

00:11:56,463 --> 00:12:01,327

[Pepper]: things are absolutely identical. Me being infuriated about losing access to healthcare

149

00:12:01,727 --> 00:12:03,269

[Pepper]: is something to get angry about.

150

00:12:03,635 --> 00:12:03,798

[BRIAN]: Hmm.

151

00:12:03,729 --> 00:12:06,331

[Pepper]: And if people can see that, I think that is an emotional connection that could

152

00:12:06,371 --> 00:12:11,736

[Pepper]: benefit. But I do know that folks in this day and age, we're very tribal, people

153

00:12:11,756 --> 00:12:16,275

[Pepper]: are less likely to listen. to like, if you're telling, if you're yelling at somebody

154

00:12:16,335 --> 00:12:20,936

[Pepper]: and telling them, there's a fire, you blankety blank, you better walk out that

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00:12:20,976 --> 00:12:26,619

[Pepper]: door to save your damn life, they're not gonna go, you know? And so we just have

156

00:12:26,639 --> 00:12:34,122

[Pepper]: to calm it down a little bit. But I also am encouraged because our communities

157

00:12:34,222 --> 00:12:41,705

[Pepper]: have, I am, I stand at the intersection of some ancestry that has prepared me to fight

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00:12:41,805 --> 00:12:48,121

[Pepper]: and also win this war. Obviously being queer and being black, you know, this is not

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00:12:48,201 --> 00:12:55,105

[Pepper]: new to my lineage, I guess. I'm encouraged by that.

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00:12:56,274 --> 00:12:59,255

[BRIAN]: That's incredibly gracious of you and it's also incredibly gracious of you to share

161

00:12:59,275 --> 00:13:05,319

[BRIAN]: that so articulately here today. When you are thinking about your work, because at

162

00:13:05,339 --> 00:13:09,322

[BRIAN]: the end of the day, the drag piece of this is art form, is work is putting work

163

00:13:09,362 --> 00:13:14,124

[BRIAN]: into the world. Has this changed what you put on the stage right now? Has it changed

164

00:13:14,144 --> 00:13:15,745

[BRIAN]: the conversation you're having with your audience?

165

00:13:18,826 --> 00:13:27,632

[Pepper]: Yes and no. I think, you know... Again, going back to 2020, I really do feel like that

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00:13:27,672 --> 00:13:32,055

[Pepper]: was a sort of benchmark. And we'll look back for many reasons, obviously. We'll

167

00:13:32,075 --> 00:13:37,320

[Pepper]: look back through human history and 2020 will be one of those rings on the proverbial

168

00:13:37,360 --> 00:13:38,200

[Pepper]: like tree,

169

00:13:38,442 --> 00:13:38,688

[BRIAN]: Yeah.

170

00:13:38,681 --> 00:13:39,081

[Pepper]: you know,

171

00:13:39,160 --> 00:13:39,324

[BRIAN]: Yeah.

172

00:13:41,203 --> 00:13:46,267

[Pepper]: for many, for many reasons. But definitely because we were having more nuanced conversations

173

00:13:46,307 --> 00:13:53,353

[Pepper]: about race, about gender, sexuality and society. And one, you know, I think people

174

00:13:53,553 --> 00:14:02,167

[Pepper]: are. in sort of since that time, people have felt more empowered and emboldened to

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00:14:02,387 --> 00:14:08,071

[Pepper]: self advocate when talking about those issues. And then also, I think people who are

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00:14:08,551 --> 00:14:13,194

[Pepper]: typically the gatekeepers in certain spaces, whether it's industries, professions

177

00:14:13,235 --> 00:14:17,257

[Pepper]: or whatever, who weren't having those conversations before are probably feeling more

178

00:14:17,297 --> 00:14:24,530

[Pepper]: obliged to have those conversations. And more willing to for whether they were forced

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00:14:24,630 --> 00:14:31,973

[Pepper]: to or decide they would like to, listen more than they would have to people of marginalized

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00:14:31,993 --> 00:14:37,936

[Pepper]: communities. I think in the past, the sort of practice, at least from my opinion

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00:14:39,236 --> 00:14:42,138

[Pepper]: and my perspective, was that they would take these stories because they know

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00:14:42,158 --> 00:14:45,899

[Pepper]: that these are interesting stories, stories about people who are disabled, stories

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00:14:45,919 --> 00:14:49,541

[Pepper]: about people who are queer or drag entertainers or what have you. And then...

184

00:14:51,342 --> 00:14:54,604

[Pepper]: creating those stories and selling them to make money off of them, but not having

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00:14:54,704 --> 00:14:56,005

[Pepper]: us participate in the telling of

186

00:14:55,998 --> 00:14:56,200

[BRIAN]: Right.

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00:14:56,025 --> 00:14:56,565

[Pepper]: those stories.

188

00:14:56,603 --> 00:14:56,765

[BRIAN]: Right.

189

00:14:56,986 --> 00:15:03,370

[Pepper]: And so I think especially in entertainment, the creators are more apt to listen now because

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00:15:03,390 --> 00:15:07,133

[Pepper]: they know that there's going to be

some, they're going to be held to a certain

191

00:15:07,153 --> 00:15:15,760

[Pepper]: level of accountability. And so, you know, that is, that means that people like

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00:15:15,800 --> 00:15:21,584

[Pepper]: me are able to more easily tell our accurate stories and our authentic stories

193

00:15:22,044 --> 00:15:30,450

[Pepper]: that can align with our identities. But I come from sort of the class of drag entertainers

194

00:15:31,511 --> 00:15:36,734

[Pepper]: from the 90s where we were just coming off of the queer community, just coming off

195

00:15:36,974 --> 00:15:43,039

[Pepper]: of the terrible AIDS epidemic and a lot of anti-gay sentiment, gays in the military,

196

00:15:43,059 --> 00:15:48,098

[Pepper]: gay marriage, which even though it was passed in the 2000s. it was a conversation

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00:15:48,118 --> 00:15:55,722

[Pepper]: that was going on and heightened probably since 1992. And so being a drag entertainer

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00:15:56,283 --> 00:16:01,766

[Pepper]: from the 90s, this was what we were talking about. And it wasn't uncommon to see,

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00:16:01,966 --> 00:16:06,749

[Pepper]: you know, I had just sort of come into the class of people who were still connected

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00:16:06,789 --> 00:16:13,152

[Pepper]: to folks from ACT UP and, you know, political activism as a part of our community,

201

00:16:13,333 --> 00:16:17,563

[Pepper]: in-person political activism. was still a thing that was happening obviously

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00:16:17,583 --> 00:16:22,725

[Pepper]: in the 90s. And so many of the drag entertainers, especially in New York, were

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00:16:22,846 --> 00:16:27,168

[Pepper]: sort of, you know, including that in their in their drag performance, in their

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00:16:27,188 --> 00:16:34,132

[Pepper]: shows. And so I did that. I learned that, you know, coming from the drag and trans

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00:16:35,012 --> 00:16:40,567

[Pepper]: individuals who were at Stonewall, And not only at Stonewall, but at the Black

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00:16:40,607 --> 00:16:46,150

[Pepper]: Cat Tavern, and also just all over the country, simultaneously throughout the

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00:16:46,190 --> 00:16:49,932

[Pepper]: 60s, that sort of sentiment carried throughout the 70s, 80s, and 90s. I know this

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00:16:49,972 --> 00:16:53,814

[Pepper]: is like some weird history that people are like, what? Um,

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00:16:52,970 --> 00:16:54,076

[BRIAN]: They're leaning in, I promise

210

00:16:53,914 --> 00:16:54,375

[Pepper]: but,

211

00:16:54,096 --> 00:16:56,269

[BRIAN]: you, this audience is leaning in. Keep going, yes.

212

00:16:57,757 --> 00:17:02,999

[Pepper]: but so I, that was already ingrained in me. I think I'm one of, I'm not one of the

213

00:17:03,019 --> 00:17:09,867

[Pepper]: last, but I'm from one of the last classes. graduating classes of drag and art

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00:17:09,907 --> 00:17:14,730

[Pepper]: as activism. Not that it doesn't exist today, it certainly does. And I think with

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00:17:14,750 --> 00:17:19,393

[Pepper]: this new wave of anti-LGBTQ legislation and anti-drag policy, we're certainly seeing

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00:17:19,433 --> 00:17:25,196

[Pepper]: more folks speak up and speak out.
But probably about five or 10 years ago, I

217

00:17:25,236 --> 00:17:30,279

[Pepper]: felt like an outlier in my shows because
it was very common. If you were coming to my

218

00:17:30,299 --> 00:17:35,202

[Pepper]: show on a random night, you were probably
also going to get a lecture about AIDS and

219

00:17:35,322 --> 00:17:39,345

[Pepper]: HIV education and prevention, or we
were going to do a testing drive, like everyone's

220

00:17:39,365 --> 00:17:44,389

[Pepper]: getting tested. You know, that was
just what I did at my shows, for instance.

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00:17:44,409 --> 00:17:48,313

[Pepper]: And then I would also, you know, march,
I marched across several times the Brooklyn

222

00:17:48,353 --> 00:17:54,177

[Pepper]: Bridge to highlight marriage equality
into when we were, you know, having these conversations

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00:17:54,217 --> 00:18:01,403

[Pepper]: about marriage for, for folks in the
queer community. And so, and so that was just

224

00:18:01,463 --> 00:18:08,117

[Pepper]: has always been an ingredient. And

I'm grateful because I feel like I really hold

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00:18:08,197 --> 00:18:12,942

[Pepper]: on to the two spaces really well,
both what people call activism, although I

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00:18:12,982 --> 00:18:18,267

[Pepper]: don't consider myself an activist.
I'm just a person who speaks and uses my platform

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00:18:18,808 --> 00:18:22,432

[Pepper]: authentically. And then also the world
of entertainment, obviously. And so I like

228

00:18:22,452 --> 00:18:26,636

[Pepper]: to keep those things close. And I've
just had more opportunities to do that now

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00:18:26,676 --> 00:18:27,897

[Pepper]: than I have in the past.

230

00:18:29,398 --> 00:18:33,519

[BRIAN]: Wow. There's something that you just
said now, and I know, I'm just gonna talk a

231

00:18:33,539 --> 00:18:37,200

[BRIAN]: little bit about some of your bio,
which is, I know ACLU is the first ever artist

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00:18:37,240 --> 00:18:40,841

[BRIAN]: ambassador for trans justice and a
GLAD board member. So you've had a front row

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00:18:40,861 --> 00:18:44,442

[BRIAN]: seat for activism, even though as you described, this is not how I described it,

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00:18:44,682 --> 00:18:50,044

[BRIAN]: that's me being me, that's me doing my art, and that is how my art exists. As I'm

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00:18:50,064 --> 00:18:53,225

[BRIAN]: thinking about those two things, both being on the front lines in both of those places,

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00:18:53,385 --> 00:18:54,845

[BRIAN]: what do you see going really well?

237

00:18:59,554 --> 00:19:04,237

[Pepper]: You know, I would like to think that despite all of what feels like a huge rash

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00:19:04,537 --> 00:19:08,379

[Pepper]: of anti-LGBTQ legislation and policy and also sentiment,

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00:19:11,502 --> 00:19:17,726

[Pepper]: you know, it's not just the legislation actually, it is also major outlets like the

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00:19:17,766 --> 00:19:24,811

[Pepper]: New York Times, you know, constantly highlighting, uplifting stories about detransitioning

241

00:19:24,871 --> 00:19:29,870

[Pepper]: and how drag is harmful or that one drag entertainer that hurts somebody and you

242

00:19:29,890 --> 00:19:35,452

[Pepper]: know, whatever, instead of, which is the exception, I believe, rather than the

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00:19:35,492 --> 00:19:40,914

[Pepper]: rule, I do think that it clearly does have an effect and has an impact. I believe

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00:19:40,934 --> 00:19:44,536

[Pepper]: a negative impact on the community, but it also has an impact on people who never

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00:19:44,596 --> 00:19:47,857

[Pepper]: really, it never really occurred to them to think or talk about these things. And

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00:19:47,917 --> 00:19:51,939

[Pepper]: so, like I said earlier, these are people who are impressionable and their opinions

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00:19:51,979 --> 00:19:54,520

[Pepper]: are being swayed. And so it's really

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00:20:00,166 --> 00:20:06,147

[Pepper]: It, it, technology and social media are a really huge way of how we communicate,

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00:20:06,247 --> 00:20:12,949

[Pepper]: like right now, obviously. And, and so, but I can't tell, distinguish sometimes

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00:20:13,009 --> 00:20:18,811

[Pepper]: between an, a person who's just ignorant and abot, um, online and for social media,

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00:20:18,831 --> 00:20:21,852

[Pepper]: for instance. So it's really difficult to know where to sort of spend your energy.

252

00:20:22,352 --> 00:20:27,571

[Pepper]: And that is discouraging. But that aside, even though we see this. wave and rash

253

00:20:27,791 --> 00:20:32,855

[Pepper]: of anti-LGBT bills and policies. And we see all these groups of people online saying,

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00:20:32,955 --> 00:20:37,298

[Pepper]: we hate drag or whatever they're saying, which I don't know who these people are. Again,

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00:20:37,419 --> 00:20:42,323

[Pepper]: are they bots? I don't know. We're seeing all this stuff. I would like to think,

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00:20:42,423 --> 00:20:48,528

[Pepper]: I try to give humanity the benefit of the doubt. And I would like to think that

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00:20:48,748 --> 00:20:54,753

[Pepper]: most people are well-meaning and genuine, and really don't want to see the worst just

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00:20:54,953 --> 00:20:56,278

[Pepper]: happen. to

259

00:20:56,406 --> 00:20:56,509

[BRIAN]: Hmm.

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00:20:56,538 --> 00:21:00,882

[Pepper]: other human beings. And I also believe that those people

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00:21:04,665 --> 00:21:10,310

[Pepper]: will easily be able to connect to our humanity when given the opportunity. That

262

00:21:10,370 --> 00:21:17,877

[Pepper]: being said, now is certainly an important moment in time. I do think that if we didn't

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00:21:17,917 --> 00:21:22,831

[Pepper]: have... technology the way that we have now, which is obviously unavoidable, I

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00:21:22,871 --> 00:21:25,613

[Pepper]: do think that there would be more people taking to the streets. I think that

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00:21:26,013 --> 00:21:33,097

[Pepper]: I would like to think that the anti-everything sentiment that's happening these days, that's

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00:21:33,137 --> 00:21:38,500

[Pepper]: connected both legislatively and then also socially, I would imagine would feel similar

267

00:21:38,540 --> 00:21:41,721

[Pepper]: to what I might have been experiencing

in the 60s during the civil rights struggle,

268

00:21:42,342 --> 00:21:46,564

[Pepper]: seeing negative headlines, hearing these politicians passing these discriminatory

269

00:21:46,604 --> 00:21:51,235

[Pepper]: laws and policies, and then they took to the streets. And so that is, I think that

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00:21:51,295 --> 00:21:55,218

[Pepper]: time would be now, but we're doing it in a little bit of a different way. And

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00:21:55,278 --> 00:22:02,704

[Pepper]: so being able to connect with GLAD and the ACLU, as you mentioned, are both an

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00:22:02,784 --> 00:22:10,110

[Pepper]: honor and a privilege. And they do give me a bit of a firsthand view on what's

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00:22:10,151 --> 00:22:15,015

[Pepper]: happening sort of organizationally. We're seeing these organizations in the country

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00:22:17,256 --> 00:22:23,632

[Pepper]: mobilize and... even begin to align with each other, which for many different reasons,

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00:22:23,732 --> 00:22:28,535

[Pepper]: a lot of these organizations have stayed in their own corners and focused on

276

00:22:28,575 --> 00:22:33,798

[Pepper]: what they could do and hopefully all together had a positive impact. But I think

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00:22:33,898 --> 00:22:41,823

[Pepper]: now we're starting to see more partnerships coming into play. I would love to see a GLAD

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00:22:41,923 --> 00:22:44,745

[Pepper]: ACLU, like very intentional partnership.

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00:22:45,319 --> 00:22:45,361

[BRIAN]: Mm.

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00:22:46,230 --> 00:22:51,172

[Pepper]: because I do think, because we're seeing entertainment and activism and then

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00:22:51,292 --> 00:22:58,396

[Pepper]: also like all of this legislation, whether it's anti-drag, anti-trans, anti-abortion,

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00:22:59,737 --> 00:23:02,999

[Pepper]: we're seeing all these things creep into comedy specials, TV shows,

283

00:23:03,222 --> 00:23:03,495

[BRIAN]: Mm-hmm.

284

00:23:04,220 --> 00:23:08,542

[Pepper]: obviously podcasts, the world of entertainment has already accepted that we're gonna be talking

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00:23:08,582 --> 00:23:12,004

[Pepper]: about these things, if not writing them into our scripted material. And so I do

286

00:23:12,024 --> 00:23:18,028

[Pepper]: think it's important that the organizations that are, that center fighting back and center

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00:23:18,088 --> 00:23:22,292

[Pepper]: our communities who are marginalized by these discriminatory policies, I think it's

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00:23:22,312 --> 00:23:28,897

[Pepper]: important that they sort of integrate as well. And so that's my wish. But yeah, I

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00:23:28,957 --> 00:23:31,959

[Pepper]: do think that there's some wonderful things happening. And one of the things that

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00:23:31,999 --> 00:23:34,561

[Pepper]: I'm really encouraged by is that

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00:23:37,932 --> 00:23:43,946

[Pepper]: we are learning how to evolve and become more nimble, you know, in our fight.

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00:23:44,427 --> 00:23:45,549

[Pepper]: And that's what I'm encouraged by.

301

00:23:58,459 --> 00:24:04,021

[BRIAN]: Okay, so if you, so people

302

00:24:04,061 --> 00:24:07,082

[BRIAN]: listening are gonna be like, okay,
how can I get involved as someone who's involved

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00:24:07,102 --> 00:24:09,643

[BRIAN]: in organizations? Is there a place
you would love to say, hey, here's a great

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00:24:09,703 --> 00:24:12,305

[BRIAN]: starting place? Or if you're already
involved, here's a great, like where would

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00:24:12,345 --> 00:24:16,779

[BRIAN]: you want people to like mobilize? if
you had the opportunity with the mic you have

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00:24:16,799 --> 00:24:17,501

[BRIAN]: in front of you right now.

307

00:24:18,902 --> 00:24:23,743

[Pepper]: Well, it's difficult to say one thing
because people are entering at different points

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00:24:23,763 --> 00:24:28,304

[Pepper]: of education and also ability. Some
people can give money and don't have time.

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00:24:28,344 --> 00:24:31,545

[Pepper]: Some people have time and can't give
money. And so one of the things that I think

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00:24:31,585 --> 00:24:36,386

[Pepper]: would be really important for people

to do after listening to this podcast, obviously,

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00:24:36,886 --> 00:24:45,889

[Pepper]: is to go and follow some content creators.
I hate to say it, but social media is where

312

00:24:46,249 --> 00:24:50,612

[Pepper]: most of this conversation is taking
place. So much so that the people who are writing

313

00:24:50,632 --> 00:24:55,960

[Pepper]: these anti-drag bills, for instance,
are just lifting what their lies that they're

314

00:24:55,980 --> 00:25:01,026

[Pepper]: hearing on social media and then just
including them in their legislation. And so

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00:25:01,467 --> 00:25:07,322

[Pepper]: I think educating ourselves, finding,
you know, creators. that you don't typically

316

00:25:07,362 --> 00:25:11,024

[Pepper]: listen to. You know, if you don't
have a lot of black friends and you're not

317

00:25:11,064 --> 00:25:14,205

[Pepper]: really able to hear that perspective,
please follow and include some black folks

318

00:25:14,245 --> 00:25:18,887

[Pepper]: in your timeline, which we've heard
since 2020. The same thing with trans individuals.

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00:25:19,027 --> 00:25:22,869

[Pepper]: You know, instead of thinking of these as issues, think of these issues as people,

320

00:25:23,229 --> 00:25:27,951

[Pepper]: and then follow those people. And you have to kind of sort of follow what resonates

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00:25:27,991 --> 00:25:32,733

[Pepper]: with you. But beyond doing that, which is just as easy as obviously clicking a button,

322

00:25:34,162 --> 00:25:39,043

[Pepper]: I do think it's important that we give to local organizations in our communities.

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00:25:39,143 --> 00:25:42,824

[Pepper]: There's too many communities to list all the local organizations that are doing

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00:25:42,844 --> 00:25:48,906

[Pepper]: this work, but both GLAAD and ACLU have pages where you can go and see, and by

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00:25:48,986 --> 00:25:53,747

[Pepper]: state see what's happening at different levels, whether it's legislatively, and then

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00:25:53,827 --> 00:25:57,988

[Pepper]: seeing what organizations you can support that are fighting back against again,

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00:25:58,028 --> 00:26:03,149

[Pepper]: the legislation or just, um, organi-
groups and organizations, charities that really

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00:26:03,522 --> 00:26:08,045

[Pepper]: focus on the quality of life of the
people who are affected by in those communities.

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00:26:09,306 --> 00:26:14,971

[Pepper]: And so there's so many, I have posted
and I'm going to continue to post resources,

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00:26:15,772 --> 00:26:23,919

[Pepper]: you know, as often as I can for people
to find, not to do a shameless plug here, but

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00:26:25,320 --> 00:26:31,105

[Pepper]: the place where these resources sort
of constantly spin in my sphere is on my podcast

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00:26:31,125 --> 00:26:31,505

[Pepper]: with Bob the

333

00:26:32,256 --> 00:26:32,487

[BRIAN]: Yes.

334

00:26:32,386 --> 00:26:40,149

[Pepper]: which is called a town hall, a black
queer podcast. And while the main focus is

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00:26:40,209 --> 00:26:50,634

[Pepper]: telling black queer stories of joy
and of pain, we always offer, for each episode,

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00:26:50,654 --> 00:26:56,296

[Pepper]: we always offer resources where people can go and learn more about and then take some

337

00:26:56,336 --> 00:27:01,904

[Pepper]: more action. But ultimately, please. ingratiate yourself with the communities that

338

00:27:01,964 --> 00:27:06,328

[Pepper]: you're hearing so much about. Go to more drag shows, get to know drag entertainers,

339

00:27:07,049 --> 00:27:10,472

[Pepper]: and definitely give them money. Individuals give individuals money

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00:27:10,728 --> 00:27:10,974

[BRIAN]: Yeah.

341

00:27:10,792 --> 00:27:14,035

[Pepper]: whenever you can. If you have some money, give them a dollar, especially if they're

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00:27:14,055 --> 00:27:18,719

[Pepper]: doing drag, because they spent \$10 just to show you just to get one dollar back.

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00:27:18,954 --> 00:27:19,194

[BRIAN]: Right,

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00:27:19,920 --> 00:27:20,401

[Pepper]: So, yeah, that's

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00:27:20,294 --> 00:27:20,674

[BRIAN]: right,

346

00:27:20,501 --> 00:27:20,741

[Pepper]: kind of

347

00:27:20,714 --> 00:27:21,654

[BRIAN]: right.

348

00:27:20,761 --> 00:27:21,301

[Pepper]: what I would say.

349

00:27:21,714 --> 00:27:24,676

[BRIAN]: And we will link to everything you just mentioned in the show notes here. So y'all,

350

00:27:24,756 --> 00:27:28,197

[BRIAN]: if you wanna scroll right down and click on those right now and start to chart

351

00:27:28,217 --> 00:27:31,478

[BRIAN]: your course, I encourage you to do that. So to wrap things up here, I'm gonna

352

00:27:31,518 --> 00:27:36,620

[BRIAN]: ask you a question. So in this big journey as a performer, as a trans individual,

353

00:27:37,980 --> 00:27:41,621

[BRIAN]: what has all this taught you or what is the lesson you think you're learning right

354

00:27:41,661 --> 00:27:41,801

[BRIAN]: now?

355

00:27:44,406 --> 00:27:48,597

[Pepper]: You know, there is a lesson in everything for sure, and so I'm grateful for that question.

356

00:27:49,900 --> 00:27:50,221

[Pepper]: You know.

357

00:27:55,506 --> 00:28:01,451

[Pepper]: I don't really like to talk about like my or even our resilience, you know,

358

00:28:01,237 --> 00:28:02,292

[BRIAN]: Mm-hmm. Yeah.

359

00:28:02,671 --> 00:28:13,039

[Pepper]: because I think that sells us short a bit. But I, you know, I'm, I am amazed at

360

00:28:13,159 --> 00:28:22,305

[Pepper]: when faced with this type of discrimination, I am amazed at how people will pull together.

361

00:28:22,866 --> 00:28:28,447

[Pepper]: when it feels and seems so hopeless, right? And even though it feels and seems that

362

00:28:28,487 --> 00:28:33,029

[Pepper]: way, it's just, it's not. Like there's no way that they can like, they're not gonna

363

00:28:33,089 --> 00:28:38,070

[Pepper]: write some legislation and then suddenly
poof, the drag queens have just disappeared

364

00:28:38,090 --> 00:28:42,272

[Pepper]: into thin air. Like it's not gonna
happen, you know? And the same thing with queer

365

00:28:42,292 --> 00:28:45,713

[Pepper]: folks and trans folks and everybody
else and even abortions, they're gonna continue

366

00:28:45,733 --> 00:28:51,202

[Pepper]: to happen. Now people will not have
as much. they will become more dangerous and

367

00:28:51,542 --> 00:28:55,723

[Pepper]: they'll sort of go underground and
when things move into the shadows, then they're,

368

00:28:56,423 --> 00:29:01,045

[Pepper]: you know, unfortunately they can become
more dangerous, they can become even deadly,

369

00:29:01,745 --> 00:29:06,806

[Pepper]: but they're gonna still be happening.
And so that's, it's not really, I don't know

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00:29:06,826 --> 00:29:09,827

[Pepper]: if it's a lesson or something that
I've always known that's just been sort of

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00:29:09,887 --> 00:29:14,688

[Pepper]: reiterated to me or restated to me
or I'm reminded of, but that's it.

372

00:29:15,762 --> 00:29:16,543

[BRIAN]: Yeah, yeah.

373

00:29:16,989 --> 00:29:17,149

[Pepper]: That

374

00:29:17,164 --> 00:29:17,625

[BRIAN]: Uh,

375

00:29:17,169 --> 00:29:17,849

[Pepper]: we're gonna continue

376

00:29:17,665 --> 00:29:17,906

[BRIAN]: think...

377

00:29:17,869 --> 00:29:18,369

[Pepper]: no matter what.

378

00:29:19,068 --> 00:29:21,853

[BRIAN]: Yeah. Is there anything left on set
that you want to say before we call it?

379

00:29:23,998 --> 00:29:25,581

[Pepper]: No, I've

380

00:29:25,086 --> 00:29:26,468

[BRIAN]: Yeah,

381

00:29:25,601 --> 00:29:26,122

[Pepper]: said enough.

382

00:29:28,090 --> 00:29:30,914

[BRIAN]: thank you so much for your time today
and for joining us on the podcast and sharing

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00:29:30,934 --> 00:29:33,859

[BRIAN]: your real life experience with this.
We will be sure

384

00:29:33,838 --> 00:29:34,080

[Pepper]: Thank

385

00:29:33,879 --> 00:29:33,979

[BRIAN]: that

386

00:29:34,100 --> 00:29:34,161

[Pepper]: you,

387

00:29:34,139 --> 00:29:34,300

[BRIAN]: this

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00:29:34,181 --> 00:29:34,485

[Pepper]: Brian.

389

00:29:34,340 --> 00:29:37,645

[BRIAN]: gets heard by a lot of people and I
really appreciate your time today. Thank you

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00:29:37,685 --> 00:29:39,588

[BRIAN]: so, so, so much.

391

00:29:38,614 --> 00:29:39,776

[Pepper]: My pleasure. Thank

392

00:29:39,668 --> 00:29:40,409

[BRIAN]: All right,

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00:29:39,837 --> 00:29:40,017

[Pepper]: you.

394

00:29:40,429 --> 00:29:40,849

[BRIAN]: take care.