

2015 07 20 Monday Crystal Gayle "Midnight in the Desert"

Midnight In The Desert begins

AB: "From the High Desert and the Great American Southwest, I bid you Good Morning, Good Afternoon, Good Evening, wherever you are in the Universe, the World ... We're covering it all with a brand new program called *Midnight In The Desert*. I'm Art Bell, and it is my pleasure to be here. It's going to be an interesting evening.

The first thing we're gonna do is cover the genesis of the name of the program. Now lets' think about it a little bit – *Midnight In The Desert* – where have you heard that before?

Midnight In The Desert, Midnight In The Desert ... let me think about that.

Oh, Yes! There's this lovely gal in ... in Nashville. There's this lovely gal in Nashville, who, ah ... this lovely gal in Nashville who, ah, who sang it for me and her name is Crystal Gayle.

Crystal, welcome to the program!"

CG: "Well, thank you for having me on! I'm so excited!"

AB: "Um, I ... I guess now I should reach back, I should tell everybody that one day ... one day you came to my house here in Nevada. You ... came all the way to Pahrump, Nevada and handed me a song on a ... on a CD. And, um, it blew me away.

And then, Crystal, as time went on – and you said: 'I sang this for you. Here you go. It's yours.' And as time went on I fell more and more and more in love with the song. It's the last song I play every single night.

And ... so, first of all I guess I would like to ask about the genesis of this song. Um, did you write it ... yourself?"

CG: "I wrote this with, ah, Mike Loudermilk, and then my husband, Bill. But Mike and I started out the song. We, um, listen to your program all the time ... (AB laughs) ... as you know ... (CG laughs). And we just started thinking about it and we, you know, gonna come up with something, and it just came. And we wrote it and we decided we gotta ... we had to bring it to you."

AB: "Crystal, when you ... when you write a song, does it most times just come or are a lot of them struggles to write?"

CG: "A lot of it can be struggles. (CG laughs). But, ah ... but, ah, the ones I like are the ones that come easy, and this definitely did. But you know there was ... it just felt right. And we ... we wanted to do this."

AB: "Boy, it does feel right! It feels right for ... ah, by the way you'll be interested to know, um, we had a great vote on this website and, ah, *Midnight In The Desert* won out hands down! Everybody wanted the program to be called that; everybody wanted the theme to be that."

CG: (laughs). "This is great!"

AB: "So, ah ..."

CG: "So we are very honored! Very, very honored."

AB: "I'm very honored!"

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AB: "What are you doing these days?"

CG: "Well, we're still working out on the road doing different ... different concerts and, uh ... Been in the studio workin' on a classic country album that's, ah, in the mixing process and will be out soon. And just having fun!

You know, in my career I've ... I've been all over the world and made so many wonderful friends and, ah, love it! And I'm still making more."

AB: "All right ... I want an honest response here: When ... when you go out on the road, man, you're really on the road. I mean, you're from spot to spot to spot all over the country. Um, does that wear one down after a while?"

CG: "Definitely it can wear you down (AB laughs) real fast." (CG laughs).

AB: "Yeah."

CG: "It just depends, you know when I was younger, definitely we could go day after day after day. And then, ah, you get a little older and it was like: "Okay, let's slow this down!" (CG and AB laugh).

But you know once it's in your blood, you love it! I mean, you ... we enjoy bein' out there! And as you know my sister, Loretta Lynn ... I mean, she loves it! She's still out there singin' it ... And it's just incredible!

And I've got to say we're gonna be at her ranch on September 5th with the Van Lear Girls, so, ah ..."

AB: "Really!"

CG: "My sister Peggy, Loretta and I will be all together there. And we have so much fun."

AB: "How come so much talent gathers in one family?"

CG: "You know, I don't know. I think ... my mother would sing, my father – I think he sang and played the guitar. But Mom had a twin sister ... that they'd sing around at socials (AB laughs), and it was a part of our upbringing- ... upbringing.

Ah, in Kentucky, everybody gathered on the porch, ah, and you know, we didn't have a video machine ... everything else." (CG laughs).

AB: "Oh I know about Kentucky, I do. It's really laid back. There's so much beautiful farm country there. Horses all over the place! It's gorgeous!"

CG: "It's a ... it's a great place. A wonderful place."

AB: "You know where I am? Out here in the middle of cactus country."

CG: "I love the desert though!" (AB and CG laugh).

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AB: "So you honestly ... really did listen to the show, huh?"

CG: "Oh yes! Yes!"

AB: "That's incredible! Um, I never ..."

CG: "That [unintelligible]."

AB: "You know I never ... Just like you never knew who's in the audience, I never know who's out there."

CG: "That ... that's right. Well we ... love it, and ah ... it inspired that song."

AB: "Somehow I can imagine you're all listening as you're on a bus or on something, you know, going from one gig to another."

CG: "Definitely that! Ah, at home as well."

AB: "Huh."

- CG: “Ah, you know when you enjoy something – and I enjoy what you talk about ... *so all those interesting things.*”
- AB: “Well, when I ... (AB laughs) ... I played this – you know, I’m married again – I played it for my wife and she absolutely fell in love with it. And then I told her that I actually met you and I showed her your picture, and she about fell over, so ...
- Um, I’ve gotta ask you about your hair. Um, your world-famous for your hair. You’re a ... there was some rumor or something, I don’t know ... I heard from somebody that you were at one time thinking of cutting it ... No!”
- CG: (laughs). “I have been cutting it back some. It’s not quite as long, but, uh ...”
- AB: “No ...”
- CG: “It’s hard to get rid of something that’s been with you as long as it has, so ... that’s one thing. But you know, I do dream about having short hair, you know, where I can just wash it and go!” (CG laughs).
- AB: “How hard is it? I mean, that’s ... when I saw you it was at your ankles. Now, I can’t even imagine hair that long, um, but it’s part of your trademark now, so I’m sure anybody connected with you is also saying: ‘Nooo ... don’t cut your hair!’ Right?”
- CG: “You know, some have said through the years: ‘Cut it!’ and some have said: ‘No!’ But you know I ... I owe my ... my long hair to my American Indian heritage – I’m Keet Cherokee, and it just grows so fast! And, ah ...”
- AB: “I had no idea ...”
- CG: “I cut ...”
- AB: “... you had Cherokee!”
- CG: “... from nine (9) to twelve (12) inches off a year.”
- AB: “Nine (9) to twelve (12)?”
- CG: “Yeah, you know it just grows so fast. I don’t know how long my hair would have been if I’d never trimmed it.”
- AB: “In other words you might be trailing it like a bridal thing.”

CG: “Yeah ... (CG laughs, AB smirks).

When I started stepping on it, I said that’s too long so I had ... that’s when I cut it back.”

AB: “So nine (9) to twelve (12) is like how much it grows in a year?”

CG: “Yeah! You know, I think, ah, the normal is like for most people I think is about six (6) inches. But I started measuring my ... my trimmings through the year and it was from nine (9) to twelve (12) inches.”

AB: “Well, it’s absolutely gorgeous! And I think that’s why when you appear somewhere they frequently get television shots or, you know, photo shots of you from the rear to show your hair.”

CG: “Yes, they have.”

AB: ‘Well, again it is my distinct honor and pleasure to have the show named *Midnight In The Desert*. I’m in love with that song and, you know if I weren’t so entangled I’d be in love with you too!”

CG: “Good night, Art.”

AB: “Oh, man!”

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AB: “All right, so I had to do that. I had to do that at the beginning of the program. It was just no two (2) ways about it.

What a wonderful lady! And ... and I’m not kidding you when I say she got on an airplane, came all the way out here – came to my house! Had lunch (!) and handed that to me, and said: ‘This is for you.’

And I listened to it once and I said: ‘Oh, thank you so much! And you know, it ended there for a little while. And then I started listening more and more and more to the song. And the more I heard it, the more I began to fall more and more in love with it. Really in love with it!

So ... that’s how this show became what it is. And the good people at *BellGab* – that’s a website that kinda follows the, ah, the show – voted this as what should be the name of the program. And so that’s how it happened. That beautiful, talented lady is the reason.”

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