

**Queer Newark Oral History Project**

**Interviewee:** Joseph Canarelli

**Interviewer:** Timothy Stewart-Winter

**Date:** October 17, 2017

**Location:**

*[Beginning of First Audio File]*

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* -proceed, if that's good. Today is October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and I'm speaking to Joseph Canarelli. You can decide later, whether you wanna use your full name, or an initial, or what, on the website, but—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, I think, I mean, at this point, let's see what comes up, and what comes out, and then—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fair enough.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I'll decide that later, but I—this seems fairly against the point *[cross talk 00:45]*

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You should decide later.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Also, I will send you the consent form, and so on.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* This is an interview for the Queer Newark Oral History Project, and we've—Michael told me a little bit about your background, but maybe we could begin, unless you want me to talk about the project for a little bit—

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, that's okay. If I have any questions along the way, I'll just ask you.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay. Can you tell me about when, and where you were born?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. I was born in Newark, in Beth Israel Hospital, in June of 1949.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. We lived in the Ironbound section. We lived there until I was a freshman in high school, at which point, we moved to South Carolina, which was a mistake. We moved back a few years later. I lived in Newark until *[extraneous noise 02:19]* '70s.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Until the '70s.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, the early '70s.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay. Where did you move in the early '70s, just so I have a sense of the arc?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I moved to Brooklyn. I lived in Brooklyn for one year, and then I moved to the East Village. I lived in the East Village for over 30 years, before moving here to Seattle.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Great. Can you tell me a little bit about your family?

*Joseph Canarelli:* My family?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I'm having a little bit of trouble hearing you.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, I'm sorry.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, it's okay, I'm just—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Is this a little better?

*Joseph Canarelli:* You sound just a little distant, but I'm getting what you're asking, so it's alright. You wanna know about my family—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Your family of origin, you know—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, both my parents are first-generation, born in the United States. All my grandparents come from Italy, came from Italy. My maternal grandmother was three years old, when she came to The States. My paternal grandfather was somewhat older. They all immigrated at different ages, and they all settled in Newark.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you have siblings?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I have a younger sister. She's three years younger, and that was it. It was just the two of us.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, we were [inaudible 04:19]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What did your folks do for work?

*Joseph Canarelli:* They were a working-class family. My father worked in a factory, or a number of factories, that manufactured light bulbs. He repaired

machines—he was a repair mechanic, I guess you would call it. He repaired machines that made light bulbs. My mother was what used to be called a clerk typist. I don't know what—I don't even know that that sort of position even exists anymore, and certainly, I don't know what that kind of a level of job would be called, nowadays. She worked for decades for the Prudential Insurance Company, which was in downtown Newark, when I was growing up.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm just curious about the light bulb factory. Was that in Newark, too?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. I don't remember where. I can see it in my head, cuz daddy took me to work one day, but I don't remember where it was.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Were they religious? Did you grow up going to church?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. My queerness extends to religion, in a way, also. We were Presbyterian. We were not Catholic. My father was raised Catholic. My mother was raised Presbyterian, and that [*cross talk 06:22*] had something to do with when they moved to the Ironbound. My mother was a really, really little girl. There was a congregation there of Italian Presbyterians—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, how interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* -who knew? Where did they come from? This is a question that I don't have an answer to, but there they were. The minister of this congregation did a lot of outreach to my grandmother, and she decided to convert. They became Presbyterian. When my parents married—you know, religion is often carried by the maternal, and female side of the family, anyway, and that's very much what our story was. For my father, who had been an altar boy, it didn't seem to matter much, so he converted, as well—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fascinating.

*Joseph Canarelli:* -we were raised Presbyterian, and our church, which, I see, is still in Newark, on Broad Street— it was Old First Presbyterian Church.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Old First?

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's what it was called, yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It may be. I confess, I don't know. I'll look it up.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, it was there. It had been there for like 200 years, or something?  
Yeah, but it was called Old First Presbyterian, and it was on Broad Street.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You grew up going to church there?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Your maternal grandmother, it sounds like, also grew up in Newark, is that right?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting. In the Ironbound?

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's a good question. I don't know where grandma—I don't know where her family lived in Newark—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fair enough.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, I don't know.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Tell me a little bit about your childhood, or can you describe an early memory?

*Joseph Canarelli:* An early memory. That's a big question. That's very broad, Tim. Early memory—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Well, let me ask a different question—

*Joseph Canarelli:* I can give you a little narrative, sort of, about my childhood, as I remember it, like beginning first couple of grades in school—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That sounds perfect.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright. They were, as I recall, completely uneventful, til about the third grade, at which point, I started getting hassled about being a sissy. That's when it began.  
It seems like—it's almost like two stories, in my head, in a way, because up until third grade, I remember just sort of being left alone. Not shunned – left alone, but I wasn't being bullied, or what's nowadays called bullied. I wasn't being hassled. I wasn't being harassed. Then, it seems, quite suddenly, in third grade, either I started becoming more effeminate, or suddenly, that became more important [*cross talk 10:30*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fascinating.

*Joseph Canarelli:* -something to notice.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's a mystery to me. It's always been a mystery – that switching point. Third grade was when it began.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What was it like? Who was doing it?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Boys that I went to school with. I don't remember it happening—later, girls started giving me a hard time, as well, but initially—yeah, oh, yeah. Initially, it was other boys. Ya know, “Joseph walks like a girl.” “Joseph does the Twist when he walks,” which was something that, I think, as I look back on it, it really hurt then, but it's kind of, in a way, almost funny now.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The Twist, the dance?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I'm sorry?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The Twist, like the dance?

*Joseph Canarelli:* The dance, yes. As a friend of mine, in adulthood, once put it, he said, “Joseph, you have hips, and they move when you walk.” It's true. This kid was picking up on some parallel between the movement of the Twist, and how I moved [*cross talk 12:26*] experience, however. It was mean. I was spit at. I was name-called. It still hurts now. It got really—it got very ugly, in the sense that this was my day-to-day life [*cross talk 12:55*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right, it just continued—

*Joseph Canarelli:* There was no break.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. Was it in school, or on the playground?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mostly in school. Some of the boys who lived on the block where I grew up, I can remember us being sort of friends. It seemed very concentrated in school, and the walk to school became like a scary thing, every day.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Can you tell me where your home was, and where the school was?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. We lived on Warwick Street, and the school was on Oliver Street. So it wasn't very far away. It was maybe like four blocks – four very long, dangerous blocks is what it felt like—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* This would've been around, let's see, 1957-ish, is that about right?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Let's see, I graduated high school in June of '67—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay, so you would've started high school in '63—

*Joseph Canarelli:* '63, right? '62-'63. Grammar school would've been in the mid- '50s, through the very, very early '60s.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha. Do you remember the name of the school?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, it was called the Oliver Street School.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ah. Newark Public School?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What would happen when you were walking to school?

*Joseph Canarelli:* As I said, there would be name-calling, laughing—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did your teachers know about it?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Hmm—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Or your parents? Anyone, I guess?

*Joseph Canarelli:* My parents—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Grown up.

*Joseph Canarelli:* You know, if all of this—if I was so effeminate that this was happening outside, I must've been the same way in the house. Nobody said a fucking word.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* They were silent.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* No sympathy, but also no condemnation?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right, right. My father would get a little edgy, because I read too much. This is the world I came into. This is real. It's amazing to me, now, but yeah, reading was suspicious.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What did you read?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I'm sorry?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What did you read?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Anything I could get my hands on. My mother was a reader, and one of the things she gave me was my avid reading. Really, in some way, she modeled that. She just read cheap novels, but she read. She loved to read. That was there as a model for me. I would read whatever I had to read for school. How do we find books? I don't know. I went to the library a lot. It was kind of a solace, in a way. I would just find stuff to read. There was an author named Beverly Cleary, who wrote books for kids.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yes, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* You know her name?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. I read some of her books as a kid.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, wow. Okay. I read all her books. I thought she was just the best thing going. I read all those books, and then I started moving into a little bit of 19<sup>th</sup>-century literature. I remember the big blowout with my father about my reading was I was caught reading *Little Women*.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, no.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, and that was sort of a breaking point. I was indoors. It was a Saturday. Why wasn't I outdoors playing ball?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* And for your sister to read *Little Women* would've been okay?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Totally. Totally. Nobody would've questioned it, nobody—he certainly wouldn't have questioned it. He wouldn't have cared.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right. Interesting, interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm. That was the most dramatic, and really, Tim, it was sort of the—I don't remember other incidents around my gender expression  
[cross talk 19:12]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* With your father.

*Joseph Canarelli:* With either of them. That was the moment. I think that moment, probably, was packed, for him, with stuff that had been building up. He was wondering about me. When I later came out to him, he said, "I always thought you were." So he knew something, but it was never—like everything else in my household, it wasn't talked about. We invented

Don't Ask, Don't Tell. It's a joke that I make. Yeah, I came from Anthony and Virginia Canarelli—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What was your neighborhood and school like? Unless you wanna jump to your coming out to your father?

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, no, no, I'll—you lead the way.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay, great.

*Joseph Canarelli:* You know what you guys are looking for, and we'll get to the other stuff. The neighborhood was very working-class. What was it like? The boys played in the streets, the girls played on the sidewalks, or the stoops. There was not—you know, there's that cliché about immigrant/post-immigrant life of people sitting on the stoops at night and socializing?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* None of that went on.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* None of that went on?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right, none of that went on, no. That wasn't a thing. People on the block knew each other, so there was a sense of familiarity. There was a sense of a kind of netting, almost, that was holding all of us. I don't remember it being terribly warm, or terribly enveloping. Yeah, people knew stuff about each other, but it didn't feel like a community. I guess that's what I'm trying to say.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Huh, okay, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That is also coming, I suppose, very much through the lens that I started bringing to everything, which was the streets are dangerous. I have to be careful. I have to be controlled when I'm outside. I have to be vigilant. In a way, it's sort of like a cliché childhood for a gay boy in those years. I learned—I think the worse lesson that I learned was that anybody could do anything they wanted to me, and they could say whatever they wanted.

When I first started reading Second-wave feminism, and was reading women talking about what their experience on the street was, it still makes me tear up, because suddenly, I found somebody who was telling my story, even though they were women, but it was my story. I really had a sense that I didn't own myself. I belonged to the world, in the most terrible way.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* How awful.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. There wasn't a lot of joy. After a certain point in my childhood, there was not a lot of joy.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you have—

*Joseph Canarelli:* I wouldn't say it wasn't 100-percent joyless, and a nightmare, but it was close. It was close. The ugly, scarring stuff took up a lot more psychic room than happier appearances.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, it was rough. It was rough. Yeah?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Was your school, and neighborhood—were most people Italians, or was it—

*Joseph Canarelli:* It was a mix.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Racially integrated?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Like I said, we lived about four blocks away from my grammar school. It was sorta like up to one side of the grammar school, it was white. It was a white neighborhood – Italian, Polish. Portuguese families started moving there at a certain point in time. Then, around 1959, some of the Cuban refugees started moving into the neighborhood.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The other side was—

*Joseph Canarelli:* The other side was black. The other side was “the ghetto.”

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right. The other side of the Oliver Street School.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you go to school with black kids?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, yeah, yeah. I would guess that it was—it might've been 50-percent/50-percent, or at least one-third/two-thirds. Yeah, it was a mixed—being around black people was not like—it wasn't a strange thing for me—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, gotcha.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right? I mean, we didn't speak it out, cuz it was the 1950s, but it wasn't unknown.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. What was your favorite subject, or class? Did you play an instrument, or—

*Joseph Canarelli:* No.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm guessing you didn't play sports.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No. Yeah, right, absolutely not. Part of what was so damaging about those years was how constricted I became, as I look back on it. If you walk down the street, and people feel—other kids feel like they can call you names, and stuff, being in front of people becomes really uncomfortable, and being in front of people gets extended to learning how to play an instrument, or being in a school play. At a certain point in time, I didn't wanna be on that stage. I didn't wanna be in front of people in the auditorium—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* So reading was your refuge.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, yeah. It was my refuge—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That's true for me, too, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Was it?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Makes sense.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, it does make sense, yep. The creativity that goes into just sort of surviving that way, I think it's astonishing.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. Do you remember other kids being bullied the way that you were, or it was just you?

*Joseph Canarelli:* No. If it was happening to other kids—let me back up a second, and let me try to think. It had to have been happening to other kids, that there was bullying going on. Whether it was about sex and gender stuff, that I don't remember. In high school, yeah, there were one or two other boys, but that's a little later. If we're still looking at grammar school, I don't remember there being anybody else.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha. Can you tell me about high school?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. It was East Side High School. At the end of our block, there was a park, the name of which—I can't remember the name of the park. It was a nice park, actually. Directly on the other side of the park was the high school.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Was this the same direction from your [cross talk 30:04] as the school? Gotcha.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think the park's called Independence Park? I think. The high school was right there. My experience with high school was odd, because I started freshman year of high school, knowing that I was only gonna be there about four weeks, and that then we were moving south.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, right. Okay. That is weird.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, so I don't know what to say about those first four weeks, except I remember much fear and much anxiety.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha, and then you moved—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Anything new, anything strange, for me, it just promised me more of what I already knew, but because the players were gonna be different, that was very scary to me. Does that make sense?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. You were at least familiar with—it was a new institution—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, right.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* —and a new walk.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you walk by yourself?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Then you moved to—that would've been '63?

*Joseph Canarelli:* '61, '62, maybe? We were in South Carolina, when the Kennedy assassination happened, so that was November—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* '63.

*Joseph Canarelli:* '62? '63?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay. I think that happened—he was assassinated during my sophomore year of high school.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Excuse me. Your sophomore year of high school, okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, so we were there two years—I don't know how much you wanna get into that, given—how much do you want me to talk? Do you want me to talk about that at all?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It's up to you, really.

*Joseph Canarelli:* What I can say, in terms of what I already knew, it was just like it blew up even more. I landed in this little Southern city, and I was the faggot, and the guinea, and the Yankee – a deadly combination.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Sorry, the second one of those, the guinea?

*Joseph Canarelli:* The guinea. Oh, you don't know that word.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* No.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Guinea is a derogatory term for Italians, like wop and dago.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ah. Yeah, okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Uh-huh.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* So why were you in South Carolina?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Good question! Because God is really cruel.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Where in South Carolina, I guess?

*Joseph Canarelli:* A little town, a little city, called Marion. What happened was, in these years, the South was starting to industrialize. They were courting—I learned all this later, of course. They were courting Northern businesses to come south; the promise being all this black labor that was un-unionized.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay? The factory where my father worked, they were offered all this money by the state government of South Carolina to move, and my father decided we should go with them, so we did. We were there for two years, and my mother left my father. She, and my sister, and I moved back to Newark, one block away from where I'd grown up, cuz Italians, they never move far from where they start out. It's really true of urban Italian families, at least in the Northeast. Really symbiotic. They stick together—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Even Italian Presbyterians.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Even Italian Presbyterians, yes. They haven't entirely purged all of that stuff.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fascinating.

*Joseph Canarelli:* We moved back, which was a really mixed thing. My father was a compulsive gambler, and my mother tells the story, or in later years, would tell the story that the only reason she agreed to go with him was that it would get him away from gambling. My mother was rather naïve [cross talk 36:04]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The only reason she agreed to go to South Carolina, you mean?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. Apparently, there as a lot more contention about all of us making that move than I ever knew. When we were there, the second year, he got into all kinds of debt again, because of his gambling. Things were literally being repossessed.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Like we're coming to get the refrigerator, because he hasn't made payment, you know, like that kind of thing, so she left him.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Where would he gamble, or how, just out of curiosity?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Bookies are everywhere. He would gamble on sports, all kinds of sports events. Again, don't ask, don't tell, right? [cross talk 37:18] my parents separated because of his gambling, probably five times. By the time I went off to college, they had separated about four or five times already. My sister and I were never told why he disappeared. It was a very fucked-up household, alright?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* He would leave the house; your mother would stay—

*Joseph Canarelli:* She would throw him out; he would leave. It's a dance, you know?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* He would be gone—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, sorry—

*Joseph Canarelli:* We would wake up, and daddy wouldn't be there—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow, okay, and then they would reconcile.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, and then the same thing would happen again.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Just so I get the—I'm sorry, I cut you off.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, it's fine, please. These are old stories. If we interrupt—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* So that I get the arc of your story in Newark, you went to college directly from high school?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Where did you go?

*Joseph Canarelli:* To college?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I went to Rutgers.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* To Rutgers, in Newark?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That's what I thought, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. I applied to three—I applied to NYU, and actually got accepted, but they wouldn't give us a scholarship, and my mother could barely afford—at that point, she was supporting us. They could barely afford Rutgers, in Newark [*cross talk 39:13*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, gotcha.

*Joseph Canarelli:* —cheapest, and that's where I went.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* This was in '67-

*Joseph Canarelli:* Seven, yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Do you remember that summer, or the riots?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, yeah. I remember sitting by my bedroom window, and hearing gunshots.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, yeah—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Tell me about that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It was scary. It was both frightening, and it felt very close, and also distant at the same time. I don't know how exactly to explain that. I think the fact that it felt distant was probably total, like from the psychological mechanism of some kind to deal with anxiety about it. It was frightening. You know, I lived in an Italian working-class neighborhood. Wanna talk about racism? Everybody was scared, because “they” were going wild, right?

One of the other ways in which we didn't exactly fit, besides the *[laughing 40:48]* my sexuality, and my father was gambling, and that we were Presbyterians—on top of it all, my mother was sort of pro-Civil Rights. The seeds of my involvement with social justice come from her. Yeah, I have to give that to her. She had some way of somehow identifying with people of color, and some empathy – some way of identifying. Martin Luther King became a hero for me, but that had something to do with her enabling that. When the March on Washington was televised, I remember watching it live, which I think might have meant she allowed me not to go to school that day. Yeah, this is surprising, isn't it?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It's very interesting. Well, wait, it was in August, so maybe school hadn't started—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, so we weren't in school. Okay. In any case, I watched it.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, which was probably not that—not universal.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Not in my neighborhood. *[Laughing 42:45]* not a little—a lot of people were don't asking/don't telling, but I don't think it was so common in my neighborhood, no.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That's really interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did your—? I assume that your church was all white—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. Well, there were one, or two black families in the church.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Huh, interesting. What was the—I can imagine that gambling would be a very—your father's gambling problem may—it sounds like they got strained relations between—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm, between them, between him, and the rest of the family. It strained everything.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did your folks have friends?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, they did. A lot of them, interestingly enough—huh, I just realized something I've never realized before. My father didn't have friends. They were all my mother's friends.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I've often thought that straight men, married straight men, are sort of not allowed to have real friendships, at least sometimes?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. Mm-hmm. No, I think that's true. I would agree with you. I think probably he had buddies, like a different category, like guys he might play poker with, or go bowling with, on occasion, but there weren't friends, in the way my mother had friends. My mother's still alive. Two weeks ago, her best friend died. They were—well, my mother's 96. Her friend was also 96. They've know each other for 90 years.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, right? There was nothing like that for my dad. Those men didn't—those slots, or whatever you want—those relational places in his life, there was nobody in them. The places didn't even exist, as I think about it. I'm sure he had gambling buddies, and, like I said, guys he played poker with, but they were not—those weren't first names that I knew. I think my father spent—I'm guessing now, but I suspect that his gambling life- that he existed in this subculture, where there might not have been those kind of bonds.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Got it. What about you? Did you have friends, in high school, say, like—

*Joseph Canarelli:* In grammar school, two or three, and when we returned to Newark, one or two, and nobody at school until my senior year. I think what happened is I knew that freedom was about to occur, or I thought, right? Freedom, and graduation became the same thing. This was gonna be my way out. I think that what happened is I kinda loosened up a little, and was actually able to make some friends, like people who worked in the school newspaper.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ah, sure. This is back in Newark.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. Am I confusing you?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* No ... I'm just wanting to be clear, that's all.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay. Yeah, we're back in Newark, and the school newspaper. I made one or two friends, one of whom, actually, ended up becoming a friend of mine while I was in college; although, he didn't go to Rutgers with me. He ended up marrying a woman that I knew from Rutgers, and then he later came out, which I knew, anyway. I remember he and I fooling around in my bedroom one night.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ah, in high school?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm. Yeah, the eventful end of that senior year. Mm-hmm, yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Eventful in the sense that—can you say more about what—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, just my sense of—yeah, well, I was already having sex with men. That started my junior year. We can get back to where I met people, and stuff.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'd love to hear about that, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Anyway, just to wrap this piece up, the eventful senior year was both I was having sex with men. I was starting to go to New York on a Saturday afternoon, on occasion. Then I met Manny, through the school newspaper. Things began to open. Then, like I said, there was this sense of, "Okay, it's almost over." It's almost over.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Cuz I really had in my head a notion, which was somewhat disabused, but when I got to Rutgers—I had this idea in my head that once I got to college, everything was gonna be different.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right, right, okay, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, right? That was an idea—I feel very tender towards my young self, when I think about how I held that, as a kid. It was this way of surviving. I had to believe it was all gonna be over, because I was about ready to snap. The strain of holding everything together was getting harder, and harder, including realizing that I was gay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. Tell me about that. How did you realize it? Where did you meet guys?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, I realized it because I knew where my desire was being drawn. That wasn't a big question, you know what I mean?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Sure.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That was really clear. It was also what everybody had assumed, on the basis of how I was gendering. I don't necessarily think of the two things as the same thing. My being effeminate, and my being homosexual are incredibly related, but it's useful to me, and it has been useful to me, in my life, to think about them as—what's the word you—you act as—oh, it's like an intersection? Isn't that what you guys in academia talk about nowadays? The intersectionality—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* We do.

*Joseph Canarelli:* You do, and it's a good idea. It's a helpful concept. I tend to think of them a little separately. I think that the hassling I got was really cuz I was being seen as female, and that later, it became also about sex—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, right? In any case—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* How did it become about sex? Do you remember the first sexual experience?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. Me, just from the beginning to realize that it wasn't just that I was this effeminate little boy, but I was an effeminate little boy who wanted to be with men, or to be with other little boys, and later, that became men. Does that make sense?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I guess what I'm trying to say is that up to a certain point, and I'd be hard-pressed to neatly define that point, I was interested in music, and dancing, and reading, and not interested in sports, but that didn't necessarily go along with feeling drawn to men. That was just "who I was."

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah? Okay. Later, as I got a little older, and became more sexualized, the two joined hands. I think of them as steps, I guess is what I'm saying. Do you see what I mean?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, absolutely.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay, alright. We're back in New Jersey, after South Carolina, and I start becoming sexually active. It's really sporadic. This happened in downtown Newark, or it happened in the Village, in Greenwich Village. I used to cruise the library in Newark.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The public library?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The main—

*Joseph Canarelli:* The one across the street from the park, where—is it Washington Park?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right? The main library that was, I think, as I remember, the museum was next door to the library?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That's right, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right? Okay. Then Independence Park was directly across the street. It's how I remember it.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What was cruising there? What did it involve? Was that the first place that you cruised?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. Well, I was a reader [*laughing 55:43*] I wasn't going to go bowling and picking up men.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Tell me about your first memory of cruising at the Newark Public Library.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, so I'm bopping around the library, and somehow, I started to know that this was a cruising place, and I cannot be more specific. It's almost like that instinctual thing that we have, as gay men. We just know that sexual stuff is going on someplace.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, you're noticing.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I'm noticing something, yeah. There was a guy who worked at the library. When I think about how much trouble my attention to him could've gotten him in, it just—I just have to shake my head, but he was like second floor of the library, and I think it was part of the non-fiction collection. There he was. He worked at the library, sitting at this desk. He was blonde, and he was wearing a powder-blue sweater, and he did not look like the people I knew. Why does that make you laugh?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Well, it's—I don't know, I guess it's—

*Joseph Canarelli:* I like that it makes you laugh. I just wanted to know why—what it is—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Is it that he looked waspy?

*Joseph Canarelli:* He looked like a white boy. He's what I would call a white boy.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha.

*Joseph Canarelli:* There are certain men who are sorta waspy, and don't look ethnic, and I call them white boys, which is probably really racist, cuz I still do it, but they're white boys, to me. I don't look like them. I look Jewish, or Italian, ya know?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yep.

*Joseph Canarelli:* He was white, and that made him very exotic to me, and desirable. I somehow managed to get him to follow me into the stacks. I think I just kept pass—sort of like a shark, swimming around his desk. He followed me into the stacks, and we didn't do anything in the stacks, but we talked a little. He invited me back to his apartment. When he got out of work about an hour later, off we went. He lived in—there were these two large, very sort of, for Newark, modern apartment buildings not far from the library. They had a name—The Colonnades, or something, maybe? Anyway, his name was John. He told me his name, and we went back to this apartment, and I was trembling, and we had sex. I couldn't have been more lucky, in terms of a first time.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Well, that's nice.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It's really nice. I have such tender feelings towards this man, like a hundred years later, right? He was kind, and—it was clear we both wanted sex, and that was gonna happen. It was also clear to him—I don't know if he asked me, or if I told him. It probably didn't even need to be said, I'm sure, but this was my first time. I remember him undressing me, and I can remember him leaning over me. I think we had oral sex. I probably came in a second and a half, or something—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* In the bathroom?

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, this was in his bedroom. He took me home, remember?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ah, he took you home.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, we went back to his apartment.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Where was his apartment?

*Joseph Canarelli:* In one of these two apartment buildings.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, the Colonnades. I see, yeah, yeah—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Sorry, I got—my bad.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Don't worry about it. He was as kind and gentle as he could've been.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* He worked at the library. Was he a librarian, or—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah ... Uh-huh.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cute. That's really cute. How old was he? I mean ballpark, or—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, I'm gonna guess he wasn't more than 30, if that.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool. This was during your junior year, is that right?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, yeah. I remember, I had a part-time job after school, and I remember being at work the next day, just smiling to myself about this secret that I had. It was so potent. It felt so powerful to me. I had done this thing, and I had this secret, and none of these straight people I worked with knew about it. I didn't feel ashamed, which is shocking, when I think back at who I was back then. I didn't feel ashamed, and there was a hint of—I don't know what word to use, Tim, but I wanna say vengeance in how I felt that day.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That's very interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* You know what it was? I think I felt powerful for one of the first times in my life.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's what it was.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You had wanted this and gotten it.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I wanted it, I got it; it was fun. It felt risky. I felt brave, and there was a fuck-you in it to all of them, to every fucking straight person, even if they were eight years old, who had made me feel so awful for most of my life. There was something about, it was my life. It was beginning to be my life, not theirs. Can you hear that I'm choking up here?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* This is very power—yeah, whoa. John and I had an encore, by the way. I went back, and again, he was just lovely. He may've said something to me, at that time, about being careful. Well, I could have gotten him in a lot of trouble.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, his just being with me could've gotten him in a lot of trouble. Also, this—I was cruising him. I mean, the guy was at work.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Do you mean because he was older than you, and you were in high school?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, yeah, sure. I was a minor. That began a small series of encounters with other men I met at the library, somebody I met in the men's room. I think he and I went off together, also. I started cruising a little bit in the park, and got stopped by the police.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, wow. Tell me about that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. The one and only time in my life that I had an encounter with the police about my sexuality.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fascinating.

*Joseph Canarelli:* They were also, actually, as I think back on it, they were kinda nice about it all.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The police?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, actually. They could have pulled me in.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What happened?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, they pulled the car off to the curb, and there were two of them in the car, and they said, "What are you doing here?" Or words to that effect, and I said something about, "Oh, ya know, I'm walking around. I've been in the library, and I'm going to the library," and inside, I'm dying, really scared.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You were alone.

*Joseph Canarelli:* They kept asking vague-ish questions about, "Oh, how often do you go to the library?" That kinda thing. They knew what was going on. I just kept lying [*cross talk 67:46*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Playing dumb?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yep. Did you just say something?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I said you were playing dumb, acting like you didn't [*cross talk 67:57*]

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, yeah, I was trying to, yes. I knew I wasn't convincing them. At some point, they said, "Look, go home. Go home. Get outta here, and go home." I said, "Oh, okay," and I went home.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You were happy to do that. This was—

*Joseph Canarelli:* I was very happy to do that, yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* This was after your first encounter with John.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, mm-hmm. I was a [*inaudible 68:34*], already. Then there were just these other little encounters. The man who took me home with him, and his mother was asleep in the next bedroom. That wasn't much fun. A guy—this guy was really handsome, and we went off in his car, and we ended up in somebody's backyard, with him teaching me how to give him a blowjob.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* How funny.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. I think about being in those situations, now, and I think, "Wow ..."  
I don't know wow-what exactly, but I was learning my trade, I guess. It was my apprentice years. He was also—he wasn't as nice as John had been, but he was nice, and he helped me learn.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you always go home with guys? You didn't have public sex? Is that true?

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, some of them. This guy, I mean, we were in somebody's backyard. [*cross talk 70:14*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Somebody else's, okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right? With John, [*cross talk 70:18*] it was in his house, and then, like I said, there was the guy whose mother was in the next room, and little forays into Greenwich Village.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Sorry, the connection cut out for a second. You said something about forays?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. In those years, I also started going to New York.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right. Tell me about that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I would just sorta walk around the Village, and I was teaching myself the Village, I think, and probably really also looking to make contact. Got picked up a couple times. Those were all indoor encounters.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* In guys' homes, apartments?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, one guy was a lawyer. We were in his office. I think there were two others, the two that I'm remembering. Those were in apartments. Also, around this time, *Life* Magazine came out with this article, with pictures, about—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* What? Do you remember this?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Well, there was a famous article, from 1964. I don't know if that's the one you're thinking of—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* —called, I think, “Homosexuality in America.”

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think that was what it was called. A lot of the article was about homosexuals in New York, and it talked about where homosexuals met. I used it as a travel guide. It told me where to go. Later, when I got into gay liberation, I found out that I was not the only gay man who would use that issue of *Life* Magazine as a guidebook. Right, yeah. Right?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did your family subscribe to *Life*, I'm just curious—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, yeah—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* —yeah, so it came to the house.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It came right to the house, yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fascinating.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, so that was how I began.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Went you went to the Village, you didn't go to—how did you get there?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I'm sorry, when I went where?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* When you went to Greenwich Village, did you take a train, or a bus?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, the PATH train.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* PATH train.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* And you went by yourself?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you go to bars, or just walk around in the street?

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, I didn't. I didn't. Going into the city—I was still living at home, so—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, you were in high school, right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right. I wasn't 18 yet, and so going into New York at night would've had a whole different charge to it, in terms of what I would've said to my mother, what her reaction would probably have been. Going during the day was permissible.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting, interesting. You would cruise on the street, essentially.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm, yeah. I didn't know about the baths. That wasn't a part of my life until much later.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Got it. Just to shift gears, cuz I wanna make sure that we—tell me about Rutgers.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you live at home?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The whole time, for—

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, not that—my career at Rutgers was a little peculiar, like everything else in this story, as I [*laughing 75:18*] think about it all. I started Rutgers in the fall of 1967, and I dropped out after about a year, but I was working on campus, so that's where I was spending my days.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Got it.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* What was your job?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I had a job at the animal behavior lab. I don't know if it's still there, nowadays.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I have to confess, I don't know either.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think it was called the Institute for Animal Behavior, and the guy who was the head of it was a prominent animal ecologist, I think is the term, but he was famous. I worked for him. I just got this little part-time job, working for him. A friend of mine, who was in SDS, which I had joined shortly after starting at Rutgers—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, there was an SDS chapter at Rutgers.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I joined that, and then I met my first line of friends that I made, at Rutgers. We're all people who were in SDS, which was, in a way, its own kind of coming out.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I had friends. I wasn't out to them. I don't think any of them really had a question about—I don't think any of them thought I was straight, let's just put it that way, but it wasn't an issue. I mean, it wasn't talked about, so I guess it was an issue, but it was not talked about.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Then I gradually would start telling people, using the, "I think I'm bisexual" line, as a way to test the waters. That was okay. I didn't come out, really, officially 'til 1969-1970, but I developed the politics. I also got to know—of course, being in SDS, we were involved in anti-war stuff, and there was also, on campus—there were a lot of proto-hippie types, and I got to know them, and we all became part of this big circle, which sort of overlapped with SDS, but not entirely. I found myself in a world of people who were excited about being different. It was a point of pride. It was validated. That became, I think, this nice transition for me into 1970, and with Michael [*inaudible* 79:30]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm sorry, someone's at the door. Hold on just for a second.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, sure, sure.

*[Extraneous conversation 79:40 – 79:54]*

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Sorry about that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You know what, I just—because the file size is kinda large, I'm gonna start a new recording. Hold on just a sec.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright.

*[Beginning of Second Audio File]*

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay, started the recording. I'm still here with Joseph Canarelli. This is the second audio file, and it's October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Okay, so we were talking about SDS, and Michael. I'm sorry, there are several strands here. Why did you drop out of school, I guess, is—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, okay—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* —and what was Rutgers like, other—was SDS the main thing that stands out to you?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, it's two questions.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It is.

*Joseph Canarelli:* May I take them as two questions?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yes, absolutely.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay. You're fun to talk to, by the way.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm glad. Thanks, so are you.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, good. Okay, why did I drop out? You may remember when I was telling you about my senior year in high school, that I was holding on, looking toward getting out of there, and going to college as some liberation, some relief. I think that what happened is that I got to school, and it wasn't all pleasant. I had some ugly incidents happen there – homophobic incidents, which we can get to later. I found what I was

looking for, in a way. I found these other people who were different, who were outside, who were different, and who appreciated that in me.

I think that what happened is that I unclenched in some deep, emotional way, and then a lot of the shit that I had been holding for all of those years came to the surface. I couldn't function in a disciplined kind of way. I remember not being able to study. It also seemed incredibly boring to me. We were talking about stopping a war, and the rights of the working class, and making a revolution, and the school stuff just seemed like, eh, meh ... Oh, I'm gonna use a funny word. It wasn't fun. It wasn't pleasurable.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* School wasn't.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. It was tedious, and I think I had just had enough of feeling constricted, so I went a little crazy. Now, I'm not talking psychosis, but—you know that feeling of you're carrying two bags of groceries home; you put them on the counter, and your arms start to shake?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's how I felt, sort of spiritually. I got there. I had put down a certain burden. I saw it, anyway. I put it down, temporarily. I couldn't get my arms to work. I couldn't—I just didn't have the discipline to be a student. I was popping out all over the place, so I dropped out. I had this little job. I was still living at home. That part of my life was in place, and I had this wonderful opportunity to spend my days at this little part-time job, which was not incredibly demanding, and to be around all these people that I had come to like, and care about, and who cared about me, and liked me. My god, I was liked!

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, right—

*Joseph Canarelli:* What a kick in the teeth that was, right?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* In SDS.

*Joseph Canarelli:* In SDS, with the counterculture of people—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* —who were becoming—there were increasing numbers of them, as '67 became '68, or when it became more and more of a cultural thing, right? All these hippies running around. Like I said, these groups, they were distinct, but overlapping, and I started meeting some gay people on campus, like Michael, and a few other people. That helped me kind of

move, to get into position to make the coming out a kind of across-the-board thing. By 1970, that's pretty much what happened.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha. I have a very concrete question about the SDS chapter. Where did it meet?

*Joseph Canarelli:* We met in one of the classrooms.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay. Do you remember what building? Well, I guess the new campus was under construction?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright. I can tell you, actually.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, great.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Imagine yourself across the street both from, and facing the law school. Do you see yourself there?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* The law school, currently, is in a building that was built in the 90s.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, okay. I haven't been there in a while.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Actually, the whole campus was kind of built around this time, right? All the Brutalist buildings that opened, I guess, in '68, or '69? Those are sort of—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Those buildings were all there when I started when I started Rutgers.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* They were all there. Okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, the whole place was this big concrete slab, and a plaza was there, with the library in the middle of it. The jewel in the crown, right?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yep, right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* The plaza was there, and all the buildings were—there were one, two, three—counting the library, there were five of these buildings, and then across from that complex was where the law school was—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Toward downtown Newark.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. Okay, so that's still where the law school is.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You're on University Avenue, facing it?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. Right, uh-huh. We were in one of the classroom buildings, facing the law school, and we would meet in one of the classrooms.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Facing the law school, on University.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Maybe—Conklin Hall is where the history department is.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm. It might've been, yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool. Okay, so, you're in—you were organizing against the war?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Organizing against the war. There were people in SDS, who were invested in—they were Socialists, and I guess they were members of the Socialist Workers Party, that's what it was called. Right, so they were also interested in us supporting unions that would go on strike. I can remember picketing for somebody's union. I don't remember which one, now. I remember we went to New Haven to support the Black Panthers.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, yeah, and I have since heard that Rutgers, and this is Rutgers in Newark, is considered the place that was high on the list of politically active schools during those years.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, I would believe that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* We were. There was a lot going on. We didn't have much contact, at all, with the black students who were organizing their own group. I don't think there was extraordinary antagonism, in any way, but the black students—there was a separatist feel to what they were doing.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Interesting. Yeah, sure.

*Joseph Canarelli:* People in both camps knew each other, but there was a kind of tension, understandably.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* SDS was white.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* My understanding is that there aren't many—there weren't many black students until around 1970 or so, right?

*Joseph Canarelli:* My recollection is there were some black students when I started in '67. The number did gradually increase over those years.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Got it. Do you remember the takeover of Conklin Hall by black students in 1969—the occupation of it? It was occupied for a couple of days.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, I have no recollection, but—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* There was a lot of that going on—

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think buried some place in my brain. I was still hanging around there, cuz at one point, I went back to school. I re-enrolled—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay. You eventually graduated from Rutgers-Newark.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, I didn't.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You didn't. Okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, I re-enrolled, and then I dropped out again, around— Let me think, it was after 1970, maybe '71-'72. I was going, really, part-time—I was really wrapped up in everything going on in the world that was about change, and making the revolution, including, by 1970, gay liberation. Being a student just didn't seem terribly important. I dropped out again, and then when—in about 1974, '75, I moved to New York. I enrolled at City College and went there, and finally got my degree from City College.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool, cool, okay. Tell me about gay people at Rutgers-Newark.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* And/or your gay life there, and coming out.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright, let me try to organize this. I've been doing a lot of thinking, getting ready for today, and talking with you, and I've realized that when I think about my gay life during all these years, I have these memories without a lot of connective tissue, and I was really troubled by that. I was thinking, you know, "C'mon. You've gotta have a narrative. There's gotta be a through-line. What are you gonna say to this guy?" Then, it suddenly dawned on me last week, no, there can't be—there have to be these fragments, because, indeed, my gay life, in a way, was in fragments, and this story is about how the fragments become more and more, and then become the story. Do you know what I mean?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. Yep.

*Joseph Canarelli:* During this period, my gay experiences were kind of spotty. There was a very ugly incident that happened my first or second week there, before I got myself embedded into a group of people. I was in the cafeteria, having lunch, I guess, and I got up to go get more coffee, or something, and I came back, and somebody had placed a saucer of ketchup, in which, with a finger, they had written “Suck Me.”

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did you say fuck, or suck, sorry?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Suck, with an S.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow, okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. I remember freezing, and looking around that room, but in that way when you try to look like you’re not really concerned, you know? Looking around the room, and there were people laughing in different places, and whether they were laughing at this, you know? Who knows? That was the worst thing, homophobically, that ever happened to me on that campus. That was also, like I said, the first two weeks. I was still very isolated.

There was homophobia on the campus. I also got spit at, there, at some point later. It also became a mix of my Leftist politics becoming known by whoever I was hanging out with, with the assumption people made about me being gay, which was correct. Those two got conflated, and so I got targeted – never physically. Well, I mean, being spit at is physical, isn’t it? Nothing like what I experienced as a child, though. It was—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Not nearly as bad.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, yeah, and it wasn’t constant, but the message, and the lesson was clear – remain vigilant. As I’ve been saying, I got involved in these groups, and then started meeting other gay men on campus, and dated somebody for the first time.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ooh—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Tell me about that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* His name was Jeffry. His name is Jeffry. He lives in England, now, apparently. Michael found him online some place. Jeffry and I—I don’t

remember how we met, but we met on campus. Maybe he had popped into an SDS meeting. I don't know, but we did meet on campus.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* He was a student?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. Maybe like a year—yeah, he might've been a year older than me, I don't know. He knew the ropes about being gay, a little more than I did. I remember that—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm sorry, say that one more time. He was—

*Joseph Canarelli:* He seemed more experienced about how you go about dating. I mean, I didn't have a clue.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Who had dated?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Or that you could.

*Joseph Canarelli:* That's right. Right, exactly. I remember, we went to a Nina Simone concert at Carnegie Hall together. It was very sweet—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Hmm, how great, wow. I love it.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, it was a Nina Simone concert at Carnegie Hall, and it was the day that Dylan released his John Wesley Harding album, which was insane, because between that album, and the previous one, he had had this motorcycle accident, so he was recovering, and putting out this album was a big deal. It's so funny, the pieces of how I remember things—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, totally.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Jeffry and I, we went there. Finding a place to have sex was a problem. He lived with his mother. I lived with my mother [*cross talk 20:59*] right? He knew somebody who lent us their apartment. Yeah, so we spent the night there. Actually, I don't think we spent the night. I think we had sex, and then had to leave, cuz our mothers were waiting. I did meet his mother, too. Now that I totally forget—she was a crazy woman, Jesus. We dated for a little while, and then—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Did he meet your mother?

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, he did not. I wasn't ready for that.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, and your mother didn't know you were dating him.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* No, un-uh. No. We dated—I mean, ya know, I think we dated—we mighta gone out three or four times, but that was a big deal. This was all brand new, and it was big. I think that dating Jeffry happened before the summer of—the summer of 1970 is this moment, because that’s when Michael and I started going to GLF meetings [*cross talk 22:39*] Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* In New York.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. That was it. I was entirely out of the closet at that point, and have been since. I think Jeffry was prior to that. I was looking at your website, the project’s website, and there’s a list of bars, and clubs, and things, and I realized that, in all those years, I went to a gay bar in Newark, once. It was not part of my scene.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, right. You were a GLF type.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right, I was a GLF, but I was still working at Rutgers. I hadn’t moved into New York yet [*cross talk 23:53*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Just out of curiosity—

*Joseph Canarelli:* —there was another guy, another Michael, actually, who also started going to meetings, and then he, and I got into a consciousness-raising group with some other men from GLF. That went on that whole summer.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool.

*Joseph Canarelli:* What?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That’s very cool.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Then I had that experience happen again of feeling like I was starting to fall apart again. I think that there was so much stuff connected, for me, around being gay, or being queer, and I had moved so quickly that I think there was a lot of baggage that needed to be dealt with, and I wasn’t—I wasn’t even so clear that it was—I didn’t even know it was there. I thought I was doing fine. I cut off my ties with the guys from the consciousness-raising group, who were, I have to say, some of the more extremist people in GLF. No, truly. Two of these guys started publishing this journal shortly, thereafter, and they had enemies lists. These guys were really out there. It was an interesting time in America.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, it was.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It was. It was really—I feel so lucky to have come into my young adulthood in the years that I did, because there was so much happening.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, totally.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It was thrilling, and scary. Actually, that summer—do I wanna tell this? Well, I'm just gonna push. I attempted suicide that summer. I remember feeling like there was so much energy coming out of me, and I couldn't manage it all. I couldn't manage everything I was feeling. It all felt like more than I could handle. I very deliberately took an overdose. There's a quote from R.D. Laing. Do you know R.D. Laing? Is that a familiar name?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* He was a—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Anti-psychiatry?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, he was the kingpin, and in one of his books, he says, “There are some suicides which are the result of a hope to terrible to be borne,” and I think, in some way, that's what my suicide attempt was about. It was like, “Oh, all this freedom, all this choice, all this movement. I don't know what to do with it all.”

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right, and every—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright? [*Cross talk 27:52*] I'm sorry, go ahead.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Every change involves a loss, if only the loss of what came before the change, so it makes sense that it would be difficult, even though it was also exciting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Mm-hmm. That's exactly right. Yeah, it wasn't exactly a backlash, cuz I never thought, “Oh, I made a terrible mistake.” It was really I didn't have the resources to manage everything I was feeling, and I was in a state of dysregulation. I'm talking a little bit like a therapist right now, but—well, I am a therapist, so—I really think that's what was happening, and you're right. We all walk around with this cliché about, “Oh, change is so hard.” Well, yeah, it really is [*cross talk 28:58*] If change is authentic, it has to be destabilizing. It can't be comfortable. Not for a while, anyway. I didn't know that, and I was a kid. There were ways in which I was a very young 21-year-old, but if I hadn't been hiding so much—anyway, obviously, I didn't die.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm glad.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Thank you, thank you. Me, too. Me, too. I pulled away from New York at that point, and the people there. I had to get away from them. That felt too much like I was playing with the big folks, or something. At that point, Rutgers, and my countercultural, and also, my gay life on campus became my life. I remember, we founded a little gay-rights group.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, tell me about that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, I don't think—we didn't last very long, and there weren't very many of us, but it was called—I've been trying to remember the name, and I think the acronym [*laughing 30:45*] the acronym was RAGE [*cross talk 30:48*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, okay, yes ...

*Joseph Canarelli:* You knew this.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. We have found evidence from the student newspaper that—what's funny is that the reference we—the earliest reference we found to it says, "This group has just been re-established," but we don't know when it was first established.

*Joseph Canarelli:* When was it re-established? Tell me that date?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I think '73.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, that's when it makes sense.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I can figure it out for sure, but I'd love—when was it established?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, I wish I could give you a specific date. It had to have been after the summer of 1970, cuz I wasn't dealing with New York, like I said. I cofounded it with—what's the deal with using last names in these interviews?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* There isn't a rule.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Let me not [*cross talk 32:08*] his name was Michael. Alright? It wasn't Michael [*cross talk 32:12*]. It was another Michael. It was actually the other Michael that I mentioned—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Who was also in GLF.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right. Michael, and I, and a lesbian couple—one of them was named Susan, and I cannot, for the life of me—I can see them clear as day. I can't remember the other woman's name. It was the four of us, and I'm thinking there was somebody else, but I can't remember – man, woman. I just don't remember.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Mm-hmm. That's fine.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It was the four of us, five of us, and we put posters up, advertising the first meeting. Most of them got torn down, of course. The meeting went on anyway, and what we—I don't remember that we did anything on campus, other than to meet there. In other words, I don't remember us organizing some kind of program, or a speech, or bringing in—I don't remember anything like that, but what we did do was we started to connect with other gay student groups at other colleges in New Jersey, in the area, and there was a bunch of them.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* In New Jersey.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah ... Uh-huh. This movement to make the connection – this movement of these little groups, trying to form some sort of a loose, informal coalition – it was in the air. It wasn't like this was our idea. We started hooking up with these other groups. I remember a bunch of us going to hear David Susskind talk at, I think it was like Paterson College? I don't even know that that's really the right name, but this was probably the group that we got most involved with.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It was in Paterson.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. That's what I'm remembering, and that may be wrong. It may be someplace else in New Jersey. Unfortunately, I couldn't keep—I don't have any flyers, or—I don't have stuff like that from the New Jersey part. I have stuff from the New York part. I remember David Susskind speaking. He had just had some program on, with—well, back then, they were called transsexuals. We just wouldn't let him speak. We did something so typical for those years, which is that if you disagreed with somebody, you just went and shrieked at them. There was no dialogue. We managed to stop the evening. Toward what end is a really good question, but I do remember that.

Then I started dating a man from one of these other groups. That's what I'm remembering about our group, and I remember, we didn't last very long, cuz there just wasn't enough interest. Again, that's what I remember. Yeah, it didn't pull in a crowd. It's very nice to hear that it re-established itself, and I guess, by that time, I was away.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* You were away?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I had stopped working on campus. I wasn't hanging out there, anymore.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Gotcha.

*Joseph Canarelli:* My life was beginning to move back into—well, not back, but my life was moving into New York, and then finally living there.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay. Tell me about coming out, cuz I wanna make sure we cover that. Coming out to your parents, I guess, or—

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think maybe there are two things you might be interested in, which is the coming out to my parents, but also, the “formal coming out” to people on campus, who were straight, like my friends in SDS, my friends in the countercultural group. Coming out to my parents, I did that in the summer of 1970, and it was really surprising to me. My father was fabulous. He said he was thrilled that, first of all, I had come to him—this is so telling, that I had come to tell him before I told my mother. He was thrilled. We never had much of a relationship—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow, that's so funny.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right? Yeah?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* He had come and gone, and yet, you told him first—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, they were back together again.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay.

*Joseph Canarelli:* They had reconciled, yet again, and actually, for what was to be the last time. My father died two years ago, and they'd been together since 1970. He was just so pleased. I made him happy by coming to him first. His response was, it was, “You're my son. I love you. Go do what you need to do, and find out what you need to find out,” is what he literally said. “Go find out what you need to find out.” This is the man who didn't want me reading. The impact was enormous for me.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That makes sense.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, right? Then her. Not so pretty. She was lying on the couch, reading, and she knew something was up. I went with her, and he came with me, into the living room. I told her I needed to talk to her, and she was clearly resentful that I was interrupting her reading. I told her, and she made a face, and she said, “Well, you're still my son. I love you. Now I'm gonna

go back to my book.” That is the only thing, since 1970, she’s ever said to me about it.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, wow.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. It’s just sort of incredible to me. During the entire epidemic, and I was in New York for the beginning of it, and had friends that were dying, and they knew this, they never once asked if I was okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* They meaning your mother, and father?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. Not once. That’s put a certain kind of a cap on that relationship for me.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Of course.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think it says a whole universe of things about them.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, so that was what coming out to them was.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, dear. That’s hard. What about your sister?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I never—my sister’s never wanted very much to do with me, and I’m to be frank, vice versa. Really.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Fair enough. That’s real.

*Joseph Canarelli:* I think, given what the dynamics in the household were, Tim, she and I were set up to dislike each other. There weren’t enough resources. We had two very limited parents. Everything had to be fought for, and this is still an Italian family. I’m the first born, and I’m a son [*cross talk 44:16*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Right, yeah, yeah, yeah, yep.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right? Until I started my “new life,” on campus, with the politics, and the coming out, and growing my hair. Then, my parents were so, at heart, disapproving. She sort of moved into some position of being the good child, right?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Ah, interesting.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Well, yes, you were set up to dislike each other.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right. She hadn't spoken to me in—well, we talked for about two minutes when my father died, and we hadn't spoken for 25 years before that, literally.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Wow.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah. There's sort of no family [*cross talk 45:25*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Okay, unfortunately, we probably have to wrap up soon.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Sure.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'd be happy to do another—if there are things that you wish you'd said, or that you think of later, we can do this again. When the interview's transcribed, I'm gonna—just so you know, I will send you a transcript for you to review. That shouldn't take very long. The process is fairly streamlined, at this point. You can correct anything, or—also, if there are things that you decide you wanna redact, I won't say we're happy to do that, but we will—anything you wanna—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Take back?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Take back, or—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It's important to us to respect that.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Of course.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I did wanna be sure to ask, you mentioned that you were in a gay bar in Newark, once. I'm just curious what it was, and where, and what you remember about it, if anything?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, okay. You wanna do that now?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Sure.

*Joseph Canarelli:* The bar was by Penn Station. I do not remember the name of it, but I took a look at the project's website. I think it's the bar that—you have that list of clubs, and bars, and one of them, you say—it's something about that Arnie Kantrowitz had talked- had mentioned this particular bar, because what he remembered was that the bar was—the bar, proper, where you sat, was this huge rectangle that took up most of the room. That's the bar I went to. It was called Murphy's or something [*cross talk 47:50*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, there's Murphy's, and there's Skippy's, yeah ...

*Joseph Canarelli:* -easily check that. That's what I remember. I went there with my friend, George, who came into the picture a little after 1970. He used to go there. Bars were just not my thing, so I didn't seek them out, in Newark, but this was the one time, and the one bar that I went to.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah. Was that when—around 1970?

*Joseph Canarelli:* It was '71, maybe, '72. I'm not sure. What I remember of it was funky, unadorned, and the strange architectural thing of the bar, the literal bar, taking up so much fucking space in the room. It was a quiet—half-full, probably? There were people there, and that's about all I remember. Totally unadorned room is what I remember. There was nothing about this room that made it stand out in any way—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Just a bar.

*Joseph Canarelli:* It wasn't like there was a mural of somebody's 12-foot dick or something [*laughing 49:28*] -that's sort of our décor. It wasn't anything like that.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I love it. You said our décor?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Our décor [*cross talk 49:44*] gay men.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Our people, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Our décor.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yes. Why did you leave Newark?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Um—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Or was it that you were drawn to New York?

*Joseph Canarelli:* I was drawn to New York [*cross talk 50:05*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, well, that's not—

*Joseph Canarelli:* It felt like my life in Newark—I had done it. Newark had a lot of good memories, but they were on top of a lot of really bad shit, like we talked about earlier. My life in New York felt like it would be much easier to be gay—by the '70s, the atmosphere, for me, as a gay man, a political gay man, and the atmosphere in New York felt so open, and I could breathe is what it felt like. My old hometown didn't feel like it was gonna be the

place. I wanted out. I just wanted out, and away. I'll tell ya—do we have like two minutes?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Mm-hmm. Yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* When Michael first told me about the project, he said, the Queer Newark Project, my immediate reaction was, “What queer Newark?”

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* That's fascinating because you thought of Newark as—well, what do you mean?

*Joseph Canarelli:* It didn't seem queer to me.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Mm-hmm, and New York did?

*Joseph Canarelli:* Oh, yeah—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* It was—yeah, right [*cross talk 52:11*]

*Joseph Canarelli:* -it was Greenwich Village, it was all that history, which I knew some of – the history of queer life in Newark, I didn't know anything about. I never even thought to think about it, quite frankly, which embarrasses me to say, but, you know—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* No, I think it makes sense. We get that a lot. It's part of why I think it is interesting to piece together, to collect people's stories about a place that a lotta people think of as a way station, or as peripheral, I guess, but that does have a super-interesting history.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, the more I look at the website, the more I'm finding that out, but as I lived it, it did feel—peripheral is actually a really good word. It felt peripheral to New York. It was my hometown, and I needed to leave my hometown.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, right.

*Joseph Canarelli:* There's also that.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I can—

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes, please?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Well, I can imagine wanting to—you know, being gay accentuating the peripheral quality, especially given that your family was there, and so on.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Right. I think that what you all are doing is really lovely, and important, and I'm still trying to integrate that it's happening.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Thank you so much for sharing your time, and your memories. This has been really super-interesting, and I'm really grateful. Thank you.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Well, you are very welcome, and I'm glad it's been interesting, and still usable for the project. You've been a doll. You've been so easy to talk to, and that's made this very—it's made this flow more easily than I feared it might.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Oh, good. I'm really glad.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yeah, so thank you—

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Thank you.

*Joseph Canarelli:* You know, I hope we get to meet some day. I would love to meet you.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I would love to meet you, as well. Let me know if you come to the East Coast.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay. You're in Cambridge, now, right?

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I'm in Cambridge, just for this academic year, yeah.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay, alright. If I were to go visit Michael over the next couple months, you and I could have a drink or something.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Yeah, absolutely.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright, okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* My partner's still in New York, so I'm going back various weekends, but also, I'm here other weekends.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Okay.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Be in touch. I'd love to meet you.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Yes. Alright [*cross talk 56:00*]

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* I will be in touch about the transcript.

*Joseph Canarelli:* -I look forward to seeing what this looks like in print.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Cool, thanks again.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Thank you so much, Tim.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Thank you. Take care.

*Joseph Canarelli:* Alright, bye-bye.

*Tim Stewart-Winter:* Bye-bye.

*[End of Audio]*