

2023-05-05

HARD NEWS ON FRIDAY

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, **organized** citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”
Margaret Mead
<https://leandroherrero.com/the-missing-word-in-the-famous-margaret-mead-quote/>

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW

- I ACCESS to THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet
- II ACCESS to OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable
- III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; LINK TO PODCAST
- IV SATURDAY HISTORY CALL – NOTES, REFERENCE MATERIALS

I B B S RADIO - ACCESS TO THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS <https://bbsradio.com/>

DAY	B B S Station	TIME	PROGRAM	CONFERENCE CALL	HOSTS
Thursday	#1	6 pm Pacific 9 pm Eastern	A Night at the Round Table	None	Panel Members Guests Callers welcome.
Friday	#1	6 pm Pacific 9 pm Eastern	Friday Night Hard News	720-716-7301 Pin Code: 353 863#	Rama, Tara Callers welcome.
Saturday	#2	1:30 pm PT/ 4:30 Eastern	History of our Galactic World & NESARA aka The True History	720-716-7301 Pin Code: 353 863#	Rama, Tara callers welcome.

NOTE: 2nd CONFERENCE CALL # for both Friday, Saturday
605-313-5166
Pin Code: 353 863#

ADDITIONAL HELP FOR LISTENERS

B B S LISTENER TOOLS

B B S RADIO STATION 1
A Night at the Roundtable
Friday Night Hard News

B B S RADIO STATION 2
Saturday History Call

LISTEN ON LINE

CLICK ON **AUDIO ICON**

CLICK ON **AUDIO ICON**



LISTEN BY PHONE

1-631-359-9353
[NO code needed]

1-804-220-6484
[No code needed]

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B B S ARCHIVES

- go to www.bbsradio.com
- In **Search** box, enter the name of the required program;
- scroll down to the heading **TALK SHOW PROGRAM ARCHIVES FOR PODCASTING.**
- Find the table listing the dates. Click on required date.

II ACCESS TO OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY Rainbow Roundtable

NAME OF CALL / HOST	WEEKDAY / TIME	ACCESS POINT	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call Grand Goddess Lillie	Wednesday 6:00 – 7:30 MST	Telephone Only	1-605-472-5406 PIN 402-493#
Abundance Call Caroline Oceana Ryan	Every 2 nd Wednesday 5:45 PM PT/ 8:45 PM ET	Telephone ZOOM	

To be notified: email <https://www.ascensiontimes.com/the-abundance-group>
Scroll down to the sign-up sheet and enter the requested info.

Ascension Call Cheryl Croci	Every Sunday, Monday 9 – 10:30 EST	Telephone Only	1-425-436-6260 PIN 9467 441# Call Cheryl for # in your area
Ashtar Legacy Calls Fran Pearre	Every 2 nd , 4 th Tuesday 5 th Tuesday – no call 9:00 – 10:00 pm EST	Telephone VOIP/ H D via Skype	1-717-908-1834 PIN 980 339# Call is free; LD charges are not 1-717-908-1834 PIN #980 339# https://www.freeconferencecallhd.com/hd-conferencing/ Click on VOIP button and enter info as requested

To access past ALC calls, go to [Ashtar Legacy Teleconferences \(ashtarontheroad.com\)](http://Ashtar Legacy Teleconferences (ashtarontheroad.com))

III ARCHIVES: provided by **B B S RADIO RAINBOW ROUNDTABLE**

ARCHIVES: B B S

- Go to www.bbsradio.com
- In **Search** box, enter the name of the desired program;
- scroll down to the heading **TALK SHOW PROGRAM ARCHIVES FOR PODCASTING**
- Find the table listing the dates. Click on desired date.

ARCHIVES: Rainbow Roundtable

- Go to <https://www.rainbowroundtable.net/>
- **WRITTEN**
 - Go to "Archives" tab: See NOTES on RHS
- **AUDIO**
 - Go to "Archives" tab: See AUDIO on LHS:
Included are both BBS podcast + Conference Call Links

III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; ACCESS TO PODCAST; MAYAN CALENDAR

A. Opening Meditation: Rainbird

B. Mayan Calendar / Record of Days: Rainbird

- Go to <https://www.spacestationplaza.com> – to locate specific days & lots more information: on the home page, you can find out what your Mayan signature is; while there, look and see where the wave – the birth wave - began

- to learn about the Mayan Calendar, Go to <https://www.spacestationplaza.com> which will link you further to www.lawoftime.org website for further information.

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE PODCAST TO HEAR THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION OF EACH DATE
Also note: This is not a 3rd dimensional calendar!

www.Spacestationplaza.co Click on the tzolkein – it's on page 2 of the link.

5th Friday	1 EB	Yellow Magnetic Human	Healing
Will affect the next 13 days. Activating cosmic consciousness. Gift of human servant warrior – let go of dependence on analytical mind			
6th Saturday	2 BEN	Red Lunar Skywalker	Warrior
PORTAL DAY about the balance of yin/yang. Striving towards self illumination. Gift of strength, ability to bend dimensions			
7th Sunday	3 IX	White Electric Magician	Visionary
Working with illumination for others. Gift of being shaman, jaquar woman – working in Divine will			
8th Monday	4 MEN	Blue Self-Existing Eagle	Visionary
Commitment to service; re-connecting with			
9th Tuesday	5 CIB	Yellow Overtone Warrior	Warrior
PORTAL DAY – trust in our journey; awareness of right action; let go of restriction, hesitation			
10th Wednesday	6 CABAN	Red Rhythmic Earth	Healing
Work is being keeper of earth, being aware of earth energy; being the balancing point. Let go of separation			
11th Thursday	7 ETZNAB	White Resonant Mirror	Warrior
Work on our groundedness, wise use of energy – self understanding. Gift of skrying the unseen- let go of fear . . .			

C. Housekeeping:

- We are asking to **have more people contribute**, as some of the regular, long-term donors are stressed and stretched: **any and all small amounts are helpful and very welcome.**

Re **T & R:** Their full-time, life-time commitment is to be tuned in to what is really going on behind the scenes of the artificial world we see around us. They don't ask for anything but they do require food, a home, gas for the car, and access to BBS Radio in order to compile and distribute this information to the world.

- Donations via Paypal button on the **homepage** www.rainbowroundtable.net

B B S RADIO:

- The radio programs are supported by us, the listeners.
- The THREE radio programs cost \$300 each week.
- The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:

B B S RADIO

B B S RADIO
58 N Marshside Place
Spring, TX 77389

Please put "**Attention Don**" on the envelope
And note inside: "for Thursday,
Friday AND Saturday calls"

- **All BBS archives can be accessed FOR FREE by everyone.**
- **NB: TO BE FOUND AT www.rainbowroundtable.net/archives**
 - **AUDIO ARCHIVES** (BBS Radio Podcasts plus Conference Calls) **and**
 - **PROGRAM NOTES** (downloadable and printable **PDFs**)

OTHER FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

FOOD MONEY: VIA PAYPAL OR See the PAGE ON www.rainbowroundtable.net

Rama has a pride of Paschats + 2 inside kitties + 2 HUMANS = up to 13 in total

Financial Requirements

WEEKLY
B B S RADIO/week

\$350.25 To finish out this week and last week! !! THANK YOU SO MUCH!

PERSONAL
Gas, food, etc
Bills
Miscellaneous/Other

\$200.00
\$465.00 **2 bills Mon; 2 bills on Wed . .**
\$496.00 To finish car & a new tire
HAS TO BE PAID ASAP! !!

MONTHLY
Rent - \$1,150 / mo
Total

CONTACT INFO

- **Please notify Rama when sending something** koran999@comcast.net
- **Mailing address for checks, money orders, etc**
Ram D Berkowitz
PO Box 280
Santa Cruz, NM 87567

EVERY \$5 HELPS - ALL GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

PLEASE MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO DONATE THIS MONTH

THANKS TO ALL FOR THEIR HELP . . .

- **Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!**
- **** [www.rainbowroundtable.net /page/donate](http://www.rainbowroundtable.net/page/donate) ****
 - Your donation supports an account set up for Tara & Rama with **Beneficial Farms Community Supported Agriculture in Santa Fe, NM**
 - They continue to appreciate each & every donation received for food.
 - Please continue to go to www.rainbowroundtable.net and link to their Paypal account: choose **family and friends option so Paypal takes off no fees.**

FREEMART: SUPPLEMENTS. This account helps Rama & Tara; it's the source of their supplements

The returns also help www.rainbowroundtable.net

<https://www.shopfreemart.com/tarram> a/c # 7000

- Freemart is a private shoppers club; it's **FREE TO JOIN.**
- all the products have much to offer, so take a look!
- check out the heading called **READ MORE: lots of** good information

FREEMART: NUGEN COIN: <https://www.nugencoin.com/tarram>

To help Marshall and support him by signing up under his name:

<https://www.nugencoin.com/marnor>

TO GET HELP, Call Carolyn [Rainbird] or Micah

Carolyn's E-mail: lightenergync@gmail.com

Micah's E-mail: thegreenalchemist@gmail.com

CALL THEM FOR HELP WITH REGISTRATION/ISSUES RELATED TO NUGEN COINS

Access to this week's Podcast

<https://bbsradio.com/podcast/hard-news-friday-may-5-2023>

NOTE AGAIN: dial 1-631-359-9353 to listen to BBS Radio TV Station 1.

TO LISTEN TO CALLS ON THE PHONE: 1-631-359-9353

Rama, Tara: R, T

T: KOS has said it's going to work – referring to the financial program that has been created

R: the story is Happy Wesak, Lunar Eclipse, full Moon -
like The Nameless Ones and the Poppy Lady said – focus on the violet flame, work with the energies
and sent the energies of Lord Buddha

- events on the planet are serious – however . . . Captain Ashtar knows when to show up! ! !

T: say Om Mane Padme Hum

- there are lots of ships in the sky these days
- focus on the Violet flame, send Love

AUDIO: 2023-04-23 THIS Happens On 19th May 2023 (Prediction)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A6b4B_RBsQU&ab_channel=SilviaSuryodaya%F0%9F%92%97

[Silvia Suryodaya](#)  Vedic astrologer

This day has a very special astrological energy. It could be the trigger for serious problems. More informations and what this means in the video.

☾ Vedic Horoskope: <https://bit.ly/3mzLqnk>

💎 My crystal pendant: <https://bit.ly/408qlxP>

📧 Free newsletter: <https://bit.ly/3FiaMfy>

✨ Instagram: @silvia_suryodaya

♥ Contact: <https://bit.ly/3Vm3Rsu>

Website: <https://bit.ly/3LNh22k>

📡 More of me? Follow me on Telegram: <https://t.me/silviasuryo>

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CONFERENCE CALL

#762

<https://fccdl.in/SfwNxdTTfr>

PLEASE LISTEN TO THE PODCAST: NO NOTES AVAILABLE

B B S RADIO

AVE SACHE

AUDIO: Era of Peace

Patti Cota Robles

Vlog 321 - WE WILL COCREATE POWERFUL EVENTS DURING MAY



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdRvtwDPQVw&t=4s&ab_channel=PatriciaCotaRobles

AUDIO: 2023-04-08 Kryon 2023 | Quantum DNA | This Will Change You Forever

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQLQouxaUzM> 38.40 MIN

[#kryon2023](#) [#kryon](#) [#kryon2022](#)

Kryon teachings have profoundly impacted my life. Kryon brought me to the peace, joy and love. I hope sharing these teachings will help more seeking souls benefit from the inspiring and practical wisdom. For more Kryon videos please subscribe to: [_/ @spiritualawakeni...](#)



Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant One. In the Office of the Christ and only in the Office of the Christ, we invoke the loving energies of St Germain and the Violet Flame.

Greetings, Children of Ra

Lots of cosmic energy happening in a good way. Things are moving very quickly now to completion, as we can see. She keeps bringing these words up: wrap up the story. It is in of itself: the energies are tying up all the loose ends.

It's like what the man just said; we're here – gotta squint a little bit to see us, yet we're here.

- As things get lighter, we come into full focus because the dimensions are shifting so rapidly right now.
- One day to the next, the energies are such that we might have driven into a portal yesterday; today we're in a place called Nowhere. Nowhere is everywhere. It is the sound of Oneness.

What's happening on many levels is this Buddhic energy from the Buddhic plane [is] pouring in at this time with the Admiral Sananda Kumara's energies; Lord Maityra – all the aspects of what this story's about.

- The Office of the Christ, [is] a planetary position, a universal position in this local Universe of Neadon.
- The real politics is how this galaxy, this universe, revolves and it is with precise alignments of love, compassion, gratitude, Oneness.
- Luminous beings we all are, as Master Joda has taught us. It is at this moment everything coming into crystal clear focus as the energies rise up.

Yes there are many events unfolding.

- Our wayward children would like to crash our economy and they are working at it, yet St Germain knows what to do and it's right at this time as all these aspects
- we heard the Lady Master speaking about the tremendous shifts in energy May 19th – we cannot say what is unfolding.
- What it is about is lifting this realm up, in such a way we all get to meet and greet each other in Oneness, Beauty, Love - as Aurora Ray keeps telling us each day about the magnificence of who and what we are becoming.
- It is all happening and unfolding, and we would like it to be yesterday, yet today is this 'here, now' moment.
- This is the biggest challenge for ourselves is to be here, now; [to] be love now – that is a really, really big deal! As we master this stuff, this oneness, it ripples out like the pebble in the pond or this eclipse which is rippling out across the galaxy
- and believe you me, it is shifting each particle up which is a good thing~

Our beloved children are doing what they are doing, and accountability is on the table.

- What happened long ago, not so long, long ago, in a galaxy not so far, far way – this great shift that has to do with what happened 15, 000 years ago, 12,000, give or take, it's is happening right now – climate disruption, consciousness raising and the conflict
- We'll say we're here too with the Nibiru: the Nibiru was here 12, 829 years ago, as well. They come only in peace. This is the order of the day

We all are needing an upgrade, so to speak, along with the planet. As She has said, 30 days give or take, we can fix this story.

- It is about this transfiguration of dimensional energies; the crystal kingdom is part of it.
- What is contained in these crystals that we have all through our lives, through our homes, that are still part of Gaia, Vyamus – Gaia: it is the center of the nervous system of this planet. Brain . . . Talk to your crystals and they talk to you – they can change your DNA and can re-form it, re- shape it so that death is an illusion

The things Kryon brought up about Lemuria:

- it was only towards the end of what was happening that the issues of conflict got in the mix, and it was about spirit vs technology: we're here again.
- AI is not the enemy: there is no enemy - **it is what can do with our thoughts.** This is why all the wisdom teachers, wisdom keepers, across this planet and throughout this local systems [say, are saying] gotta keep it pure – watch your tongue, watch your thoughts: this is how we change this
the mantra these folks are doing in the Wesak Valley for the next 3 days : are gonna do some good stuff. It's to lift this planet and us up. We're doing a good share of that ourselves.
 - As things get brighter it's this light that is pouring in – she has no words for it
The words she could speak – a e i o u - the holy sacred sounds of the vowels - creation sounds!!!
- It is a glorious time to be alive.
 - At the same moment, same breath, it's a trip, as the Grateful Dead would say! A long strange trip it's been.
 - It's a good one and the outcome is Nirvana Satori. The words - it is the word magic we create within ourselves. We know the sacred sound, the words – it's how we lift it up.

- We must be on our way – got an interview in the Gamma Quadrant of this local galaxy.

T: You have an interview? Who is interviewing you ?

M/A: Well, let's say, a few dignitaries from a constellation that we're not sure how to pronounce in your language called English;
all she could say is this constellation looks like a swan – (Cygnet)

T: This ugly duckling becoming a beautiful swan

M/A: Yes. And lift all of Light up

T: might as well go up

M/A: It's a better choice than going down.

BOTH: Greetings in the Light of the Most Radiant one

Kodoish, Kodoish, Kodoish Adonai `Tsebayoth
iliahu iliahu iliahu
Yod Hey Vod Hey
YHWH

Holy holy holy is the Lord God of Hosts
Illumine Illumine Illumine
Yod Hey Vod Hey of the Living Everlasting Light
The Revealed Name to our Father universe of the
Living God behind all Creator Gods

Rama Returns: went to Taos Mountain - yes, hearing the hum- the steady beat of the energies, non-stop – just keeps on going; it's about that keeping everything running within all parameters.

T: about location of next audio

R: the energies with this eclipse are really pushing it right to the edge

T: agrees

- Democracy Now program is **Wednesday, April 26th – the day after Harry Belafonte passed**
- Amy's show is the interviews she had with him over time

DEMOCRACY NOW

2023-04-26 "Sing Your Song": Remembering Harry Belafonte, Who Used His Stardom to Help MLK & Civil Rights Movement

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/4/26/remembering_harry_belafonte_democracy_now

2023-04-26 Harry Belafonte in His Own Words on Opposing Iraq War & Calling George W. Bush a "Terrorist"

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/4/26/rip_harry_belafonte

2023-04-26 "Get Down to Business": Harry Belafonte in 2016 on Trump, Socialism & Fighting for Justice

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/4/26/harry_belafonte_life_and_legacy

AUDIO: 2023-04-10 Economic Update: When We Put People First in US Politics

https://www.democracyatwork.info/eu_when_we_put_people_first_in_us_politics

[S13 E15] **New**

Direct Download

https://traffic.libsyn.com/economicupdate/Econ_Update_2023.04.06.s13e15.mp3

In this week's Economic Update, Prof. Wolff presents updates on the failures of GOP and Democrats to face or solve major crises; layoffs and stock buybacks by US hi-tech companies; a new study of "food insecurity" in LA county. The second half of the show is dedicated to a discussion of how US history of the 1920s and 1930s shows the possibility of a progressive political shift and upsurge in the US today.

Timestamps

- 00:00 - 01:16 - Intro
- 01:17 - 06:16 - Gov't response to crises
- 06:17 - 08:21 - Tech layoffs
- 08:22 - 14:25 - SNAPs & Food insecurity
- 14:26 - 15:43 - Announcements
- 15:44 - 30:22 - 20th century political shift

SOURCES FOR SHOW SEGMENTS:

- East Palestine, Ohio derailment: <https://www.levernews.com/email/b7aacdb2-7382-42be-800a-a907d71b25d9/?ref=lever-daily-newsletter>
- Layoffs in US hi-tech companies: https://www.axios.com/newsletters/axios-markets-482773a7-4cdf-450c-a8c6-867e7fb2a7b0.html?chunk=0&utm_term=emshare
- "Food insecurity:" https://phys.org/news/2023-03-food-insecurity-worsens-low-income-angelenos.html?utm_source=nwletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily-nwletter

AUDIO: STORIES FROM THE STAGE – LINK TV

<https://www.linktv.org/shows/stories-from-the-stage/episodes/stories-from-the-stage-never-the-same>

Season 6 Episode 17

We are defined by turning points, choosing a path where nothing is ever the same again. Natasha and her team fights to bring Sesame Street to a newly democratic Russia; Johanne reconnects with her late father's friend to navigate the end of life; and Dave decides to become a pro basketball player, despite talent. Three storytellers, three interpretations of NEVER THE SAME, hosted by Wes Hazard.



AUDIO: AURORA RAY Entering the Fifth Dimension: The Gateway to a Higher Existence 8:30

2023-05-05

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YZUHD2D-74&ab_channel=AuroraRay



The consciousness shift is already in full effect, and the planetary liberation process is moving along its destined course. Your contribution at this time is to remind yourself that you are sovereign, powerful beings capable of manifesting whatever you desire.

CLOSING: Rainbird It's been a great Everything Day! And Blaze the Violet Fire for Alberta!

Rama's Closing Music



Enya - Wild Child" is a single by Irish singer-songwriter Enya. It was released on 19 March 2001 as the second and final single from her fifth studio album, *A Day Without Rain* (2000).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_wM7A6Eht7s&ab_channel=enyatv

**Reading: T reads the highlighted sentence from this Aurora Ray Message
2023-05-05 The Ultimate Secret Code Of Ascension AURORA RAY**

[https://thegalacticfederation.com/0012-20?
utm_content=14130198&utm_medium=Email&utm_name=Id&utm_source=Actionetics&utm
term=Email](https://thegalacticfederation.com/0012-20?utm_content=14130198&utm_medium=Email&utm_name=Id&utm_source=Actionetics&utm_term=Email)

Sat Nam! Namaste! Aho! ! !

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

2023-04-26 "Sing Your Song": Remembering Harry Belafonte, Who Used His Stardom to Help MLK & Civil Rights Movement

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/4/26/remembering_harry_belafonte_democracy_now

Topics [Harry Belafonte](#)

- [Music](#)
- [Art & Politics](#)
- [Civil Rights](#)

Guests [Harry Belafonte](#)

legendary singer, actor and civil rights activist who died April 25, 2023, at age 96.



We remember the remarkable life of Harry Belafonte, the pioneering actor, singer and civil rights activist, who died at his home on Tuesday in New York at the age of 96. The son of Jamaican immigrants, Belafonte rose to stardom in the 1950s and became the first artist to sell a million records with his album *Calypso*. He was also the first African American actor to win an Emmy. Along with his growing fame, Belafonte became deeply involved in the civil rights movement. One of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s closest confidants, he helped to organize the March on Washington in 1963 and frequently raised money to bail activists out of jail and fund their activities throughout the South. Belafonte was also a longtime critic of U.S. foreign policy, calling for an end to the embargo against Cuba, supporting the anti-apartheid movement and opposing policies of war and global oppression. He spoke out against the U.S. invasion of Iraq and once called George W. Bush the "greatest terrorist in the world." Harry Belafonte appeared on *Democracy Now!* numerous times over the years. In 2011, we spoke to him upon the premiere of *Sing Your Song*, a documentary about his life, and we begin our special by featuring an extended excerpt from our interview. "Going into the South of the United States, listening to the voices of rural Black America, listening to the voices of those who sang out against the Ku Klux Klan and out against segregation, and women, who were the most oppressed of all, rising to the occasion to protest against their conditions, became the arena where my first songs were to emerge," Belafonte recalled.

Transcript

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.

AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman.

Today we spend the hour remembering the remarkable life of Harry Belafonte. The pioneering actor, singer, civil rights activist died at his home on Tuesday in New York at the age of 96 from congestive heart failure. The son of Jamaican immigrants, Belafonte grew up in Harlem and Jamaica. In the 1950s, he spearheaded the calypso craze, became the first artist in recording history with a million-selling album. He was also the first African American actor to win an Emmy.

Along with his rise to worldwide stardom, Belafonte became deeply involved in the civil rights movement. One of Dr. Martin Luther King's closest confidants, he sent money to bail King out of the Birmingham City Jail and raised thousands of dollars to release other imprisoned protesters. He financed the Freedom Rides, supported voter registration drives and helped to organize the March on Washington in 1963.

Harry Belafonte remained deeply involved in political struggles at home and abroad. A longtime critic of U.S. foreign policy, he called for an end to the embargo against Cuba, opposed policies of war and global oppression. After years of supporting the anti-apartheid movement, Belafonte hosted former South African President Nelson Mandela on his triumphant visit to the United States after his release from prison in South Africa. Harry Belafonte also spoke out against the U.S. invasion of Iraq and once called President George W. Bush the, quote, "greatest terrorist in the world."

Harry Belafonte [appeared](#) on *Democracy Now!* numerous times. In 2011, I [spoke](#) to him at the Sundance Film Festival, where a documentary about his life, titled *Sing Your Song*, premiered. The film was co-produced by Harry Belafonte's daughter Gina. This is a part of the film's trailer.

ED SULLIVAN: Here's one of the greatest artists of the world, Harry Belafonte!

HARRY BELAFONTE: [singing] Day-o, day-o
Daylight come and we want go home
Day, is a day, is a day, is a day..

HARRY BELAFONTE: One day, Paul Robeson came to see me and simply said, "Get them to sing your song, and they'll want to know who you are."

HARRY BELAFONTE: [singing] Coconut woman is calling out
Every day you will hear her shout..

JULIAN BOND: Even in that grainy, black-and-white early TV, his personality came out.

GEORGE SCHLATTER: When Harry Belafonte went on the show with Petula Clark, they touched.

WHOOPI GOLDBERG: People were like, "Oh my god!"

HARRY BELAFONTE: Whatever you're capable of doing as artists to help propagandize the civil rights revolution.

SIDNEY POITIER: Out of that came the true artistry of Harry Belafonte.

HARRY BELAFONTE: There's a lot of people out here who are really pissed off.

DIAHANN CARROLL: Harry gave us a piece of his fire. It gave us all strength.

HARRY BELAFONTE: We are angry. We're upset.

CORETTA SCOTT KING: Harry motivated Martin, because here's a man who didn't have to get involved and who did.

HARRY BELAFONTE: We look around for some comfort, and we don't find any.

BO TAYLOR: I remember once when you said, "From the time I get up and the time I go to sleep, I seek out the injustices done to humankind."

HARRY BELAFONTE: What do we want?

PROTESTERS: Peace!

HARRY BELAFONTE: When do we want it?

PROTESTERS: Now!

QUINCY JONES: He was always like that. He was always, "Let's do something."

JULIAN BOND: Harry did this over and over and over and over again.

MIRIAM MAKEBA: He took all our struggles and made them his own.

AMY GOODMAN: The trailer for the documentary *Sing Your Song* about the life of Harry Belafonte, who's died at the age of 96. The film premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, where I [interviewed](#) Harry. I asked him to talk about his first memories of being politically active.

HARRY BELAFONTE: I'm not quite sure precisely when social and political activism became a visible brand of my DNA, but it seems to me that I was born into it. It is hard to be born into the experience in the world of poverty and not develop some instinct for survival and resistance to those things that oppress you. My mother was a feisty lady. Although she had never gotten into a place of formal education, she came here and

had to learn skills, became a seamstress. She became an expert cook. She worked at odds and ends in jobs. She never resisted the opportunity to fight oppression, especially segregation and all the things that plagued people who were immigrants. In her resistance, she counseled us constantly.

AMY GOODMAN: Now, professionally, you started more acting before you really professionally singing, is that right?

HARRY BELAFONTE: Well, acting was the complete key, was the main key to my getting involved. In this play that we did of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, the director had created a character in the play who would become the balladeer. He would be a force. The director moved throughout the play to — in the changing of sets, changing of cues, lighting cues, changing of mood. And this character would emerge from the darkness of the corners of the stage and sing the songs of the day, for those migrant workers coming from Southwest America. And most of the songs that I had to sing were the songs that had been written by Huddie Ledbetter and by Woody Guthrie. As a matter of fact, I opened the play with a Woody Guthrie song.

Anyway, let me jump to the quick of this. It was approaching the material as an actor, because the director spent a lot of time on what the balladeer would do, how he would be positioned and — how he would be positioned, what the intensity of the moment of singing the song would mean to the development of the play or the scene. And in that context, I approached music as a tool that was really about social information. It wasn't just harmony and chords and notes and melody, all that was obvious. But it was the content and the power of song. And having been heard in that play in that context, I was offered a job to become a singer. And since I couldn't find other work, being a singer was a good challenge. So I put a repertoire together, walked into a night club called the Royal Roost, met guys like Charlie Parker and Miles Davis and Max Roach.

AMY GOODMAN: They were your backup band?

HARRY BELAFONTE: My first backup band were those guys. And they just launched me into a world from which I have never looked back.

AMY GOODMAN: One of the incredible stories told in *Sing Your Song* is your traveling through the South and trying to sing your song. Talk about that experience.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Paul Robeson, who was a mentor and a man for whom I had enormous love and admiration, was the supreme example for me of how to use your life with dignity and with courage — not bravado, but genuine social courage, to put all that's on the line to come up against the forces of oppression, who controlled so much of what you could or could not do as an artist. And to defy that fact and go after the larger goal of changing the faces of oppression inspired me. And he went everywhere there was the opportunity to be heard, whether it was going into Spain to sing during the great Spanish revolutionary war in '30s, whether it was going to England. He went and he worked with the Welsh miners. As a matter of fact, his whole engagement, politically, had been stimulated by what happened when he met the Welsh miners. And he sang with them, and he went into their world.

Well, when I watched what he did and how many places he went for inspiration, and mostly places where there was oppression, I felt those were the places in which I would be most nourished and what I should be doing with my own art and with my own platform. And certainly going into the South of the United States, listening to the voices of rural Black America, listening to the voices of those who sang out against the Ku Klux Klan and out against segregation, and women, who were the most oppressed of all, coming rising to the occasion to protest against their conditions, became the arena where my first songs were to emerge. And in that context, going in the South was for me not to exploit commercially — that didn't come until later — but to find the resources to nourish my own creativity.

AMY GOODMAN: So there you were, the star on the stage, but you couldn't go in the front door. Describe that experience.

HARRY BELAFONTE: When I went to the South on a professional basis, I had already arrived at a place where there was some visibility. I was going with artists who were quite well known — Marge and Gower Champion, a play called *Three for Tonight*. Many of the places we booked throughout the universities of America, a lot of the places we went were to the universities in the South, like Chapel Hill and the University of Texas. And in going to those places, we thought we were going not so much for the commercial reward of it — that was how we made our living — but to get to young people and to get our works before them.

And in the places that we went, some of the auditoriums were public institutions. And when I got to some of these places not only did they not want to let me in the theater, they didn't want to let me in the places in which we were booked to stay overnight. There were many instances where, by law, no Black person could stay in this hotel, or by law, no Black person could be sitting at a table with a white member of the cast — I mean, white woman member of the cast — and not be sitting in the threat of incarceration and the law coming down on you, because these were then tenets of the law. This wasn't just something that was capricious; it was written. It was the legislation of the state. And we had to come up against that. And the battle was consistent. And even in the North, places like the Waldorf Astoria and the Palmer House in Chicago and these mighty institutions of culture did have strict race laws. And in accepting employment to go in these places, rigidly placed in my contract was the requirement that those laws and those rules be suspended and not be evoked during the time of my appearance.

AMY GOODMAN: Harry Belafonte, when did you first meet Dr. Martin Luther King?

HARRY BELAFONTE: It was right after Birmingham — I'm sorry, Montgomery, right after the Montgomery bus boycott had taken hold, and the Montgomery Bus Boycott Association — the Montgomery Improvement Association. And we had all heard about this young minister, and certainly we all heard of Rosa Parks. And I got a call, and before the strike had been settled even. They had not expected it to run so long.

AMY GOODMAN: So this was in 1956?

HARRY BELAFONTE: 1956. Dr. King called, and he was coming to New York to speak at the Abyssinian Baptist Church. There was — at that time, the head pastor was Adam Clayton Powell, who was in our Congress. And he was going to give a lecture to people from the ecumenical community. And he said, "I'm coming to New York, and I'd love to have an opportunity to meet you. And I'd like to give you an idea of what it is that I do." And I was absolutely fascinated that he called, and I wanted very much to meet him.

So I went up to the church to hear him speak. And at the end of his lecture, he would retire to the basement. And for what he said would just be a few minutes, almost at the end of four hours, we exchanged thoughts, feelings and passions. And at the end of that meeting, I knew that I would be in his service and focus on the cause of the desegregation movement, the right to vote, and all that he stood for. Although we understood how perilous the journey would be, we were not quite prepared for all that we had to confront. And I think that it was the most important time in my life.

AMY GOODMAN: I wanted to go to a clip from *Sing Your Song* of Dr. Martin Luther King.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Dr. King, do you fear for your life?

REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.: I'm more concerned about doing a good job, doing something for humanity and what I consider the will of God, than about longevity. Ultimately, it isn't so important how long you live. The important thing is how well you live.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY: I have some very sad news for all of you, and I think sad news for all of our fellow citizens and people who love peace all over the world. And that is that Martin Luther King was shot and was killed tonight in Memphis, Tennessee.

HARRY BELAFONTE: I couldn't believe it. I couldn't. All of a sudden, our worst fears were being awakened. I really did not give myself much time to be preoccupied with any personal deep sense of loss.

AMY GOODMAN: That was Dr. Martin Luther King, and that clip is from the film about Harry Belafonte's life, about the history of the 20th century and coming into the 21st, called *Sing Your Song*. Harry, that relationship you had with Dr. King that went on for more than a decade, until his assassination, how often did you speak?

HARRY BELAFONTE: I would say, easily, we spoke every day. Obviously, we missed some days or some weekends, but the line was constantly filled with thoughts and ideas and challenge and up-to-date decisions that were being made by a team of people that were always brought together when there was the moment to escalate what we were doing or to be cautious about where we were going.

And also we were trying to broaden the base of our political relationships. So much of what our mission was doing was very dependent on our relationship with the federal government, with the institutions of justice, because our plea was on a constitutional basis: the Constitution of the United States of America is being grossly violated by all the things that Black people are experiencing. And if you don't have the instruments of government and the federal government on your side, including the courts, then you really can't do very much, because all the laws that bound us to such cruel experience were state laws, and there was no way to appeal the injustice within the state structure. So we had to find ways in which to broaden our campaign to include a national movement and it becoming a national movement to entice federal intervention.

AMY GOODMAN: Do you know how many of those hundreds of conversations were recorded by the FBI?

HARRY BELAFONTE: I think my safest bet would be all of them. I don't know when it would have started, but —

AMY GOODMAN: Have you gotten transcripts of those conversations?

HARRY BELAFONTE: Yes, I've gotten transcripts. I've gotten some stuff from the Freedom of Information Act. What's very important is the fact that in the first 10 years of pursuing to get those files, I have letters that come from both the CIA and the FBI assuring me, "With all honesty and with having done all due diligence and deep research, such documents don't exist. There are none." And eventually we had other sources that came through other ways in which they began to look through files and saw my name and situations —

AMY GOODMAN: Like Taylor Branch, the historian.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Taylor Branch, the historian, he was most revealing in what he had done with the research. But also journalists and other people who were digging to get stories on other subjects came across those files and informed us. And then, finally, the FBI capitulated. And the first documents they sent, about hundreds of pages, 99% of those pages were just one big black stroke. So the insult against intelligence to send those kinds of files to a citizen whose rights were being violated was an insult to not only intelligence, but a crushing of the rights to information and to living in a society that is more open and transparent.

AMY GOODMAN: Talk about the march from Selma to Montgomery and who you brought down, and the fear at that time, and how these artists were also a kind of protection, the frontlines, if you will, to protect the people who were at great risk whose names were not famous.

HARRY BELAFONTE: I think all the artists who did this understood that, understood that there was the threat to life and that some irrational person somewhere or some irrational group somewhere would find it very adventurous to mark them as one of the targets. There'd be a lot of heroism coming from the clan of these retarded people, emotionally and socially, to say they killed a celebrity, which in fact became in vogue not so shortly after this period. Look what they did to John Kennedy and to so many others, Dr. King, and etc. But these artists understood that. It wasn't — they were not blinded by it. They weren't blind to it, I should say. And by putting themselves on the line, it heightened public curiosity. And in heightening public curiosity, it meant that things were forced to be more transparent. And they weren't quite ready to reveal themselves that way — I'm talking about the opposition.

Except it's important to note that at the very night of our concert, the night thereafter, was when Mrs. Liuzzo was murdered, and as a matter of fact, in the car in which she had taken one of the members of our group to the airport. She was on her way back. Tony Bennett gave up his seat in that ride.

AMY GOODMAN: Tony Bennett was there, singing.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Yeah, he was there. And he gave up his seat to someone else, to Mrs. Liuzzo and the young man that was with her.

AMY GOODMAN: She was a white woman who wanted to support the struggle, the civil rights struggle —

HARRY BELAFONTE: She was the wife of —

AMY GOODMAN: — by driving people?

HARRY BELAFONTE: Yes. She was a member of the Automobile Workers Union, and she volunteered to come down and was one of the organizers. And she drove cars to give people facility back and forth to the different places in which artists had to reside. And in doing that service, on her way back from the airport, she fell a target to murderers who killed her. That was to have been Tony Bennett's car.

It was also important, I think, because the kind of artists that came down didn't have a platform on which they were going to be very visible. Singers could always be heard, but — Leonard Bernstein came down. And when he and I spoke, Leonard said, "I don't sing. There will be no orchestra to conduct. But morally I feel an obligation to let my presence be seen and to let people draw whatever strength from that they might be able to garnish, to know that their struggle has touched all of us." So there were many who people don't even know about.

AMY GOODMAN: You also helped fund Freedom Summer.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Yes.

AMY GOODMAN: Talk about that, putting your finances behind the struggle. I mean, you now — what, in '55 or before, had the first gold record, *Calypso*, gold, million-selling record, first one in this country. Some had singles, but you had the record.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Yeah, it was the first album to achieve the sales of a million. And beyond all of the hoopla that came with that fact from the commercial end stood the studio and the record company. What was very prophetic about that moment for me was that it became symbolic of an instruction that Paul Robeson had given me. And he said, "Get them to sing your song, and they'll want to know who you are." And in that little exchange down in the dressing room of the Village Vanguard, I woke up not too long after that wonderful piece of counsel to understand what he meant, because that album housed the song "Banana Boat (Day-O)." And the whole world was singing the song, in a literal sense. But also, when I looked at the thousands of people that came to the stadiums to hear that song and others, I realized that the world was singing my song. And in Robeson's counsel, this was the opportunity to begin to spread truth and to open up opportunities for information to flow.

It was the opportunity to reach out to other artists, who may not have been heard otherwise or needed or be heard, like Miriam Makeba. America knew nothing about the struggles of the people in Africa. Miriam Makeba came; she got the platform. Ed Sullivan was convinced that, in his world, to let Miriam Makeba come on the program and to sing in Xhosa — and for him it was an adventure, and he had been told by the programmers that they're not going to understand. And he said, "Oh, they'll understand. Harry likes it, it's good enough for me." And he got on the air, and there was Miriam Makeba singing these songs, and her popularity became quite intense.

AMY GOODMAN: Which was very important for the anti-apartheid struggle —

HARRY BELAFONTE: Absolutely.

AMY GOODMAN: — spreading into the United States.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Absolutely. Not only the anti-apartheid struggle, which spread in the United States, but for a greater understanding of the liberation of the whole continent, because there was people like Sékou Touré and Nyerere and Tom Mboya, and all of the entire continent was awakened with the idea of liberation. Having African artists, eventually Hugh Masekela and others, the whole idea of world music was seeded in the fact that the banana boat songs from the Caribbean — it opened up more music from Cuba and the whole power in Afro-Cuban jazz and what those great Cuban artists did, who pollinated American jazz with such great harmonies in song. All of that stuff was a melting pot for a greater truth.

AMY GOODMAN: Harry Belafonte speaking in 2011 on *Democracy Now!* He died Tuesday of congestive heart failure at the age of 96 here in New York. To see the rest of that [interview](#) and all of our [interviews](#) with Harry, go to democracynow.org. We'll hear more from Harry Belafonte in his own words when we come back.

[break]

AMY GOODMAN: "Show Me the Way, My Brother" by Harry Belafonte, from the Grammy-winning album he made with the South African singer Miriam Makeba.

2023-04-26 Harry Belafonte in His Own Words on Opposing Iraq War & Calling George W. Bush a "Terrorist"

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/4/26/rip_harry_belafonte

As we remember the life and legacy of Harry Belafonte, we look back at his antiwar activism, including his outspoken opposition to the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. On February 15 of that year, amid global protests against the war, Belafonte addressed hundreds of thousands who rallied in New York City and called for peace. "We have let the world know that we are in solidarity with those who seek to have other ways than war to settle our grievances," he told *Democracy Now!* Belafonte later made worldwide headlines in 2006 when, on a trip to Venezuela, he called President George W. Bush "the greatest terrorist in the world."



AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman, as we continue our coverage of the life and legacy of Harry Belafonte. He died Tuesday at the age of 96 here in New York of congestive heart failure.

In 2003, on February 15th, he [spoke](#) before hundreds of thousands of people in New York City. It was a freezing cold day. It was a massive rally calling on the United States and President Bush not to invade Iraq.

HARRY BELAFONTE: Today is a historic and a proud day in the name of America. The world has sat by with tremendous anxiety and with a great fear that we did not exist. They had been told and they had felt that what our country, with its press and the leaders in the administration have said, we, today, invalidate all that. We stand for peace. We stand for the truth of what is at the heart of the American people.

This is not the first time that we as a people have been misled by the leadership. We were misled by those who created the falseness of the Bay of Tonkin, which falsely led us into a war with Vietnam, a war that we could not and did not win. We lied to the American people about Grenada and what was going on in that tiny island. We lied to the American people about Nicaragua, El Salvador, Cuba and many places in the world. And we stand here today to let those people and others know that America is a vast and diverse country, and we are part of the greater truth of what makes our nation. Dr. King once said that if there is — if mankind does not put an end to war, war will put an end to mankind.

AMY GOODMAN: On that day, February 15th, 2003, Harry Belafonte also [spoke](#) to *Democracy Now!* during our live broadcast right behind the stage of the global antiwar protest. Harry detailed his criticism of George W. Bush's Secretary of State Colin Powell for his role for pushing for the invasion of Iraq.

HARRY BELAFONTE: My comments about General Colin Powell is really not a personal confrontation. Black Americans and many peoples of color have always taken great pride in what those of us who have come from a history of oppression have achieved. And when an individual breaks through and comes into the place where decisions are made that can make a difference, we then have high expectations. Once that is rejected by those who have acquired this position, we may sit in quiet disappointment. But when the person who achieves that distinction then puts him or herself in the service of our oppression and those who create new ways in which to oppress us, that is morally unacceptable. And that is my argument with General Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. I expect, as do others, that their history should have prepared them for a much better articulation about how to treat people globally.

Most of the people in the world who suffer from tyranny, most of the people who suffer from the tyranny of oppression, the tyranny of hunger, the tyranny of ignorance, the tyranny of HIV/AIDS, there sits terror. And when you look very carefully at what it is that has caused this constant oppression, you will see that somewhere in there, America plays the game. And this gathering here today helps us understand that there is another America that is strong, that is resolute and is made of millions and millions of people. As a matter of fact, we do make the majority voice in this nation, and that we have let the world know that we are in solidarity with those who seek to have other ways than war to settle our grievances.

AMY GOODMAN: In 2006, Harry Belafonte traveled to Venezuela, where he met with President Hugo Chávez. Belafonte's trip made international headlines when he described President George W. Bush as the "world's greatest terrorist."

HARRY BELAFONTE: No matter what the greatest tyrant in the world, the greatest terrorist in the world, George W. Bush, says, we're here to tell you: Not hundreds, not thousands, but millions of the American people — millions — support your revolution, support your ideas, and, yes, expressing our solidarity with you.

AMY GOODMAN: President Chávez was standing right next to Harry Belafonte. Shortly after Harry returned from Venezuela, he came into our firehouse studio to [talk](#) about why he called President George W. Bush a terrorist.

HARRY BELAFONTE: When Katrina took place, there was a great sense of tragic loss for many Americans who saw that terrible tragedy. What we had not anticipated was that our government would have been so negligent and so unresponsive to the plight of hundreds of thousands of people in the region. And in a dilemma that we all face as to what we could do as private citizens to help the folks that were caught in that tragedy, we began to listen to voices that were outside the boundaries of government, the United States government. We listened to voices that came from as far away as Denmark, who offered to send goods and services in emergency, and we also heard the voices of people from Venezuela through their leader, Hugo Chávez, who said that "In this moment of your great tragedy, we, the Venezuelan people, extend all the resources we can summon up to help the plight of those people caught in the Gulf region."

The United States very abruptly and very arrogantly rejected that offer, while in its stead, we did nothing to bring immediate relief. And as a matter of fact, I must tell you, we're still quite delinquent in what the peoples of that region need, because we still failed to fully mobilize and meet the needs of the people, particularly in New Orleans, but other places within that region.

I and many other private citizens decided that we would listen very carefully to what people outside of the government were saying, because there was no immediate sense of relief and response to what we were experiencing, the people in Katrina. And so, like others, I went with a delegation of 15 people, at the invitation of the Venezuelan government, to come and to meet with President Chávez and members of his Cabinet to talk about what we could do to help American people caught in this tragedy. ...

It is quite curious that we can find billions and billions of dollars to sustain an illegal and immoral war in the Middle East, invading a country that did not provoke us and moving into this this conflict unconstitutionally, even though it had the approval of the Congress. Even the Congress violated the statutes of the Constitution. We were not invaded. There was no threat of an enemy. We unilaterally walked into a country that had no threat to this country, and we invaded it. That's against the Constitution.

AMY GOODMAN: You call President Bush a terrorist?

HARRY BELAFONTE: I call President Bush a terrorist. I call those around him terrorists, as well: Condoleezza Rice, Rumsfeld, Gonzales in the Justice Department, and certainly Cheney. I think all of these men sit — and women — sit in the midst of an enormous conspiracy that has been unraveling America for the last eight years — six years. It is tragic that the dubious way in which this president acquired power should have begun to unravel the Constitution and the peoples of this country.

Yes, I say that there are people in this country who live in terror. Poverty is terror. Having your Social Security threatened is terror. Having your livelihood as an elderly person slowly disappearing with no replenishment is terror. Students who are dropping out of school because there are no resources to keep us in school is terror. You find people in the streets, watching drugs permeate our communities and destroy our young, it's a life of terror. And men who sit in charge of that distribution mechanism, which can help the American people overcome these problems and refuse to do so, while giving the rich more money than they've ever dreamt of having, while turning around our institutions and redirecting resources from those who are truly in need to those who are already generously endowed, if not hedonistically so, it's a great tragedy.

AMY GOODMAN: That was Harry Belafonte on *Democracy Now!* January 30th, 2006. After that [interview](#), we learned Coretta Scott King had died. A dear friend of Coretta Scott King, Harry Belafonte was invited to speak at her funeral. But the invitation to speak was rescinded after George W. Bush announced he was attending Coretta Scott King's funeral.

2023-04-26 "Get Down to Business": Harry Belafonte in 2016 on Trump, Socialism & Fighting for Justice

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/4/26/harry_belafonte_life_and_legacy

Topics [Harry Belafonte](#)

- [Art & Politics](#)

Guests [Harry Belafonte](#)

legendary singer, actor and civil rights activist who died April 25, 2023, at age 96.

[Vea/Lea en español](#)

Harry Belafonte last appeared on *Democracy Now!* in 2016 at a special event at the historic Riverside Church in New York to celebrate our 20th anniversary. He co-headlined the event with Noam Chomsky in their first public appearance together. Belafonte spoke about Donald Trump, who had just been elected president, and ongoing struggles for freedom and justice in the United States. "We just have to get out our old coats, dust them off, stop screwing around and just chasing the good times, and get down to business," he said. "There's some ass-kicking out here to be done. And we should do it."



AMY GOODMAN: Harry Belafonte last [appeared](#) on *Democracy Now!* in 2016 at a special event at the historic Riverside Church in New York to celebrate *Democracy Now!*'s 20th anniversary. He co-headlined the event with Noam Chomsky. It was the first time they had done a public event together. Harry Belafonte spoke about Donald Trump, who had just been elected president.

HARRY BELAFONTE: I believe that Trump, in bringing a new energy to the realization of the vastness of the reach of the Ku Klux Klan, is not something that has been out of our basic purview of thought. The Ku Klux Klan, for some of us, is a constant — has a constant existence. It isn't until it touches certain aspects of white America that white America all of the sudden wakes up to the fact that there is something called the Klan and that it does its mischief.

What causes me to have great thought is something that's most unique to my experience. And as I said earlier tonight, at the doorstep of being 90 years of age, I had thought I had seen it all and done it all, only to find out that, at 89, I knew nothing. But the most peculiar thing to me has been the absence of a Black presence in the middle of this resistance, not just the skirmishes that we've seen in Ferguson and Black Lives Matter — and I think those protests and those voices being raised are extremely important. But we blew this thing a long time ago. When they started the purge against communism in this country and against the voice of those who saw hope in a design for socialist theory and for the sharing of wealth and for the equality of humankind, when we abandoned our vigil — our vision and vigils on that topic, I think we sold out ourselves.

A group of young Black students in Harlem, just a few days ago, asked me what, at this point in my life, was I looking for. And I said, "What I've always been looking for: Where resides the rebel heart?" Without the rebellious heart, without people who understand that there's no sacrifice we can make that is too great to retrieve that which we've lost, we will forever be distracted with possessions and trinkets and title. And I think one of the big things that happened was that when Black people began to be anointed by the trinkets of this capitalist society and began to become big-time players and began to become heads of corporations, they became players in the game of our own demise. ...

I think people have to be more adventurous. The heart has to find greater space for rebellion. So, we pay a penalty for such thought, because I was just recently reminded of Schwerner, Goodman and Chaney. They sit particularly close to my own feelings and thoughts, because I was one of the voices that was raised in recruiting those young students to participate in our rebellion.

AMY GOODMAN: David Goodman, Andrew's brother, is here today.

HARRY BELAFONTE: I'm sure of it. He's always at the right places.

But I think that there are those kinds of extremes that will be experienced in the struggle, but the real nobility of our existence is: Are we prepared to pay that price? And I think once the opposition understands that we are quite prepared to die for what we believe in, that death for a cause does not just sit with ISIS, but sits with people, workers, people who are genuinely prepared to push against the theft of our nation and the distortion of our Constitution, and that, for many of us, no price is too great for that charge. ...

I've been through much in this country. I came back from the Second World War. And while the world rejoiced in the fact that Hitler had been met and defeated, there were some of us who were touched by the fact that instead of sitting at the table of feast at that great victory, we were worried about our lives, because the response from many in America was the murder of many Black servicemen that came back. And we were considered to be dangerous, because we had learned the capacity to handle weaponry, we had faced death on the battlefield. And when we came back, we had an expectation, as the victors. We came back knowing that, yes, we might have fought to end Hitler, but we also fought for our right to vote in America, that in the pursuit of such rights came the civil rights movement. Well, that can happen again. We just have to get out our old coats, dust them off, stop screwing around and just chasing the good times, and get down to business. There's some ass-kicking out here to be done. And we should do it.

AMY GOODMAN: Harry Belafonte, [speaking](#) in 2016 at the historic Riverside Church in New York to celebrate *Democracy Now!*'s 20th anniversary. He co-headlined the event with Noam Chomsky. Harry died on Tuesday at the age of 96 of congestive heart failure at his home here in New York City. You can visit democracynow.org to see the [full event](#), as well as [all of our interviews with Harry Belafonte](#), Harry giving his speech in 2003 against the War in Iraq, Harry in Venezuela, Harry at the Sundance Film Festival, when the documentary about him premiered, talking fully about his life and so much more.

That does it for our show. On [Saturday](#), Juan González will deliver the opening plenary address at a daylong policy forum at American University titled "In Search of a New U.S. Policy for a New Latin America: Burying 200 Years of the Monroe Doctrine." Visit democracynow.org for more information.

Oh, and special thanks to our archivist Brendan Allen and Charina Nadura for today's show. *Democracy Now!* produced with Renée Feltz, Mike Burke, Deena Guzder, Messiah Rhodes, Nermeen Shaikh, María Taracena, Tami Woronoff, Charina Nadura, Sam Alcott, Tey-Marie Astudillo, John Hamilton, Robby Karran, Hany Massoud, Sonyi Lopez. Our executive director is Julie Crosby. I'm Amy Goodman. This is *Democracy Now!*