

Ellison:
Sorry it takes me so long to come in.

Male voice:
We've grown to expect that.

Male voice:
Must be Ellison.

Ellison:
Yeah. Well I promised I'd come back and, uh, (deep sigh) and talk. It's kind of funny, Jeanne gets real quiet when I uh, get around her I notice that she gets quieter when I'm around her than when some of the others are around her, 'cause I'm...

Tom:
Yeah, she does. She gets nervous when my mother's around.

Ellison:
Poor gal. You don't know who she is, do you? Well, I'm going to be serious for a little while today. (Chuckles.) Every time I say that, I say that with a certain amount of teasing. Um, I'm getting a... Gosh, you guys are real patient with me.

You know, ah, watching that young girl last night was ah, (sigh) ... Well, it was... painful. I thought of myself and how I've tried to make contact with my family and... It just doesn't seem fair sometimes. Do you know what I mean?

Male voice:
Yeah, I know what you mean.

Ellison:
There sit these two young, eager, extremely anxious young ladies, to hear from their brother. But it's been four years or so, I don't know, something like that. Two or four years since he died.

Tom:
Uh hum. It was frustrating... um, for me when I, far as say when my grandfather died. And, ah, I felt him around quite strongly but nobody else in the family would accept it. My mother wouldn't. And then when my uncle died I wrote his son about my cousin. He wouldn't accept it.

Ellison:
Well, you realize how lucky Sam is. Like even though you seem to have gotten the shaft in the last part of your life Sam, at least you have people around you that believe in this. I mean, look at this. You're a real stinker. You've got Jeanne and you've got Tom and you've got Bob and Edie. God, man, you must have done something right.

Sam:
Yeah, well, I, I...

Ellison:
Somewhere along the line, man, you scored!

Sam:
Well I got kicked out of my livelihood. My livelihood was going bad and your livelihood was going good. So it's a matter of, one door shuts and one door opens.

Ellison:
Yeah.

Sam:
So it's if I wasn't meant to be here my livelihood would have been going well. So...

Ellison:
Well, Sam, we just enjoy watching you. It gives us some encouragement and we realize that it's going to take some time. I seem to wear my pain more than I would like to. Does that have anything to do with my astrological sign? Some people are really into that.

Sam:
Yeah, feelings are up front, like with Janna and other Cancers I know.

Ellison:
They're hard to get rid of though. I feel things deeply. But I don't want to change that. Anyway, I didn't come here to... That wasn't the main point of my conversation today, but it helps me settle in, you know, to, ah, being with Jeanne. I really recently have come to respect all of you more than I really had time to before. There's several reasons for that.

First of all, we had to trust implicitly, the first few months, everything that we were told. We didn't really have the ability to scope it out and distinguish it as being truth or non-truth because we were in the hands of so many and we had so much to accept. We had no choice and it's a very intimidating situation for us. We are free thinkers as far as our own independent style of growth. We are persistent, each in our own ways. And to be thrown into a set of circumstances in which we felt totally out of control was another very difficult condition.

Now that we are adjusting to that reality, and can accept it, we have more freedom to check you guys out. I mean that nicely, but just to know who you are. Who are we in contact? What are you all about? We haven't gone prying into your personal lives, by any means. But we've had time to watch you, to be around you, to experience your frustrations, your highs and your lows, to realize that you're very human and have to do the things daily like we had to do.

You know, you might have thought of us as being on pedestals, but really we had ah, an awesome feeling about all of you. Can you understand how we would develop that kind of an attitude quickly?

And it's nice to know that you haven't fallen off of that pedestal, but yet you've grown more than an image to us. You're not a monument or a shrine. You're working, considerate people; hard-working people with our best interest and your best interest in mind. And that's, ah, real important to me. I enjoyed some of the glitter of being an astronaut. I was a little upset at being put on the first flight that was held in secrecy.

You know, we went up and supposedly weren't going to give out information as to what we were doing for the government. I thought it might be interesting today, to tell you what we did. (Chuckles.)

Jeanne's going, "Oh God, this is great." Wouldn't that be good proof? A highly classified flight to space? And I will give you some information.

Jeanne gave me permission to push her out of the way any time I needed to. As I was coming in she said, "Now Ellison, I'm just going to work as hard as I can for you today and just push me out of the way whenever you need me to move." Do you know how hard that is to do with her?

Male voice:
(Unintelligible.)

Ellison:
(Laughing.) Do you know how hard that is to do with her? Oh shit!

Male voice:
Deny her existence.

Ellison:
(Still laughing.) Like telling... It's like telling NASA that we didn't blow up, you know...

Male voice:
It's like trying to move Hoover Dam.

Ellison:
Oh... I love her. I hope she knows. But... she knows that I've never experienced anything like this in the last five hundred years. I'm sure maybe I had to do it for her before, you know. But ah, I get tickled 'cause she says, "Just move me out of the way." And I'm going, "Oh lady, give me a bulldozer." Anyway, I'm going to take this as evenly as I can so that she doesn't mess with it, okay. I noticed something about her last night.

She was really good giving information to these young women. Really clicking around. But I was seeing things too. And really she was given a lot more than she interpreted for

them. And I don't think she was conscious of it. I asked... ah, one of her guides afterwards why that was.

And the guide said, "Well we give her more than she can use just to see what she picks up on, what she can handle." Does that make sense? In other words, you know, we might show her four pictures and maybe she can... she can... she can attach herself to two. It's like an oversupply so at least there's something. Does that make sense?

Male voice:
Yes.

Ellison:
But when I'm coming through Jeanne, and I'm depending on her for words, energy, movement. I'm like Tom — I'm quiet for the most part. Oh, Tom's talkative but he's personally quiet. And you have two contrasting personalities coming together to do some work. And it's like Mount St. Helen versus the Colorado River; both very dramatic in their own way, but both very different. So, first of all, I'm putting shape to my images. Is it okay if I put my hands up here? Will I bother the Mike, maybe?

Male voice:
No.

Ellison:
Um, I'm digging and remembering and relaying. But the thing that really hits me hard when I'm in Jeanne is that my emotions, my awareness, my sense, or just even my practical everyday memories are intensified so keenly that it's almost overwhelming. At times it is.

In other words, you know, I'm dealing with my own thoughts but when I'm in her, she magnifies them. So suddenly they've become twice, three times as large. And when you see something in a larger perspective it changes shape right? And when it changes shape you see things maybe you didn't see before.

Some of it's good and some it you're very uncomfortable, or I'm very uncomfortable with. So I just wanted to explain to you my own struggles at bringing myself through. I have not tried, with any depth, to speak through anybody else because I find it hard enough just to relate to Jeanne.

I have tried to put myself close to someone, with emotions, but I haven't tried to enter, unlike some of the others, who have. I'm not too upset anymore when I visualize myself on the shuttle. But I sense Jeanne's memory of us. It was a very painful thing. Especially with Christa, but equally really with all of us. When a person allows himself to become vulnerable they do so either because they're stupid and love to be punished, or because they want to so understand the world that they can help.

I never used to understand that process as completely as I do now. In other words, my

wife is quiet. My family, my oldest daughter is a little more outgoing than my youngest one. But we enjoyed life, we became involved, we shared, we demonstrated our love, but it was a quieter environment than some places.

And we did have friends from time to time that were not so quiet. And sometimes we were comfortable and sometimes we weren't comfortable with them. Because it was unlike our own natures.

Well, I'm digressing a little bit. But I'm trying to give you more of a personality makeup. I think this is important too. Some people say, well, you know, you guys could be guessing all this. But wouldn't it be something just to be good guessers! (Laughing) I mean, you know, the probability of that! I... uh... spent some time in California as a pilot.

Those were good years for me. In fact, Tom, I'm sure that you and I probably — even though I flew a different type of aircraft — flew in the same sky at the same time. Um, we weren't stationed in the same places, 'cause I was more than just Viet Nam. But coming home to Edwards... so unlike... is he asleep over there?

Male voice:
No.

Ellison:
(Laughing.) I thought I heard somebody snore!

Sam:
He started to.

Ellison:
Oh. Oh, let's see if I can get back here. If you're too tired, I can do this another time.

Tom:
No, go ahead.

Ellison:
Oh, okay. Let me see, I was talking about Edwards. I had a student who wanted to fly so badly, and made it by the skin of his teeth. He... ah...

Male voice:
You're supposed to make it by the seat of your pants, aren't you?

Ellison:
This guy wasn't good enough for the skin of his pants. Anyway, we met each other in later years. He was also a candidate for the astronaut program but he didn't make it. He washed out. And, uh, I realized how lucky I was to be where I was.

Anyway, this is all just chitchat in some ways but, ah, it helps me to get a sense of who I am, and it takes longer. And like I say, if it's that boring and you want to go to sleep Tom, go ahead. My wife always did that to me too.

(Chuckles.) You know, by the time I got around to saying something, the fire could be out on the barbeque. But, ah, I'm not always that slow, really I'm not. You have to be pretty quick-witted. I'm quicker with my actions at times than I am with my words.

Um, when I was chosen for the program I felt like I was coming home. I felt like I was coming home to a part of myself that... uh, I had been searching for all my life. I love my family. I love my roots. But I was hungry to know something of myself that I hadn't yet known. I loved to fly. I loved to instruct. I loved all aspects of flying. I didn't like moving around.

I didn't like being under somebody else's jurisdiction nearly as much as some people in the military enjoy it. Now, like Mike, his balls are so big that he doesn't figure that anybody is his commander, you know. He just... (chuckles) he just goes, and has a certain type of personality that lets things roll off. But not me, I have a harder time.

Now some authority was directional and proper. But there were others, and I know Tom you know that and Sam, I know you know from being in the military, but it was just plain asinine. And it was just a trip. Well that's nothing new, but I'm telling you how I related to it. And it was hard for me at times to see...

For instance, this kid I talked about who'd been, uh, just barely getting through. I mean he was scrubbed from some activities that I didn't think was fair for him. But because he... he never fit in quite right, he never fit in the way I did. He just never was quite G.I. You know, he wasn't quite, um, macho enough in some respects, although I don't consider myself at all macho, but... So anyway, that was hard for me and I suffered along with him. My dear wife would listen to me. She could tell by the way my face looked when I walked in the door that we'd had another squabble over this guy. (Sigh.)

So meeting up with him later on was bittersweet because we had developed a fairly decent relationship. I went to bat for this guy and, ah, lost. But he was still plugging away at it, hadn't really become any more military than he had been years before. But there was something in him that wanted to keep moving. I wish I could come to that guy and tell him that I see more of his being now than I did then, that I understand more now why he felt directed to be the way he was.

Male voice:
(Unintelligible.)

Ellison:
Before, it was just the underdog, and I felt that he'd been done wrong. Now it's a perspective of who he is and what he's made of, and it's okay. Well, anyway, when I was chosen for this program, I felt like I had won something inside of myself, that I had

accomplished everything that I had wanted to set out for myself. I had questions, at times, periodically, if I was a token choice. I think Ron would probably say that to you too. I don't think Judy would ever admit it. I think Christa knows. (Laughs.)

Ah, they were looking more for a woman in a teacher than a man, because they had so many men already, and there were so many women who were teachers. But she didn't fight it. She just said, "I'm going to take it for what it's worth and go with it." I had questions from time to time — am I a token choice? But I realized even if I was a token choice, I'd had to prove myself to be worthy of that. And so I'd put it out of my mind as much as I could. My daughters were still quite young when I was chosen into this.

My family has had a lot of changes. So living from a tropical island to desert sand was not an easy thing. Anyway, we went into training for this program and, ah... I want to see if I can relate some things. I may not get it all today but I'll do my best.

We had several military properties onboard the payload section. They weren't all that secret, I mean there was a lot of speculation as to what was going up. It was such a job, I couldn't believe it.

However, there was... there were two items that were rather small in size. Smaller than a satellite, larger than a laser gun, that are highly classified instruments from the Pentagon. Documentation for these does exist, but it's on a very limited basis. All right, Jeanne, this is when I tell you to move over. See, she can see things faster than I can, but I've got to tell you. Do you understand?

Male voice:
Yes.

Ellison:
I had charge of both items. One never, never left the cabin or the area where we were experimenting. Another one was outside. One dealt with colors and images, sizes and shapes. The other dealt with sound. They both detected foreign objects. Their main purpose was to take impressions, almost like a small computer, of objects in space. However, it was not defense-oriented, nor was it offensive-oriented. It was UFO-oriented.

Now you may not find anybody that's going to support what I just said. Because the Pentagon doesn't want the public to know. But yet, we all know. 'Cause we said early on, right? Dick came through and said, "Hey man, there is this section that's studying all this phenomenon." But I am going to pray to God that sometime this information gets into the hands of somebody who knows. Not because I want to just... to blow the whistle on the Pentagon and its work, but because I want to prove that I was there.

Now these instruments, like I said, one was small, one was fairly good sized, but the... neither of them were that big. One went outside, one worked within the cabin. The one that worked on the outside is still floating, but it's attached, and works with some other

objects that are also out there. I hear Jeanne interrupting and saying, "Well, does Reagan know this?"

I'm not sure. Reagan's the type of president that a million bits of information go across his desk every day. He can't possibly absorb it all. I don't know. I honestly don't know if he knows about this or not. But I do know that the people who put our flight together in Houston know about it, those that were cleared to work on it. It wasn't all that secretive. It was a big... (unintelligible) It was a cover-up to make people think that it was all military defense-oriented stuff.

You know what I'm saying? To create a smokescreen so that people wouldn't question the other junk that was going up there. Now there's more. Me and several of the other guys decided to play some games with this stuff. Now, not that we touched the instruments in any way that would harm or damage them. Lord, they might fire me if I told them that! (Chuckles.) Cut off my pay! Um, but we conjured up, and... ok, some of our own data, you know, getting data out. We had some very bizarre experiences. You know when Glenn had those light experiences outside of his ah, cabin, you know the capsule?

Male voice:
Over Australia?

Ellison:
Yeah. Well, you know when you fly, sometimes you get these little light fireballs that go through. I don't know if Tom's awake. I don't know if I should...

Tom:
(Unintelligible)...lightning balls?

Ellison:
Yeah. Well imagine yourself sitting safely and securely in the shuttle and it's just about time for you to go to sleep. And NASA's sending you the usual piped music to get you sleepy and some of the guys take knock-out drops and some of us don't. Oh yes. We're very chemically induced up there, although they probably wouldn't admit to it. And, uh... you guys aren't going to... you're not going to believe this. This is great.

(Whispers.) All of a sudden there's Gus... (unintelligible)... apparition in the cabin... Spacesuit... No shit. Full torso apparition! You guys use that term. It's wonderful. Had to be Gus. He just jumped on. Had to be Gus, you know. Who else, who the hell else is going to be up there following us around?

Now there's a couple of us that saw this. We got our machines out, right? UFOs man. Is this going to detect? What's it going to do? We were so blown away! We couldn't get diddly squat to work. He stayed as a light force almost one solid hour. Now you tell me (sigh)... Now the thing is, we didn't know what to do. How do we tell NASA what we just experienced?

Male voice:
(Unintelligible.)

Ellison:
(Sighs.) We wrote up our own report about some unverifiable phenomena in the form of lightball, fireball energy, which appeared to have some form and shape. That's all we could do... That's all we could do.

Male voice: (Unintelligible.)

Ellison:
I never knew though, how profound that image was going to be to me personally. I'm not the only one. Get a book, and I'll point out the other two astronauts that experienced it with me. You go to their houses.

Male voice:
Now this was on the flight prior to the Challenger?

Ellison:
The one that went up with the, ah, military... quiet. Ah... You know they told you after we went up kind of stuff. All the QT. Told you after we landed that we landed.

Male voice:
Oh, I remember that one. Yeah.

Ellison:
It was a year previous. Almost to the date, I think.

Male voice:
It's funny. We weren't following the shuttle... uh, missions... uh, carefully afterwards. It wasn't like the Mercury astronauts.

Male voice:
There almost got to be too many of them.

Ellison:
(Sighs.) We tried to do something that was insane. You're not a Boeing 707 taking people from California to New York, you know. And then it was the 747s, and... Anyway, there's still more on that flight. Now the thing is with that apparition, I don't know how these guys — you know — they may just confirm it with you, I don't know that... well, they're both really not that active anymore, one particularly, so it may not be any skin off his nose.

The thing is that, let me explain something about the clique system in NASA. You've got all these astronauts, right? And they're got their own little specialties they work on, and

their own little things. And they know what shuttle they're going to have, for the most part, unless they get screwed around.

There are some of us that are well-integrated into knowing a lot of the other gastro-nuts. But there are definite and distinct groups, almost like a college clique of association. And they harbor these... you know, it's like a football team — "my team's better than your team" — kind of thing. And it's our way of getting through the impending potential doom of an experiment such as this. You know, like you guys...

I wasn't there but Christa said you guys watched that TV special the other night — or some of you did — about carrier pilots. Right, Sam? And to keep ourselves off of the negative and on to the positive we create these little groups, these little rivalries, comradeship.

Some of it got a little dangerous, but not... not... you know — not bodily. It's just a matter of, sometimes you get... with tension you get carried away a little too far with it. So anyway, within the group then where do you go? Now that I've been with Gus, I said, "Well why in the hell did you do that?" He said, "Well, it was a UFO study. What better... (laughs) what better person to study than me? You know? I knew what was going on. Why shouldn't I be up there?"

Male voice:

So it was listed as an Unidentified Freaky Object?

Ellison:

Freaky object, yeah. Oh God, I wish I could tell them! (Sighs.) Then there was another thing, just as we were preparing to come down. NASA didn't release... release much information about that flight at all. But we had trouble. We had some real trouble. We had trouble getting ourselves back. (Sighs.)

Now I'm trying... I'm looking back to see if I can get this through her. It wasn't so much the main engines as the navigational, and I know that sounds bizarre because they've got computers that back up computers, but somehow the damn thing wasn't responding. It's almost like a steering cable broke. (Chuckles.)

You don't have that on a twenty Samion dollar craft, or whatever it is. Ah, anyway, just... it wasn't lining up properly and as we got into the earth's atmosphere, there was a lot of wind shear and... ah, God it's frustrating... I'm checking. Suddenly that part of me is just kind of... gone away. Well, for some reason I guess I'm not supposed to give that information out. I don't know why. Come on, guys.

Male voice:

Well, don't worry about it.

Ellison:

Well, maybe there will be more later. That frustrates me. It's not Jeanne, it's my tapes. I'm getting psychic. Gus is standing here and he's putting his finger over my lips. He's

saying, "You've said enough." (Laughs.) He's been a good buddy of mine since I've been over here. Really a good buddy. He's going to stay a while longer. He was getting kind of anxious to come back and then decided, "Hell no, I won't go. They need some real good work here." Um, after that experience in the compartment with Gus I didn't sleep much.

I didn't want to sleep much. I wanted to understand what in the hell was going on. I... ah, had my own little journal and I wrote it all down. I think my wife still has it. And, ah, we didn't talk too much. We just figured that it was a sign that... (sigh) the Pentagon was right about looking into this. One of the guys out of the three of us really wanted to write to them. We said we wouldn't support him.

And I really regret that now — really regret that. We said we wouldn't support him 'cause we were afraid of what they'd do to us. God, isn't that just chicken shit? Is that why I got back here? Is that my karma, as you would say, because I wouldn't support it then I had to come through and do it myself? Ah...

Male voice:

Well, you probably would have gotten in... (unintelligible) ...happened. You did the right thing.

Ellison:

Well, I did it. Whether it's right or not, it's done, and here I am. But now I'm working. So anyway, um, it was quite an experience. It was very eerie. We, ah, said something to the effect, to the other flight crew, that we had studied a phenomenon of energy.

They were all... the other guys were all out to lunch, so they didn't see it. And, ah, we told them that we, ah, well, they wanted to know more and we said, "Well, just energy, like light, you know and... ah, they said, "Well what was it?"
"Well, it looked like a person."

They said, "Yeah, sure." But you know, there's an unspoken bond between your crew members, and even if you don't believe what the guy is saying, you don't come out and say, "You're full of crap." You support them, 'cause you don't know where they've been, or what they're doing in space as far as how it affects them. You know, that's why some of them had real profound spiritual things happening to them.

Male voice:

I'm surprised they put that... Glenn's experience in that movie.

Ellison:

What was that? What movie was that?

Male voice:

The Right Stuff.

Ellison:

Oh, yeah. Well, Glenn's been a leader. More of us would like to lead but often our experiences conflict with the image that NASA would like us to portray. It's a really good important part. I hope that comes out real clear on the tape. Did you get that? Well, look at you Tom, going to Thailand and experiencing yourself with the Buddhists.

Tom:

Yes.

Ellison:

That certainly isn't a military image, now is it? How would the world think if they thought that their pilots were going to Viet Nam and becoming spiritually in tune when they come back. Or they're coming so blown away with the drug problem... that's not a military image. That's denied, right? The drug problem is swept under the carpet.

Male voice:

Of course.

Ellison:

So it's all image. And we expect our kids to be any less? When they're learning from the big people in the world that it's all right to play one game and... and live another?

Male voice:

Look at the health professionals. They deny drug and alcohol problems because they deny they've created a problem in their profession.

Ellison:

God! Exactly! Exactly. Well, after that experience with Gus, I never was the same.

Male voice:

How can you be?

Ellison:

And I didn't know what to do with it though. I didn't know what to do. I was torn up inside.

Male voice:

Be careful what you pray for. You might just get it.

Ellison:

I can't tell you how profoundly this all has affected me. I wish I could paint a better image of myself, and how I handled the first experience. You know, when I was a child I used to walk the fields. There was such a wonderful peace, but such a wonderful yearning inside of me. Do you know what I mean? Did you ever have it as a kid? I think I heard you, Sam, say you wondered who you were, where had you been before, what did you come from.

Sam:

I would love to know... (unintelligible)

Ellison:

I uh, I can relate to that. 'Cause even though I didn't... all I did, I just looked at the sky and I'd want to be part of it. I felt like I could just flap my wings and go. And I felt like there was something that people weren't telling me, the puzzle wasn't complete.

My mother was — is — a very profound lady and her philosophy of life kept me going, but it didn't have all the answers. But after I saw Gus, her philosophy made a lot more sense to me. I can't speak for the others, but I can speak for myself. We said very little to each other, but we all watched each other watch this. Did you see what I saw? Are you seeing what I'm seeing?

My God, get the instruments! The flurry of activity. We thought we'd scare it away. He just stood there. He stood there. We couldn't get the damn things to work. Why not? Why couldn't these things work? This is what they were for! (Deep sigh.)

Then we just kind of forgot about it, just watched. "What are we going to tell the folks back home?" we said. "God," they said. "It's God coming to tell us. But what is he telling us?" (Deep sigh.) When Christa reached out for me in the shuttle, and I knew we weren't going to make it, I saw her body drop into the ocean. I saw Gus. (Sigh.) Oh, dear God... I'm sorry.

Male voice:

It's okay. It's hard... (unintelligible)

Ellison:

Oh, but it's more the reality that I'm realizing... the pieces, the puzzle. The continuity of my purpose for living. I'm sad, but I'm overwhelmed, really. (Deep sigh.) Feels good, guys. Thank you.

Male voice:

Thank you.

Ellison:

I... uh, I don't think I could... uh, sit right here with my family right now and tell them all those things. I think I would... I don't know. But by the time it happens I will be in good shape. By the time it happens they will believe enough that it's me that they won't want to think that you're crazy. They'll want to hear more. I'm pretty family concerned, and I know I need to be more concerned with other things as well but... uh, (sigh) my family knows me very well. They know me very well and they could certainly attest to certain information.

Give me a minute, I have... uh, a couple more things to say. (Sigh.) Oh boy, feels like a really, uh, rough lovemaking encounter after reliving all those emotions. That doesn't

sound right either. It's just, God... it's that I get hit with it more intensely when I'm talking through Jeanne.

Um, several of us just recently had anniversaries and it was kind of rough. But it was kind of nice too, 'cause we didn't feel futility. Rather, instead we felt the possibilities that lie ahead of us, and await us in our exploration of ourselves for the benefit of others who want to become involved with us. (Deep sigh.)

Ron's here this afternoon. He's a good friend. He gives me a lot of emotional support. He says, "Man, you've just got to go in there and jive! You just gotta go in there and jive, man. You just gotta go! Go! Go! Go!" Well that's when I'd like to see him in a cheerleading skirt with some pompoms in his hands! (Laughs.) You've got the ugliest looking legs, let me tell you. (Laughs.) Oh gosh, uh, oh he's so silly.

He says, "Tell Big Momma, hi." Um, oh, I'm clearing my head of the cobwebs, just give me a minute. Oh gosh. I've got a checklist here and I'm looking down at all the things I wanted to communicate. I know there's no rush, but I think I can do one more. Then I'll let you guys go. (Chuckles.) It's wonderful having a captive audience. I was never one to really desire it all that much. I wish my kids would listen to me as well as you guys do. It's like E.F. Hutton. When E.F. Hutton talks, and everybody listens, you know.

Okay, a personal bit of information. Uh, my wife and I took a vacation a couple of years back and went to Japan. Went to see my long lost relatives. Lost, I know they're not. Um, I had mixed feelings about being in Japan and I have since come to learn that a lot of it is karma. It may seem a little incongruous, but a part of me really enjoyed the culture and the atmosphere and the whole to-do. But part of me really rebelled against capitalism, the rebelliousness, the punk stuff that's going on over there.

It's a lot of... you know... I don't know if it's the crowded people or, you know it's a crowded island, or what it was. But it's like a part of me was saying, "This isn't the way I knew it." Do you know what I'm saying? Like some part of me was remembering it differently, and when you got out into the country it was one thing.

Male voice:

Well it's been forty years. Forty years ago. Fifty years ago... (unintelligible).

Ellison:

Yeah. So if I lived a couple of lives there, or what, you know. I remembered it as it had been. And seeing all the neon lights and McDonalds hamburger chains and the kids... more rebellious than our kids really. You saw more of them because it was a small and more condensed area in which they were out so you could see them. And it really threw me culturally.

Anyway, we went up to a little shrine. It was just a little thing, nothing real big and ostentatious but God, the energy was fantastic. I sat there and I just wept... (unintelligible). I couldn't tell you why. Felt like we were home and we had lived together,

been buried there. Sure love her so much. It's not hard for me to believe we weren't together before, or that we were together before.

I guess the reason I'm saying these things to you is 'cause now I'm seeing the continuity of the steps, each step to progress to get me to this place. Didn't realize it at the time. We never do, I guess. A kid who I worked with had an unusual last name. I'm trying to think of what it is. I'd like to give it to you guys as best I can. You know, the guy I spoke of earlier on the plane, how I stood up for him and things that kind of went against him.

He was a different nationality than me. (Laughs.) Some people say I have a difficult name. He came from... um, his parents came from Europe. Seemed to me it was up in the Netherlands somewhere. So he had kind of a — what is it, what do I want to say — Nordic name? Scandinavian name? And ah, I'm trying to see what it... it had about four or five syllables in it, you know how that goes?

Male voice:
Or German, possibly.

Ellison:
Yeah, but it had a lot of syllables in it... his last name. His first name was, I don't know, Ron, or... I don't really know what his first name was. Let me see if I can figure it out. It was a fairly common American (name)... "I'll work with you on flying and you can teach me your name." (Laughs.)

I think it took me longer to learn how to say his name than it took him to learn the machine he was working on. But if he ever reads this I want him to know how much I enjoyed the relationship. Before I go, is there anything that you guys would like to add or ask about what I just said or anything?

Male voice:
I had a million questions... (unintelligible).

Ellison:
(Laughing.) God, I timed that pretty well, didn't I?

Male voice:
I think we need to listen to the tape again... (unintelligible) were answered, so you did tie it up... you did it.

Ellison:
Gee, I'm glad to know that. Could I shake you guys' hand?

Male voice:
All right. (Unintelligible.)

Ellison:
Gosh, it's wonderful.

Male voice:
It is. It's great.

Ellison:
I'm getting to look like Christa. Gosh. I said I'm getting to look like Christa, holding your hand.

Male voice:
Same feeling. The feeling is mutual.

Male voice:
We grew up with "I Want to Hold Your Hand."

Ellison:
Now that's right! Now see what John did to us! I'll talk with you guys later. It was great. It was great. Thank you so much.

Male voice:
Thank you.

Ellison:
I'll see you later.

Male voice:
Bye, bye.