Rachel (00:00:00):

Okay so, Gregory, tell me who you are, where you grew up, where you live now, how old you are, what you do. Just give me a background about who you are. Introduce yourself.

Gregory (00:00:15):

No problem. Hi, my name is Greg Ingram. I'm age of 60. I consider myself a black American, not an African American, because I was born here in America and I'm mixed with different nationalities. So I am American. Where I grew up, I started off in a place called Greensboro, North Carolina, which gave me the luck of seeing the open ... be more open instead of a, how you say, a city concave. In 1968, I was brought here to New York City where I've been ever since, basically between East New York and Brownsville. Though I have traveled I bit around, I basically, my heart is East New York and Brownsville. This all has a big influence on how I look at gardens, and how I look at open spaces, and how I believe how important it is that we must conserve, assist, maintain, whatever it is, we need open space, especially in the urban situation.

Rachel (00:01:57):

So tell me more about that. Tell me about founding Gregory's Garden.

Gregory (<u>00:02:02</u>):

Okay. Gregory's Garden came from me working in various different other gardens. I found a mentor whose name was Richard Green, who had a cooperative in Crown Heights. People don't believe that Crown Heights used have gardens, but Crown Heights had gardens, and he had gardens situated all through Crown Heights. And that's how he fed his cooperative. They rarely ate from ... They ate fresh food all the time. And they had people there that would make salads, make a menu out of whatever we brought in. Excuse me. So I was one of the people that maintained one of the gardens. Once my time was up with him, I had to come back to East New York. East New York was still a war zone. When I say a war zone, there was a war on drugs.

Rachel (00:03:27):

What year was this?

Gregory (<u>00:03:29</u>):

This would be basically 1990, mid nineties. It was still coming over from the drug zone because, actually, most drugs really infiltrated in the early eighties. But the aftermath was 1990s, which left a lot of people running for their cover. And they left a lot of vacant land open, which Green Thumb came and assisted the community because they needed someone to help maintain a land. And it gives people something to do and feel good about themself in the community.

Somehow I found my way here. As I looked for different ... I was looking for different spaces, and somehow I found myself here. And once I found myself at this vacant lot, which was across the street from a school, I said this will be perfect. I talked to the principal. She looked at me like I was crazy, but I asked her again. And she said, "You're sincere?" And I said, "Yes, I am. I want to do this." She gave me the key to the garden. First several years was great. Collaboration between me and the school was fine. But a new principal came in and she changed the agenda. And that's what became ... from 158 became Gregory's Garden because Gregory started doing everything himself now, not along with the

school. And the school also tried to do a coup on me. They tried to actually say that it was their garden, and they never had a hand in it. That was the new principal in her new reign.

From there, it's been basically ... I would tell everyone that if you want to keep it going, you need to basically ... you have to have a reason. Now, my reason might be different from most people, but I'm more of a conservative. I care about this community, and it's not about me.

Rachel (00:06:03):

Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:06:06</u>):

The garden was actually built for the kids and the community to learn more about the environment and the ecosystem that they live in. So from a garden that was growing vegetables, became a garden of, how do you say, learning sources. So speed up the time, through different other nonprofits and different other entities that I've met during the 30 years I've been here, several years ago, I had to, how you say, wean myself off of Green Thumb because the garden became more complex and it needed more sources and more connections, as well as my need to stay part of being an advocate for my community, the gardens, and open spaces.

I started a nonprofit called East New York for Gardens, from East New for Gardens, I collected three other gardens, and they're basically seniors, and the seniors needed assistance. And like I said, Green Thumb helps, but they don't give you all what you need. And if you have enough ... a garden that's at least 20 years old, you need more.

Rachel (00:07:56):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:07:59):

So, between working with all the other nonprofits, community people, corporations, I formed this entity to get more funding, get more talent, to get more resources. And also, but most of all, to get true support because a lot of gardens won't be here in 20 years. So-

Rachel (00:08:40):

Because what's happening to the gardens right now?

Gregory (<u>00:08:43</u>):

Well, it's not the gardens itself. I can only speak for East New York and Brownsville.

Rachel (00:08:47):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:08:49):

We also have a need for housing, and it's here. You can't deny it. Before the gardens were here, there were houses. So the houses going to come back because people are going to have ... they need somewhere to live.

Rachel (00:09:12):

Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:09:13</u>): So that's where we're at now.

Rachel (00:09:18):

How do you understand that push pull of needs, like the need for green space with the need for housing in the neighborhood?

Gregory (00:09:26):

Well, one thing I have to also mention is I'm part of the community board, and I watch ... I am a news person, so I watch what's going on. And I also talk to various different powers that be. But you can also tell that ... who's coming in and who's leaving. You can look at the real estate and see that right now, East New York might have East New York and Brownsville might have the cheapest real estate out here.

Rachel (<u>00:09:26</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:10:02):

So people are going to come because they're like, why would I want to buy a house for a million dollars when I can buy one for 500,000? And I'm good. It's just I have to work with the community. So, of course you're going to have what you call different people from different ethnic and nationalities come here because that's what make the American dream. But back to East New York for Gardens, because of the nonprofit it's been good. It's been good to the point where I'm able to suffice, compete, and also show support to not just myself, but for other gardeners.

Rachel (<u>00:11:04</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:11:06):

And that makes respect. And most nonprofits want to be respected because that's what gets them they're ante. My next thing that's coming up is basically find young blood that feels the same way that I do, and get them to start to have a conversation between each other so that they can start to strengthen their selves. So then in 30 years, they'll carry the torch.

Rachel (<u>00:11:50</u>): Yeah, like Terrance.

Gregory (<u>00:11:52</u>):

Yeah. Well, Terrance is just my neighbor. You ain't seen my-

Rachel (<u>00:11:57</u>): But he told me he helps out around here.

Gregory (<u>00:11:58</u>): Oh no, no he ... No, we have to have community people.

Rachel (<u>00:12:03</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:12:06):

Actually, there's several different people on this block that come and help out.

Rachel (<u>00:12:10</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:12:11</u>): But you don't never see them because, like I said ... Matter of fact, you met Junior.

Rachel (<u>00:12:16</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:12:17</u>): I watched junior grow up.

Rachel (<u>00:12:18</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:12:20</u>):

Anytime, oh I ... "Man, you getting too old, Greg. Here, let me help you. Let me do this for you." Terrance the same way, too. But I do have people that's actually in the field that I'm trying to groom.

Rachel (<u>00:12:37</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:12:38):

Because one thing that's missing in East New York and Brownsville, philanthropy. They understand charity, but they don't understand philanthropy. And this is one reason why it becomes stagnant in this community, because once people get to a certain ... they're like either I'm not staying here, I'm gone.

Rachel (<u>00:13:08</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>00:13:10</u>): So you got the same thing happening over and over again where no new way of getting out.

Rachel (00:13:19):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:13:23):

It needs to change. So that's one of the things I'm up to. Like I said, I ... It's nothing else I can do but help. Nothing else.

Rachel (00:13:40):

Who taught you how to garden? Where'd you learn how to grow plants?

Gregory (<u>00:13:45</u>): Once again, I'm from Greensboro, North Carolina.

Rachel (<u>00:13:47</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:13:51</u>): Gardening is part of, how you say, where I come from.

Rachel (<u>00:13:55</u>): Yeah.

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Gregory (00:14:02):
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I am an American, and not just an American, I come from slaves. So I know what it is to grow food.

Rachel (<u>00:14:10</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:14:11):

I'm from a Southern ... I know what it is to grow food. So like I said, it's something natural to me. That's why, what I do ... if you come and see what I do, you'll go, "Wow." I say, "Nah, this is something natural to me."

Rachel (<u>00:14:29</u>): It's in your bones.

Gregory (<u>00:14:31</u>): It's just something natural to me.

Rachel (<u>00:14:32</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:14:34</u>): It takes no effort.

Rachel (00:14:36):

It's actually amazing. Everyone who I talked to who grew up in the South says the same thing. They say, "I just learned. My whole family gardened, grew food, farmed. I just learned it at home."

Gregory (00:14:49):

Right, right. But the key emphasis is, you want to eat? And they'd point to the field. So what are you going to do?

Rachel (00:14:49):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:14:53):

I'm hungry. I want to eat. So I mean, it becomes part of ... it's the way of life. And that's why it becomes second ... like, "Oh man, I just do this."

Rachel (00:15:15):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:15:16):

I get up in the morning, do this. I go to sleep and do this.

Rachel (00:15:22):

So this is my question that's the framing question for this whole project that I ask everybody across ... whoever they are. And the question is, when you think about global warming or climate crisis, what do you think about and how do you feel?

Gregory (<u>00:15:42</u>):

Global warming is real. It is very real. As you get older, you will know that the Earth is changing because you'll start to see things that you have never seen before. The way the weather moves, the way insects behave, the way birds behave is real. And it's all because of global warming and how humans play a large part in it. This is another reason why I have this garden. Birds, insects, and other little creepy things were here just as long as we were, and they need to be here to work with us, not to go against us. And if we keep becoming ... instead of collaborating with them, and trying to dominate them, we'll find ourself in a well with no water.

My best example is bumblebees. Bumblebees basically pollinate most of all our food. In my garden, every year I get less and less. I have more carpenter bees than bumblebees. That's not a good thing. I'm focusing myself on insects that change that, praying mantis, different lady bugs, and things of that nature. But the key emphasis is that we must teach our youth how valuable our Earth is, and that once we destroy it, it's hard to come back. So if we take care of it now, she'll be a lot better for not just for us, but for our future.

Rachel (<u>00:18:20</u>): And how do you feel?

Gregory (00:18:24):

Well, all I can say is I'm doing my part. I can't tell another person how to do their part. All I can do is be a ray of light and say, "This is what I'm doing. Now, if this is what you want to do, I can't stop you because we all have a choice. But my choice is, oh hell no." and-

Rachel (<u>00:18:50</u>): Like, "Oh hell no, I won't let this happen"?

Gregory (00:18:55):

No, I got to go against them. I must go against them because to go with them would make it even worse. And this is why it's important to teach our children how valuable the Earth is, and give them some type of insight on it. That's why I feel very fortunate out of all my family that ... They all laugh at me and go, "Gregory, you got a garden?" And I said, "But you don't know, this is where we come from." And then when they come and visit, they go, "You wasn't bullshitting." I say, "Yeah, I wasn't bullshitting. This is not from me. This is from y'all ancestors, and it came naturally." In everybody, there's some type of humanity. If you want this Earth to be here, you better take care of it.

Rachel (00:19:59):

So tell me more about the changes that you're seeing, and maybe in particular about the bees, the birds, the insects. One of the things that I'm finding that I'm able to collect in this oral history is, I'm learning that all these gardeners have this knowledge. Wow, that's a male, right?

Gregory (<u>00:20:21</u>):

That's a male.

Rachel (<u>00:20:22</u>): Wow. That is beautiful. And what's that other bird, that small bird?

Gregory (00:20:32):

That's a wren.

Rachel (<u>00:20:33</u>):

Oh, a wren. Oh, you're getting so many cardinals.

Gregory (<u>00:20:38</u>): Mm-mm (negative), they're territorial.

Rachel (<u>00:20:42</u>): Oh this is where they live, or this is like where they hang out.

Gregory (<u>00:20:45</u>): You saw the wife.

Rachel (00:20:46):

Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:20:47</u>): Now you see the husband.

Rachel (<u>00:20:49</u>): Oh really?

Gregory (<u>00:20:50</u>): No, for real. They're all-

Rachel (<u>00:20:50</u>): That's cool. Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:20:50</u>): I sit-

Rachel (<u>00:20:53</u>): God, it's-

Gregory (<u>00:20:53</u>): Through our conversation-

Rachel (<u>00:20:54</u>): It's so red.

Gregory (<u>00:20:55</u>):

Through our conversation, this is why global warming is important. You must stop global ... Because you won't see this anywhere.

Rachel (<u>00:21:04</u>): Right.

Gregory (00:21:05):

And see how feels? He's at home. It's so natural. And this is what I want the kids to see, that we can live together with the animals of the Earth. You know what I mean?

Rachel (00:21:22):

Yeah. So yeah, tell me more about the changes, because what I'm finding is that people who've been gardening in the city for a long time, they have a deep knowledge, and they've known for a long time, longer than other people have talked about or noticed. I was talking to a woman who ,20 years ago, knew that we were moving up to a zone seven agricultural zone. Even though we just we recently moved up, officially moved to zone seven a couple years ago. So-

Gregory (00:21:53):

Wow.

Rachel (00:21:53):

Talk to me about the changes you've been seeing over the years, and around when you started noticing changes.

Gregory (00:22:07):

Well, between you and I, my focus is, like I said, more on the environment itself.

Rachel (<u>00:22:07</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:22:15):

When I say the environment itself, the players in the environment. At one point, New York had an insect, had a mosquito infestation. So they had all these choppers come and drop down pesticides.

Rachel (<u>00:22:35</u>): Oh.

Gregory (<u>00:22:37</u>): Right?

Rachel (<u>00:22:37</u>): That is unbelievable.

Gregory (00:22:40):

No, it was ... You can look, it was there. But the key part that really got me, they didn't kill the mosquitoes. They killed everything else but the mosquitoes.

Rachel (00:22:53):

Of course.

Gregory (00:22:55):

So, what I was growing started getting infestation of different other insects because they killed the beneficiary insects that would protect the crop.

Rachel (<u>00:23:16</u>): And when was this?

Gregory (<u>00:23:18</u>): This was in the early ... oh no, nineties.

Rachel (00:23:21):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:23:22):

And that's why I was saying that I'm focused on bringing back a lot of beneficiary insects. For the last three years, I actually had praying mantis in here.

Rachel (<u>00:23:22</u>):

Really?

Gregory (<u>00:23:22</u>): And-

Rachel (<u>00:23:44</u>): I heard those are indigenous to New York.

Gregory (<u>00:23:48</u>): I got praying mantis that big.

Rachel (<u>00:23:49</u>): That big? No.

Gregory (<u>00:23:51</u>): They're in here. They go and disappear. But-

Rachel (<u>00:23:57</u>): What do they do for the ecology?

Gregory (00:23:58):

They'll eat anything. They'll eat anything. But they're really focused on a lot of insects that destroy your garden.

Rachel (<u>00:24:17</u>): Like aphids?

Gregory (00:24:19):

All of that stuff, they'll come, "Yummy," and they will eat, eat, eat, eat, eat, eat, eat, eat. I'm trying to get ladybugs. But ladybugs are hard to get because they need to be FedEx the next day. And would you believe that it costs almost quadruple of what it costs the FedEx them then what it is to buy them?

Rachel (<u>00:24:45</u>): Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Gregory (00:24:46):

So I'm saving up money. Next year, I should be able to get a bunch of ladybugs. Or I'm trying to find a connection from out of the state that could get them to me. New York is different than most other places because they really don't service us as a ... It's different in New Jersey. Jersey's a farming state. When it comes to New York City, it's different because we are an urban community, and they're not as suspecting for people to actually go all out in farming and gardening. The closest place that we actually deal with that I just learned ... well, that I always go to is, Botanical Garden. And they were actually trying to put a building on top of Botanical Garden.

Rachel (00:25:56):

Yeah, I know. It's crazy.

Gregory (00:25:58):

So when you say global warming, these are some of the symptoms of global warming. If they're not trying to overshadow the open spaces, they're trying to put some type of polluting in it, then to go ... So it becomes insane. Like I said, the whole key is you have to learn to collaborate with what's about you so that you can ... nature can be at an equal balance.

That's what I say for city folks. Country folks is a different story. But here you have to learn to keep i at a balance. And like I said, on top of it, the only way you're going to be able to change it is those kids across the street, you have to start telling them about recycling, taking care of the various different plants and things about you. Let nature be. In East New York, 30 years ago ... I'm going to say 50 years ago, half this wasn't even here. And there were so many, how do you say, animals around here, raccoons possums, some people say even snakes.

Rachel (<u>00:27:45</u>): Wow.

Gregory (<u>00:27:48</u>): And I know there were frogs.

Rachel (<u>00:27:49</u>): So there was a lot more open space.

Gregory (<u>00:27:51</u>): Oh, it was crazy open space around here. Crazy open space.

Rachel (<u>00:27:51</u>): It's hard to imagine that.

Gregory (<u>00:27:58</u>): It's not. I can show you pictures.

Rachel (<u>00:27:59</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:28:03):

And the people that actually lived in East New York were actually farmers, too. And then the immigrants that came were also farmers, too, because I found a lot of plants in their backyards because I used to ... When they were tearing down a building, someone would tell me when they were tearing down a building, and I would go in that backyard and see what kind of plants I could confiscate.

Rachel (<u>00:28:33</u>): Wow.

Gregory (<u>00:28:33</u>): So-

Rachel (<u>00:28:34</u>): What kind of plants did you find?

Gregory (<u>00:28:37</u>): You won't believe it, but it's a grapevine here.

Rachel (<u>00:28:41</u>): That's where the grapes came from.

Gregory (<u>00:28:43</u>): I have a grapevine that's at least four ... three to four inches diameter thick-

Rachel (<u>00:28:54</u>): Wow.

Gregory (<u>00:28:55</u>): That I dug up. Actually, it's three of them.

Rachel (<u>00:28:58</u>): Wow.

Gregory (<u>00:28:59</u>): And that had to be from some Jews or some Italians who like to make grape ... I mean making wine.

Rachel (<u>00:29:07</u>): Uh-huh (affirmative).

Gregory (<u>00:29:07</u>): So-

Rachel (00:29:10):

Do Jews grow grapes?

Gregory (00:29:12):

Shoot, everybody likes to get drunk. But most of this neighborhood was Jews and Italians.

Rachel (<u>00:29:21</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:29:24):

On this side of town, and then, like I said, the drug thing ran everybody out. And then more blacks and Latinos moved forward. I could say one thing that's coming up now that might be a change is the Bengalis are coming.

Rachel (00:29:44):

Yeah. I've talked to a few Bengali farmers around here, or gardeners.

Gregory (<u>00:29:50</u>): Yo, they're serious.

Rachel (<u>00:29:52</u>): Yeah, very serious.

Gregory (00:29:52):

They're serious about gardening. And yo, they will come and go, and they will make nothing out of something.

Rachel (<u>00:29:58</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:29:59</u>): Because they ... It's their way of life.

Rachel (<u>00:30:04</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:30:06):

It's different than, how you say, they're not even thinking about cultural elevation. This is their way of life. This is what they eat. This is how they live.

Rachel (00:30:13):

Yeah. I've talked to some woman who moved here recently, maybe five years ago with her family. And she said, "Oh, well, we're here gardening because we want to eat the vegetables that we know at home and can't find at the grocery store. So we're just growing them ourselves."

Gregory (00:30:29):

Exactly, and that's what they do. And they have no problem doing it.

Rachel (00:30:34):

She left the garden with a huge trash bag full of greens. I've never seen so many greens.

Gregory (00:30:42):

They do it. They do it, and they have no problem. This is what they eat. They consider a lot of Americans wasteful.

Rachel (<u>00:30:53</u>): A lot of America is wasteful.

Gregory (00:30:56):

I know. They're like, "Yo, you don't get it, do you? We come over here ... Yo, where we come from ..." Like I said, it's part of American dream. And actually from global ... I'm going to say global warming, but I can't concentrate on the globe itself. But I can say something about America.

Rachel (00:31:13):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:31:15):

We are very wasteful in a sense. It really makes no sense how wasteful we are. No man, and no woman, no child should be hungry in America. Worse than that, no man, no child should be homeless in America. But people choose to do it. And these are most of the people that's been here for a long time and forgot the American dream. Right? It doesn't exist for them. So we got to reinstall it to the kids that's coming through the schools. I don't even know what they teach these kids now because back in my day, the teacher would've been knocking on the garden door saying, "Can I have a school visit with the kids?"

Rachel (00:32:23):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:32:25):

And then you can also look at the garbage that they throw away, and there's vegetables and fruits, whole. They never eat it.

Rachel (00:32:38):

So you talked about the importance of balance, living in balance with nature. Talk to me about how you do that in the garden, how you grow and set things up so that you have this balance.

Gregory (<u>00:32:53</u>):

Well, like I said, my garden evolved, and it's not just a vegetable garden anymore. It's more of ecological space for the birds, the insects, and what other kind of animal that might find their way in here because they need it. Everybody needs a home. You know what I mean?

Rachel (00:33:24):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:33:25):

You met the resident cardinal, him and his wife. And I have other residents that come here, and this is what they do. You were asking me about the bee house.

Rachel (<u>00:33:41</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:33:41):

Excuse me. I'm trying to find different ways to invite the different insects here so they could probably, well, how you say, multiply. I'm changing the garden more into, instead of growing plants, edible plant ... Well, it's an edible garden, yes. But more of instead of a garden, garden per se, it's more of a herbal, tasting, feeling, all the senses garden. So that people go, "Oh, okay. I learned something today." And it's all based on Botanical Garden. Everything's based that I have here is because I've studied and been around the Botanical Garden for many years. And it's there. I'm just trying to make it into a smaller module so that the people that's in this community can go, "Oh, I need to go see a bigger site."

Rachel (00:34:50):

So this is a way of getting people more curious.

Gregory (<u>00:34:55</u>):

Oh, it's definitely the first step. It's the first step. I didn't tell you that at one point I had ... Look-

Rachel (<u>00:35:07</u>): Oh my God, so many wrens. It's so beautiful when you see all of them together.

Gregory (<u>00:35:14</u>):

Yeah. Well, I told you I made it a space for them to come here. I only got one problem sometimes. My neighbor got a bird killer.

Rachel (<u>00:35:26</u>): I've seen that cat.

Gregory (<u>00:35:27</u>): The gray-

Rachel (<u>00:35:27</u>): I saw that cat in here when I just walked in.

Gregory (<u>00:35:29</u>): He's a bird-

Rachel (<u>00:35:30</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:35:31</u>): But that's in his nature.

Rachel (<u>00:35:34</u>): Yep.

Gregory (<u>00:35:35</u>): I can't kill him, but I shoo him away.

Rachel (<u>00:35:37</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:35:38</u>): But he's a hunter.

Rachel (<u>00:35:39</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:35:40</u>): He's a hunter. So-

Rachel (<u>00:35:42</u>): I actually heard that domestic cats kill more birds every year than-

Gregory (<u>00:35:46</u>): I wouldn't be surprised.

Rachel (<u>00:35:48</u>): Than something, I don't know what-

Gregory (<u>00:35:50</u>): I wouldn't be surprised, than poison itself.

Rachel (<u>00:35:52</u>): Yeah. So do you feel like there was a moment when ... So is this a carpenter bee or a bumblebee?

Gregory (<u>00:36:00</u>): That's a bumblebee.

Rachel (00:36:00):

Okay.

Gregory (<u>00:36:03</u>):

That's the bees that we look for. See, that's a bumblebee.

Rachel (<u>00:36:07</u>): That's what you want.

Gregory (<u>00:36:07</u>): That's what we want. That's a honey bee.

Rachel (00:36:09):

When you stopped having as many bumblebees in the garden, did that affect how things grow around here?

Gregory (<u>00:36:18</u>):

Always, because if you can't pollinate, you can't grow anything.

Rachel (<u>00:36:22</u>): So did you notice any changes other than just a lack of bees?

Gregory (<u>00:36:29</u>):

Well, how you say, it ... Myself? There's always other insects that'll do it.

Rachel (<u>00:36:36</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:36:38</u>): But the bumblebee is the key.

Rachel (<u>00:36:40</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:36:40):

And it's not just here, but like I said, when you look at an overall. I've been with various ... I actually was at Ma Johanna's garden. I was going to set up four bumblebee sites. We already had two already locked in, and then pandemic came and everything else, so that didn't happen. How you say, you got the pros and the cons. That reminds me, like I said, pros and cons. You got people that want something to happen, but don't want to have nothing to do with it. And what you got to do is teach, one, it's beneficiary for it to happen, especially when it comes to nature and preserving it. You have to. It's mandatory. Like I said, I don't know what they teach them in school nowadays.

Rachel (00:38:00):

So, do you feel like there was a moment when the climate crisis or global warming showed up in your own backyard, so to speak?

Gregory (00:38:08):

I told you the day when ... I really didn't pay any attention to it until the day that the helicopter came by, and all of a suddenly we're going to kill all the mosquitoes. And then all of a sudden, I'm like, something's not right. You can tell that something's not right. That the birds are not here. The insects that you're looking for are not here. And some of the plants are not growing. Because if they're not being propagated, they won't grow no ... I mean, the fruits and the ... The fruits won't come out of it. That was my eye opening. I never really paid any attention to it-

Rachel (00:38:55):

Sounds scary.

Gregory (<u>00:38:56</u>): Until I was like, oh shit, it's real.

Rachel (<u>00:39:00</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:39:00):

And you see the chopper come, and then they was just ... And you know they hit me hard because they were like, "Yo, it's open space, get them."

Rachel (<u>00:39:10</u>):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:39:11):

They hit me hard. I was like, okay, what do I do? So like I said, to counteract it, as time came along, like I said, Green Thumb had ... They had no idea about the ... Well, if they did, they're like, those are the people that supposedly went, "Okay, how do we balance it?" See, big brother, they're too busy into the money, and ... But they're not really looking at the real, how you say, the concrete part of it.

Rachel (<u>00:39:48</u>): Yeah. It's a crazy thing to do.

Gregory (<u>00:39:52</u>): It's a crazy thing to do, but they could have counteracted.

Rachel (<u>00:39:54</u>): Right.

Gregory (00:39:54):

They have said, "Oh, okay. Since you dropped that, we need to do more of this." You know what I mean?

Rachel (00:40:03):

Yeah. Think of it more holistically.

Gregory (<u>00:40:05</u>):

Exactly. But like I said, Green Thumb is here for another reason. It's two reasons. But the whole reason is to hold down the empty spaces that ... to beautify, the community for what it is. Just to beautify it. You know what I mean? But they can ... Like you said, it's a bigger picture. It's a way bigger picture. And how you say, Green Thumb was a lot better back in the days because the ladies that ran it, they were fucking hands on. Ask. They would come. They was like, "Yo." And we had four times as many gardens. Now, man, you'll be lucky if you ... Carlos might come out. I don't know. I got to see what Carlos does. But Bill never came out. I don't see Bill.

Rachel (00:41:13):

So have you noticed changes in the weather, in seasons, over the course of the ... I mean, the 50 years that you've lived here, how has weather ... how have weather and seasons changed?

Gregory (00:41:30):

That's hard because I just find that the weather has been wacky. You can't put your finger on it, but it's wacky. When it's cold, it's hot. When it's hot, it's cold. It's pretty wacky. And like I said, I'm just a little piece of this, so I can't really go yo, it's ... I'm not a scientist, I'm going to say that. So I can't go, "Because of this, because of this, because of this ..." I can only tell you what I know that's in this garden as a sign, and it's been wacky.

Rachel (<u>00:42:13</u>):

For how long?

Gregory (<u>00:42:18</u>):

You really don't try to put your ... You really don't want to look at it like that because it can be discouraging. You know that, right?

Rachel (00:42:26):

Tell me more.

Gregory (<u>00:42:27</u>):

Because if you know that ... How about if I told you the world was coming to an end? You'd be like, "Oh, fuck, I ... I want no parts of this." But you try ... Myself, I try to be on the positive side. You know what I mean? And I think that's what most of the world does. They know it, but they don't want to go, "Okay, it's there."

Rachel (00:42:52):

So, tell me more about this though, then. So, what does it mean for you that weather has been wacky? And what I assume is what you've noticed is it's been wacky for a while. What does that-

Gregory (<u>00:42:52</u>):

It's been wacky-

Rachel (<u>00:43:07</u>): What does that mean for you?

Gregory (00:43:09):

Like I said, you want to be more positive, even though you're just ... out of a hundred, you're just one finger of it all, and you must try to continue doing what you're doing. Like I tell people, do what you must do and hopefully others will follow.

Rachel (00:43:26):

So what does it mean to be positive? What do you hope for, for the future?

Gregory (<u>00:43:31</u>): I'm doing it right here.

Rachel (<u>00:43:32</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:43:33):

I've become a part of the anti global. I'm finding young people that have a passion on this and want to support the cause, even though they don't know it in the long range, but when they see the big picture, they go, "Oh, shit. Yeah, I'm doing something to go against it." That's my only two things I could do. I mean as a bigger picture. Nature needs to be a part of us, but it's hard for city folks to see that line because they're city folks.

Rachel (00:44:21):

When you say no one likes to think it's the end of the world-

Gregory (<u>00:44:27</u>):

It's true.

Rachel (00:44:27):

What does the end of the world mean? What does that mean for you when you say that?

Gregory (<u>00:44:33</u>): Well-

Rachel (<u>00:44:34</u>): It's the end of what exactly?

Gregory (00:44:36):

When I say the end of the world, no one wants to say that they contribute in fucking up this place. You know what I mean? And it's a long story If I told you every time you drop trash, you are contributing to

screwing up the Earth, would you pay attention to it, or would you not? A lot of people go, "Not me, not me." And those are ones, once again, that we have to change their thoughts about you live here. You live here. This is a ... Like I said, I could talk about other places. No, I could talk about East New York, but I can't really tell you about other places. And you are your environment. You are really your environment.

And when it comes to, how you say, once again, the end of the Earth, it comes to how you perceive your life to be on this Earth, and how people around you ... you feel about people around. You get what I'm saying? And a lot of people do, so they like, "I'm going to take everybody with me," instead of going, "Let me make somebody else life a little bit better." I live in this type of neighborhood or environment at this point. That's why we have a lot of murders. We have people that rob each other. It's an instinct. It's just amazing. You sit there and go, "Wow." But it is what it is.

Rachel (00:46:52):

So let me ask you a higher level question. And the question is, how did we get here? In the course of human history or the Earth history-

Gregory (<u>00:46:52</u>):

Dog eat dog.

Rachel (00:47:09):

And also, what is here? So, how do you view history and how do you view where we are right now?

Gregory (00:47:16):

It's dog eat dog.

Rachel (<u>00:47:18</u>): What does that mean?

Gregory (00:47:20):

Dog eat dog, meaning crabs in the barrel. Instead of people ... I always say people need to collaborate, not dominate. We are thinking beings compared to animals. If we sat, and thought, and collaborated more than trying to dominate someone, we could get a lot further. But you have that greed instinct. Many have that greed instinct that, "I must have, and I don't care what you get." So-

Rachel (<u>00:48:01</u>):

So, how did that lead us to where we are?

Gregory (<u>00:48:05</u>):

Well, it is what it is. One and one equal two all the time. Don't change. I mean, if you change, let me know. But if you do this and you do that, how you say, there's always a cause and there's always an effect.

Rachel (<u>00:48:20</u>): Do you ever read Octavia Butler?

Gregory (00:48:22):

No. Who is she?

Rachel (00:48:24):

Oh, she's an amazing writer. She writes ... you could call it like speculative fiction. She has some books that are sci-fi, some books that are more fantasy. Some that are time travel. She's incredible.

Gregory (00:48:35):

Is it that black chick that wrote some kind of movie that-

Rachel (<u>00:48:39</u>): Yeah. Wait, did she have a movie that came out?

Gregory (00:48:42):

She wrote something that's really big and I heard of her. I've heard of her. But she wrote something that's really ... It was out there, and I've heard of her.

Rachel (00:48:53):

Yeah, she's amazing. So, I just finished this one book called Lilith's Brood. It's a trilogy. I just so recommend her ... I think you'd really be into it. She's amazing. And she also ... her books feel prophetic. She wrote this apocalyptic book in the nineties that had a vision for a pretty near future that felt like where we are going right now.

Gregory (<u>00:49:19</u>): Right. What was it, Silent Green?

Rachel (<u>00:49:21</u>): No, no Parable of the Sour.

Gregory (<u>00:49:24</u>):

Okay.

Rachel (00:49:25):

So, she has these books that I just finished reading. It's this alien book. And basically, the premise is after World War III, these aliens come down and they save the remaining humans and they breed with them. And these aliens, their power is that they can read the genome of life forms, so they can read you, your genes, and see your genes as your future, just like how we read books.

Gregory (<u>00:49:54</u>): Right, right.

Rachel (00:49:55):

And they say ... they call it the human contradiction. They say the reason why humans are destined to destroy each other and themselves is that they have this contradictory genes inside of them. First, they have high intelligence, and then they have hierarchical behavior.

Gregory (00:50:16):

That's it?

Rachel (00:50:17):

And it's a combination of intelligence and hierarchical behavior, and that's why we will-

Gregory (00:50:25):

Destroy-

Rachel (<u>00:50:25</u>): Destroy ourselves. And I just thought it was so brilliant.

Gregory (00:50:27):

No, but it's true in a sense. That's why I said dog eat dog.

Rachel (00:50:30):

Yeah, exactly.

Gregory (00:50:31):

Instead of us sitting down and going, "Let's have a conversation about this and collaborate, and everything will be ..." or what they call a meeting of the minds, they go, "No, fuck you. I want to dominate this, and I'm running the whole game." And so, like you said, there's that hierarchy, and then-

Rachel (<u>00:50:54</u>):

Intelligence.

Gregory (00:50:55):

And you're like, "Oh really? Oh really?" My favorite one, believe it or not, that's almost like science fiction is Hitler, because Hitler was a brilliant guy that got fed up with the Jews because the Jews were making a lot of money. And they were making money in Germany, and he couldn't control it. So he said, "The Germans are not benefiting from this. How do we fucking turn this around?"

Rachel (00:51:39):

Why do you say it's almost like science fiction?

Gregory (00:51:42):

Because it's even ... I'm going to say it like this. When I call it almost like science fiction, like the pandemic, it's almost like science fiction, the World Trade Center, but it's real.

Rachel (00:51:56):

So you're saying that it's like these events that feel larger than life.

Gregory (<u>00:52:00</u>):

That would never ... You would figure like what the fuck?

Rachel (<u>00:52:04</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>00:52:04</u>): Like when you heard the World Trade Center one, you go, "No, that ain't real."

Rachel (00:52:08): It was really disorienting.

Gregory (<u>00:52:10</u>):

And you're like ... Then, next thing you know, the ... So how do you think the people felt in Germany?

Rachel (<u>00:52:17</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>00:52:17</u>): They're like he killed a what? How do you process this?

Rachel (<u>00:52:24</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>00:52:27</u>): What mad man ... Who could make, I mean-

Rachel (00:52:36):

And that's why so many German Jews stayed because you wouldn't possibly think that it would happen.

Gregory (00:52:42):

You would never think that he would, how you say, infiltrate these people's minds and have them turn against their brother and sister.

Rachel (00:52:55):

Yeah. My husband's family, actually, his grandparents survived the Holocaust in the camps. They were German Jews.

Gregory (<u>00:53:02</u>): Well, like I said, you would never figure. And it was all on greed.

Rachel (00:53:08):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:53:11):

Okay. Now that we got them, what do we take from them? Everything they got. And that's why it's funny how, the reason why blacks and Jews get along ... You know that, right?

Rachel (<u>00:53:26</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (00:53:26):

Because it's almost the same thing going ... They go, "Oh shit, you brought us from Africa. You took everything we had." How could you figure?

Rachel (<u>00:53:41</u>): Right.

-

Gregory (<u>00:53:43</u>): How could you figure that?

Rachel (<u>00:53:45</u>): It's these larger than life catastrophes.

Gregory (<u>00:53:47</u>): It's like science fiction.

Rachel (<u>00:53:49</u>): Right, right, right.

Gregory (00:53:50):

It's like science fiction. You could never fathom this shit. You would go, "Wow." But it happens. It's real.

Rachel (00:53:59):

So where are we now? Where do you see where we are now in terms of ... where we are now in terms of moving into the future? How would you define the now?

Gregory (00:54:15):

It was funny. I was watching the CNN this morning. What's the guy ... I'm trying to think of his name. He had a show.

Rachel (<u>00:54:26</u>): I only know three CNN, Wolf Blitzer, Cooper-

Gregory (<u>00:54:31</u>): No, not Cooper. It's the other guy that is really-

Rachel (00:54:31):

Cuomo.

Gregory (00:54:35):

He's so freaking funny. But he was on CNN. I'm trying to think of his name. He left the business, but they don't ... They always go bother him. And he said that, "Beyond all the bullshit, I still have hope for us." And that's the way I feel about it. As someone that comes from the slaves, you got to have ... I have hope, you know what I mean? I have hope that fate will come along and change this. And if it doesn't, I still have hope and faith that things could get better. And if I can't do ... if they can't do it, I'll try to do it myself. And that's how, believe it or not, how I believe my ancestors sufficed through all the bullshit, because like I said, I have a 101 year grandmother.

Rachel (00:55:48):

It's just so old. It's unbelievable.

Gregory (<u>00:55:48</u>):

And it's like, yo, how do you ... And right now she's like, "I feel so all alone." And she be like, "Please, sweet Jesus, take me." Because she can't herself, so she's like-

Rachel (00:56:04):

Right.

Gregory (<u>00:56:04</u>):

Because she's that type of person. So you figure ... you just figure, okay, let me make it easy for her, as best as possible as we know it. But like you said, she's, how you say, she's history.

Rachel (00:56:31):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:56:33):

She's history. All you want is the best. A lot of people don't understand the best. They don't understand it.

Rachel (00:56:43):

So do you have a religious, spiritual, or even an ethical based practice that helps you comprehend, understand this moment?

Gregory (<u>00:56:52</u>):

We all are one and we're all connected some way or somehow. A lot of people don't believe that, so that's why they do other things. If they believed that we all were one and we're all connected, they wouldn't do half the shit they do.

Rachel (00:57:18):

Yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:57:20</u>): It's a cause and it's an effect.

Rachel (00:57:23):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:57:28):

How you say, I believe in a higher power, but guess what people ... Just like I say the sky is blue, you might call it a different blue, but we all see it. But we might see it in different perceptions as we are trained. Because see, we're all trained-

Rachel (00:57:28):

Oh yeah.

Gregory (<u>00:57:47</u>):

Everybody in different ways.

Rachel (00:57:50):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:57:50):

We're all trained in different ways. So you go, "Oh, Allah, Allah, Allah," and then he go, "Jesus," and all. But you see it. But do you perceive it? Do you comprehend it? And like you said, where are we going now? Well, I could tell you for the black youth, they is fucked up.

Rachel (<u>00:58:16</u>): Really?

Gregory (00:58:17):

Yeah. Because they've lost ... a lot of them lost perception of how we got here. I come from a hip hop era where there was no rapping, no cursing, nothing like that in a record. Do you hear the records today?

Rachel (<u>00:58:42</u>): Yeah. It was a lot squeaky clean.

Gregory (<u>00:58:47</u>): Yeah, well all we did was do the dozens. You remember?

Rachel (00:58:50):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:58:50):

Like, oh your mother [inaudible 00:58:52], and I'm so cool, and ... Now it's so fuck you all, it's all about me.

Rachel (<u>00:59:01</u>):

Why do you think that is? What do you think changed?

Gregory (<u>00:59:04</u>): It's not changed. It's that people want to be heard.

Rachel (00:59:08):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:59:10):

And they'll do anything to do it. And if they think that this person is sounding like them, just like a god, they're going to run to them like, "That's the way I talk."

Rachel (00:59:22):

Yeah.

Gregory (00:59:22):

"That's the way I feel." But they still ... Like I said, the great thing about us is that we are all individuals. Though we're connected, we're all individuals. So you have to be able to ... That's, how you say, look for the genius in yourself. I always tell people we all are magical. We all have different powers. Do you know your power? And if you are able to harness your power, great things can come.

Rachel (01:00:01):

Okay. I have two more questions for you and then I'll leave you alone. First question is, what do you fear for, for the future?

Gregory (01:00:10):

Nothing because I'm 60 years old. What else is left now. Yo, all I can do is do ... be me, and be the best of me, and become a beacon of light.

Rachel (<u>01:00:26</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:00:28</u>):

What do I fear for? See, I don't feel for me. I fear for them because now they got to live 60 years of life.

Rachel (<u>01:00:34</u>): What do you fear for them?

Gregory (<u>01:00:35</u>): Annihilation because they can do it.

Rachel (<u>01:00:41</u>): What's annihilation? What's that mean?

Gregory (<u>01:00:47</u>):

They setting up for catastrophic shit. And if it's not a balance, it can happen.

Rachel (<u>01:00:54</u>): Like weather catastrophes?

Gregory (<u>01:00:56</u>): Everything.

Rachel (<u>01:00:57</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (01:00:58):

Everything. Prophecy has a way of coming. When they make a prophecy, and you be like, "nah, nah, nah," oh shit, it happened.

Rachel (<u>01:01:11</u>): Who's they?

Gregory (<u>01:01:13</u>): History has a way of repeating itself. Like I said, we are all connected. People do have premonitions.

Rachel (<u>01:01:25</u>): So who's making prophecies?

Gregory (<u>01:01:27</u>):

No, I can't tell you that because that's way beyond my control. That's up there.

Rachel (<u>01:01:32</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (01:01:33):

I'm just trying to tell you how I feel about life. And I feel for them because if they don't come to conclusion about what we are talking about, taking care of our Earth, global warming and everything under that ... Because believe it or not, global warming is actually the tip of the iceberg.

Rachel (01:01:55):

Pun intended?

Gregory (01:01:56):

It's true. Because if you don't take care of this, how you going to take care of that?

Rachel (<u>01:02:00</u>): Right.

Gregory (01:02:01):

So if they don't take care of our Earth, from what it say, what else is left? Only thing that's probably going to be left is the fish in the sea because they didn't really get to all the-

Rachel (<u>01:02:21</u>): Not even because the ocean is acidifying and it's keeping all the warming-

Gregory (<u>01:02:24</u>):

I know, it's true. But I'm talking about ... Isn't it 70% the Earth is water?

Rachel (<u>01:02:31</u>): Yeah, but-

Gregory (<u>01:02:33</u>): They-

Rachel (<u>01:02:34</u>): That water is changing pretty rapidly.

Gregory (<u>01:02:37</u>): I know it is, but I'm feeling like this, that the only thing left might be water.

Rachel (<u>01:02:41</u>): Yeah. Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:02:42</u>):

You know what I mean? Because they're like ... They're breaking up the land as we speak. My goal for this place right here ... and I'm going to tell you on the record, I actually want to buy it and make it a trust. And then it'll be trusted to the school or whoever. That's why I go ... But they have to follow those rules, otherwise ... Because that's what actually Bette Midler did some shit like that with ... Because she brought property all over.

Rachel (<u>01:02:42</u>): Yeah, I think so. Do I know this?

Gregory (<u>01:03:25</u>):

Yeah. You know the restoration ... What is it? The restoration-

Rachel (01:03:30):

Oh yeah, because someone was like, "You should talk to Bette Midler."

Gregory (<u>01:03:33</u>): Yeah, you should.

Rachel (<u>01:03:34</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:03:36</u>): Because she was pals with ... What's that super rich mayor that used to be-

Rachel (<u>01:03:42</u>): Bloomberg?

Gregory (01:03:43):

And that's how she got all ... She brought all these vacant lands back in the crazy ... and it's all over the place. I think it's a double ... She could sell them shits back and make killer money. But in the meantime, she set up places like this all over New York.

Rachel (01:04:06):

Yeah.

Gregory (01:04:10):

And she raises funds to keep those places. And most of the places, you can't really build on because they're so small.

Rachel (01:04:19):

Yeah.

Gregory (01:04:22):

But she put open spaces all over the place. So, whoever said that was right, that she ... You should talk to her and ... or talk to someone in her organization, which is easy because they're right in ... They're in Midtown.

Rachel (<u>01:04:43</u>): Yeah, I should call them.

Gregory (<u>01:04:44</u>):

You should, and say, "What is your play? What is your play?" And then, "What's your play? Throw me about \$20,000 so I can finish this project."

Rachel (01:04:57):

Yeah. So my last question for you is just, are there any questions that I asked you, or that I didn't ask you, that you-

Gregory (<u>01:05:07</u>): I would love to see-

Rachel (01:05:08):

Expected me to ask you, or-

Gregory (01:05:10):

No, I would ... My question is, I would love to see this put together, and if you need a photographer, I have all the equipment.

Rachel (<u>01:05:21</u>): Cool.

Gregory (<u>01:05:21</u>): So we can sit down, because I'd love to do a book.

Rachel (<u>01:05:25</u>): Oh, cool. What kind of book?

Gregory (<u>01:05:26</u>):

No, you wrote ... How you say? A lot of people don't read, but they do look at pictures. And so you have an audio book, click. Hello? Click. Hello? Hello? And then ... Yeah, but see this tree right here?

Rachel (<u>01:05:41</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:05:41</u>): When you talk about global warming-

Rachel (<u>01:05:43</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:05:44</u>): That's a red plum tree.

Rachel (<u>01:05:45</u>): Okay.

Gregory (<u>01:05:45</u>):

When I first had it, the plums were this big. You bite them ... Somehow, some type of mite got to it, and I can't get rid of it.

Rachel (<u>01:06:00</u>): You think it's from the water, the wetness?

for think it's norm the water, the wetters

Gregory (<u>01:06:05</u>): No it's because they kill all the insects-

Rachel (<u>01:06:06</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:06:07</u>): That would get it. You know what I mean?

Rachel (<u>01:06:09</u>): So it doesn't fruit anymore?

Gregory (01:06:11):

All it does is start the fruit, and then that bug comes and ... Because what it has, a way of ... It latches itself to the tree.

Rachel (<u>01:06:21</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:06:22</u>):

And how you say, say he saw a vein, it'll latch onto the vein and suck the juice.

Rachel (01:06:29):

That sounds upsetting because it must have been so nice to pick beautiful plums off of your tree, and then to not have that anymore.

Gregory (<u>01:06:38</u>): All I could do is spray it, and then try to get to the apricot tree.

Rachel (<u>01:06:38</u>): Uh-huh (affirmative).

Gregory (<u>01:06:41</u>): I have an apricot tree.

Rachel (<u>01:06:46</u>): Does that still fruit?

Gregory (01:06:47):

Oh yeah. Man, apricots were pretty neat. I never had a apricot from a tree before.

Rachel (01:06:52):

Yeah.

Gregory (01:06:52):

But it looked ... I was like ... From a green, it turned into a yellow, and from a yellow, it started to turn orange.

Rachel (<u>01:07:04</u>): Cool.

Gregory (<u>01:07:05</u>): And that's when it was ready.

Rachel (<u>01:07:07</u>): Yeah. Yeah. I'm only ... I eat apricots.

Gregory (<u>01:07:13</u>): Yeah.

Rachel (<u>01:07:13</u>): Sometimes I get them at the farmer's market. But I've never seen an apricot tree.

Gregory (<u>01:07:18</u>): Yeah. Well, that's an ... The one next to the peach tree is an apricot tree.

Rachel (<u>01:07:22</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (01:07:22):

Like I said, the kids come in and go ... And I go, "What's that?" They go, "I don't know." Well, strawberries off the ground, they never had a strawberry. Some of them never had a strawberry off the ground. So, back to what we were saying with global warming, I'm trying to find a way to instill how wonderful the Earth is to us.

Rachel (<u>01:07:49</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:07:50</u>): You know what I mean?

Rachel (01:07:50):

Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:07:52</u>): Because they're used to going to the grocery store.

Rachel (<u>01:07:54</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>01:07:55</u>):

We don't have to really worry about the ones that's in the country setting because this is their way of life.

Rachel (<u>01:08:01</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>01:08:02</u>): It's the ones that's in the city.

Rachel (<u>01:08:03</u>): Yeah. And you're so removed from nature.

Gregory (<u>01:08:06</u>):

They're so ... Exactly. They're so removed that they're like, "Well, we can go to the grocery store. We don't care."

Rachel (<u>01:08:13</u>): Right.

Gregory (<u>01:08:14</u>): And I think most of the pollution comes out of here, anyway.

Rachel (<u>01:08:17</u>): Yeah.

Gregory (<u>01:08:19</u>): Which all ends up to what? Global warming.

Rachel (<u>01:08:22</u>): Yeah.