

Episode Three: Awkward Sweet Peaches

DJ Vidiam

Hello, salve, ni hao, salut! And welcome back to “Awkward Sweet Peaches,” the show that catches their 5-year-old son trying on mommy’s dresses. As a duly deputized member of Sweet Ophelia, better known as the Sweet O’s, I want to remind everyone to attend the Gender Bender Ball this Friday, in the Atrium at 9:30, to see the Sweet O’s and Chessmen sing...each other’s songs! Also come and see men dressed as women and women dressing as men, without their sexuality suddenly becoming suspect. In that spirit, this episode of Awkward Sweet Peaches deals exclusively with Gender Confusion, boys mistaken for girls, girls mistaken for boys, and the questions that arise from these chance encounters. Also we have a bit of role reversal mentioned in these songs, as well as singers taking on the characteristics of their opposing gender. With that in mind, let us begin with a classic song on this subject.

(Plays “Lola”)

That was “Lola” by the Kinks, one of the most famous songs about a guy who thinks this one cross-dresser is hot. And yet, he still considers himself a man. Homosexual behavior has had a history of being really confusing. Even a couple a decades ago, a man could pass himself off as straight when with another man, as long as he was playing the quote-unquote “man’s part” in the affair. Nowadays, if you’re with somebody of the same gender, you’re gay, no matter what position you take. Even so, there are plenty of people who have been with those of the same gender in their past, but they just call it “experimentation.” One has to wonder what exactly is the dividing line between straight and gay nowadays.

(Plays “Killer Queen”)

That was Queen’s “Killer Queen,” which sounds like it could describe a woman, except for that one line, “but then again, incidentally, if you’re that way inclined.” Also, the word Queen in the song makes the subjects gender suspect. The connotations are strong, and she is called a Killer “Queen,” as opposed to other labels that may better suit an expensive call girl. Besides that, Freddy Mercury was homosexual, which leads anyone to scrutinize the lyrics of any Queen song a little more closely than usual, except for “We Will Rock You.” That’s straightforwardly awesome. Also, if you have any requests or awkward stories you’d like to share on the air, please email me at awkwardsweetpeaches@yahoo.com, or call in at 717-291-4096. Keep in mind the play lists for this show are written in advance, so be on the lookout for future Request Shows while listening.

(Plays “James”)

That was Huffamoose’s “James.” The song is actually quite sweet. I’m just a little concerned that men are singing a song written for a girl, and they don’t even change up the lyrics. I don’t even think this is a cover for another song. I’m pretty sure Huffamoose wrote this. Also, for your listening pleasure, I’d like to present this daily drama from FMyLife.com: “Today, i walked into the bathroom and saw my beautiful girlfriend of 9

months shaving her face. Seeing my shocking reflection she says "Honey, we need to talk". She proceeds to tell me that she was born a man and had a full sex change the year before she met me. Yes, we've had sex. FML"

(Plays "Sweet Dreams")

That was "Sweet Dreams (Are made of this)" by Eurythmics, most well known for a video featuring the androgynous Annie Lennox in a music video, sporting a carrot orange crew-cut. The first time I heard this song, I thought a guy was singing it, and even to this day, when I hear the song without watching the video, I think "male." Same thing also happened with Michael Jackson when he was still in the Jackson 5. I figured that an older woman with a high voice was singing in the group along with a couple other men and women. Yes, I said women, the other members of the Jackson 5 could hit some high falsettos. I'm not playing Li'l Michael for today's show, however, because I figure we've all heard enough of him already and can use a break.

(Plays "Favorite Things")

Coming in at #5 is Me First and the Gimme Gimmes' cover of "Favorite Things," better known from the Sound of Music. To me, the lyrics seem undoubtedly feminine, but that could just be because a woman first sang this song. Frank Sinatra could probably do a cover of this, especially about the "Girls in white dresses with blue satin sashes," but I can't imagine any male singing about "Snowflakes that stay on [their] nose and eyelashes," or "cream-colored ponies." Horses, maybe, but ponies never. Have you ever met a man who has positively or casually referred to horses as ponies?

(Plays "Dude Looks Like A Lady")

That was Aerosmith's "Dude Looks Like a Lady," about yet another guy who thinks this one cross-dresser is hot. I'm starting to see a pattern here. It always seems to be the male cross-dressers who garner the most attention in the media. If any of you listeners out there know any songs about straight women who are attracted to drag kings, please let me know. Our number again is 717-291-4096, and my email again is awkwardsweetpeaches@yahoo.com.

(Plays "King For A Day")

That was Green Day's "King For A Day," about a drag queen, not a drag king. Title's kind of misleading, but I guess they used King to clue the listeners in that the song is about a male, and Queen for A Day has already been used so often. Even while I'm saying this, it doesn't make sense.

(Plays "It's Different For Girls")

That was Joe Jackson's "Its Different For Girls," about a man who is pressured by his dog of a girlfriend into giving head. I first heard about this song in the play "After Ashley," which mocks the stereotypical treatment of women in the media, mainly that of daytime television. The titular character, Ashley, who dies shortly after being raped by her gardener, is a very easy-going mom, who admits that her son Justin was not planned,

smokes marijuana regularly, and encourages her son to try some with her so he knows what it's like. She's not at all like the downtrodden female heroines from *Steel Magnolias*, but that's what her husband, a news reporter, and other producers and talk-show hosts, make her out to be in the news exposé, "After Ashley." Ashley's favorite song is "It's Different For Girls," because of its irony.

(Plays "I'm a Boy")

That was "I'm a Boy," by the Who. While this song is about a boy who is dressed up as a girl on a regular basis, by his mother, it could also be used as an anthem for men trapped in a women's body. One such historical case would be a man known as David, victim of a circumcision gone horribly wrong, who was subsequently reassigned by his doctor, who wanted to use him for some gender-related experiment from what I remember, as a female. His parents thought that this was for the best, but David always knew he was a boy, and found out about the botched surgery in his teen years, and later committed suicide. Which just goes to show you, listen to your damn kids, they know what they're talking about.

(Plays "Get Back")

Our tenth song here is *Get Back*, by the Beatles, about two outcasts, one who smokes weed and one who dresses like a girl. Although the focus of the song is not on the boy in a dress, it is about the sentiments towards cross-dressing and transgender men during that time. The Beatles were well known for social commentary in their songs. And again, we have a treat from *FMyLife.com*: "Today, I went to buy my prom dress. I felt really good as I walked out of the dressing room... Until someone walked out of the one next to me wearing the same dress, and looked better in it than I did. It was a man buying it for his drag show. FML"

(Plays "I Kissed A Girl")

By now you should all know Katy Perry's "I Kissed A Girl," but what strikes me as peculiar in this song is that she admits to finding women sexually attractive, but still identifies herself as straight. I don't think she even considers being bi in this song. That aside, is it just me, or do lesbians get eroticized more often in the media than gay men? I mean, what is it about lesbians that makes producers and directors think that guys will drool over them and that's it? After all, I've been on anime-message boards before, and believe me, there is a subculture of women who think gay men are hot, if only animated gay men. Thoughts? Questions? Complaints? Call me up on 717-291-4096.

(Plays "I'm 18")

That was Alice Cooper's "I'm 18." Fun fact, Alice Cooper was originally the name of the band, not the singer. It was only after Vincent Furnier kept hearing fans refer to him as Alice, after the shows, that he decided to take on the androgynous witchy persona that we all know and...know, today.

(Plays "Diva")

That was our final number “Diva,” by Dana International, the famous Israeli, male-to-female transsexual, Eurovision song-contest-winning pop star. I can only wonder at the kind of controversy that might stir up over in the Middle East, especially from Palestine. To be fair, however, I’ve never been to Israel myself, and don’t know much about the culture. For all I know, Israel might be really cool with world-renowned transgender singers.

(At the end of the show)

Well, the little hand’s on the six, the big hand’s on twelve, and I have a Fight Club to attend in ten minutes. I hear we’re getting a few new members, so that’ll make for an interesting meeting. I hope they’re not lactose intolerant. I spent all day on these cream puffs, and I will not make anything new just because some sweets make this guy or that guy sick. That’s the nature of sweets! They’re not supposed to be good for you! (Long sigh) But, I digress. I’m gonna close this show, but before I do, I’d like to offer you something to think about: If women can wear pants and still be considered feminine, how come men can’t wear skirts and still be considered masculine? This has been DJ Vidiam, on member supported college radio.