

1 THEREUPON:

2 JAMES DOUGLAS MORRISON

3 the defendant herein, was called as a witness on his  
4 own behalf and being first duly sworn, was examined  
5 and testified on his oath as follows:

6 DIRECT EXAMINATION

7 BY MR. FINK:

8 Q Will you state your full name, please?

9 A My name is James Douglas Morrison.

10 Q Mr. Morrison, where do you live?

11 A I am a resident of California.

12 Q Are you a member of a group called the  
13 Doors?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q About when was that group formed?

16 A Well, approximately four years ago.

17 Q Do you recall when you started to work  
18 together professionally?

19 A Oh, about six months after we started  
20 rehearsing.

21 Q What education do you have?

22 A I am a graduate of UCLA, Bachelor's  
23 in Fine Arts.

24

1 Q UCLA, is that the University of  
2 California and Los Angeles?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Did you go to school with Ray Manzarek?

5 A For about a year and a half.

6 Q Did you also go to school in Florida?

7 A Yes, I did.

8 Q Where did you go to school in Florida?

9 A I started out at St. Petersburg Junior  
10 College and then moved up to Florida State University.

11 Q What is your father's business or  
12 occupation?

13 A He is a member of the Navy.

14 Q In connection with his naval work, did  
15 your family move about?

16 A Yes, we did.

17 (Objection, overruled.)

18 Q Mr. Morrison, what type of work do you  
19 do?

20 A I sing and write songs.

21 Q Do you also write poetry, literature  
22 and art work?

23 A That is more a labor of love rather  
24

1 than occupation.

2 Q Do you recall being in Miami at Dinner  
3 Key Auditorium?

4 A Yes, sir, I do.

5 Q Was that on March 1st of 1969?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q Do you recall arriving in Miami?

8 A Yes, sir, I do.

9 Q At the time that you arrived at Dinner  
10 Key Auditorium were the other members of your group  
11 already present?

12 A Yes, sir, they were.

13 Q Do you recall whether you were late in  
14 arriving or not?

15 A Yes, I just made it on time, actually.

16 Q Had you missed the plane?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Someone mentioned that.

19 A Yes, I missed the plane, the nonstop  
20 plane in LA, had a holdover in New Orleans for a  
21 couple of hours.

22 Q When you arrived at Dinner Key that  
23 night did you go to a dressing room?  
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1           A     Yes, sir.

2           Q     What did you do there?

3           A     Had a beer, ate a sandwich.

4           Q     Then did you go on stage with your  
5 fellow members of the Doors?

6           A     That's right.

7           Q     About how long did the Doors' performance,  
8 including your performance, last that night?

9           A     Well, I could only approximate. It was  
10 over an hour. I don't think it was more than an hour  
11 and a half.

12          Q     Can you tell us in general what did you  
13 do on stage that night?

14          A     Well, we did about five or six songs  
15 and talked to the audience a bit.

16          Q     Is there any particular message that you  
17 brought to this audience or that you normally bring  
18 to audiences?

19                   (Objection, sustained.)

20          Q     Insofar as any message that you brought  
21 to this audience, was it any different than other  
22 messages you bring to audiences?

23                   (Objection, sustained.)

24

1 Q Insofar as your talking to the audience  
2 is concerned, what subjects did you touch upon on the  
3 night of March 1 of last year at Dinner Key?

4 A Well, the theme of most of my songs is  
5 love, sex, death, travel, just the basic human  
6 condition.

7 Q What do you mean by that?

8 (Objection, sustained.)

9 Q Did you say anything to the audience  
10 that night of March 1 of last year with regard to the  
11 subject of love or love your neighbor or friend?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q Can you tell us in your own words just  
14 what you said?

15 A The time is short and better make the  
16 most of it.

17 Q Did you discuss the subject with the  
18 audience that night of demonstration or revolution?

19 A I guess so.

20 Q Were you here in the courtroom when we  
21 played the tape of the performance?

22 A I was, yes.

23 Q Was it substantially correct?  
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A Yes, it was.

Q When you arrived on stage that night did you observe the condition of the audience or crowd?

A Yes, sir.

Q Could you tell the jury what you observed, please.

A A vast arena. It looked like an airplane hangar, I think, crammed with people.

Q To what extent were they crowded?

A Well, except for on the fringes there was not much room to move around at all. It was like a can of worms.

Q In performing before this audience, did you do anything to try to hold their attention?

A Yes, sir.

Q How is that done or how did you do it?

A Well, I really---

(Objection, overruled.)

Q Tell us what you did. The question was, how did you do it.

A Constant chatter and movement.

Q Did you do anything or make any attempt to put the audience at ease, make them less nervous

1 or tired by way of speech or song?

2 A Yes, I did.

3 Q Can you tell us what you did, if any-  
4 thing?

5 A Well, I suggested that it would be  
6 better if everyone stood up and felt free to move  
7 around and relax.

8 Q Did you say to the audience in words  
9 and substance as follows, when you first talked to  
10 them: "I'm not talking about no demonstration. I am  
11 talking about having a good time. I am talking about  
12 having a good time this summer. Are you all coming  
13 up there?"

14 Did you say words to that effect?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Did you say words in substance as  
17 follows: "You all get out there. We are all going  
18 to lie down there in the sand and rub our toes in the  
19 ocean. We are going to have a good time."

20 (Objection, sustained.)

21 Q By the way, you are what is called a  
22 rock singer?

23 A Among other things, yes.

24

1 Q During the course of your performance  
2 that night did you have occasion to move around?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q On the stage.

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Can you tell us to what extent did you  
7 move around?

8 A Well, I danced around the entire stage.

9 Q Did you move your arms?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Legs, head?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Do you recall whether or not the guitar  
14 player, Robbie Krieger, took a solo run during the  
15 song "Light My Fire"?

16 A Yes, he did.

17 Q During the time that he was taking that  
18 solo run on his guitar, what did you do, if anything?

19 A I got down on my hands and knees and  
20 scrutinized the intricate finger movements of the  
21 guitar player.

22 Q Is there a particular reason why you  
23 did that?  
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A Yes, sir.

Q Would you tell the jury why, what the reason is?

A Well, I don't play an instrument myself. I don't play the guitar and it amazes me how someone is able to do it. It is masterful.

Q Any other reason why you took that particular position near Robbie Krieger?

A Well, I like to be close to the action.

Q What do you mean by that?

A In a way, I suppose, I was trying to share in the limelight.

Q Was there a spotlight?

A Yes, there was.

Q Did it move wherever you went on stage?

A Yes, that's right.

Q And did it move with you when you went over on your hands and knees at the guitar?

A I think it did.

Q What did you do, if anything, while you were near the guitar while Robbie was taking this run during "Light My Fire"?

A Oh, kind of made idiotic faces at him

1 to see if I could break him up in the midst of his  
2 solo. It is kind of a game I play with him.

3 Q Was Robbie laughing or was he cold-faced  
4 or stone-faced?

5 A Well, let's put it this way, he was,  
6 he wasn't too amused.

7 Q By whatever you did.

8 A Yes.

9 Q As far as you were concerned did you  
10 enjoy the situation?

11 A Oh, yes, except for a kind of subtle  
12 jealousy I am not able to play the guitar.

13 Q While you were on the stage that night  
14 did you hear any noises from the audience?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Can you sit back in your chair and tell  
17 the jury what you heard?

18 A Well, "Fuck you, Morrison, you creep,"  
19 and stuff like that.

20 Q Any other four letter words?

21 A Yes, they kind of ran the gamut of your  
22 basic four letter slang expressions.

23 Q Do you recall whether or not there was  
24

1 an animal near the stage?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q Will you tell us what was done with  
4 regard to this animal?

5 A There was a guy I had met on the coast  
6 who inherited a lot of money and he has devoted his  
7 life to traveling around preaching his philosophy,  
8 and one of the tenets---

9 (Objection.)

10 Q Did this man say anything?

11 A We just exchanged greetings.

12 Q Did he say anything on the microphone  
13 that night?

14 A I can't remember if he did or not.

15 Q Do you know what the purpose of this  
16 man and the lamb was?

17 A I believe so. Basically he believed  
18 that human beings should not kill.

19 (Objection, sustained.)

20 Q Could you tell us what the reason was  
21 for this lamb?

22 A Well, the lamb is such a symbolically  
23 cuddly and defenseless beast and I think attempts to  
24

1 operate, in other words?

2 A Well, a piece of leather, a thin strip  
3 of leather on each side. It opens on the principle  
4 of like a life jacket on an airplane or a boat, kind  
5 of a brass ring pulls.

6 Q A double ring that you put the belt  
7 loop through?

8 A Yes, exactly.

9 Q There are two of those?

10 A Yes, right.

11 Q You have to insert them into the double  
12 metal rings?

13 A That's right.

14 Q And twist them back around?

15 A Yes.

16 Q How much time does it take you to put  
17 these belt loops--there are two sets of straps you say?

18 A Right.

19 Q How much time does it take to undo both  
20 of those straps and put them back through the two loops  
21 again and fasten them up again?

22 A Sometimes it takes too long.

23 Q How long is that?  
24

1           A     Well, I guess it depends on how fast  
2 you want to get them undone.

3           Q     How about putting them back on, putting  
4 them back in the loops and pulling them?

5           A     Yes, same thing.

6           Q     How long does it take you to put them  
7 on, those two straps and fasten them down?

8           A     You mean the natural time?

9           Q     If you can give it to us, just your  
10 estimation. I am sure you haven't timed it.

11          A     I really don't know.

12          Q     Does it take some little doing to get it  
13 done?

14          A     Yes.

15          Q     Did you at any time during the course  
16 of this evening while you were at Dinner Key Auditorium  
17 unfasten those straps?

18          A     No, I didn't.

19          Q     Did you at any time while you were at  
20 Dinner Key Auditorium that night of March 1, 1969 fasten  
21 those straps up again while you were on stage?

22          A     No, sir.

23          Q     The way those cowhide pants were fitted  
24

1 point out the absurdity of killing any living thing  
2 by the example of the lamb.

3 Q Counsel may ask about this later. Let  
4 me ask you now, what was your views about war and  
5 killing?

6 (Objection, sustained.)

7 Q Were you wearing trousers the night of  
8 this concert at Dinner Key?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q What type of material were the trousers  
11 made of?

12 A Cowhide, I think.

13 Q Can you describe them for us generally,  
14 if you will.

15 A Well, I had them made to order so they  
16 perfectly and tightly contour the lower part of my  
17 body.

18 Q Did they have a belt?

19 A No, no belt, but they have kind of a  
20 built in--there are two straps. They are attached at  
21 the waist of my pants.

22 Q To open those straps what would you have  
23 to do? Can you describe those straps and how they  
24

1 to you, the way that belt opens, is it possible to  
2 lower the pants below your hips without unfastening  
3 those straps?

4 A They are so tight it couldn't be done,  
5 really. They fit perfectly.

6 Q Would it be possible without undoing  
7 those straps to pull those pants down?

8 (Objection, sustained.)

9 Q Due to the contour of your body as it  
10 was shaped and existed on the night of March 1 of  
11 1969 while you were at Dinner Key Auditorium, in view  
12 of the manner in which those trousers or cowhide pants  
13 were made in the belt area, the two belts or two straps,  
14 rather, could you physically pull those pants down  
15 without undoing the straps?

16 (Objection, sustained.)

17 (Thereupon, the trial was  
18 recessed until September 17, 1970.)  
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA )  
                          ) SS:  
COUNTY OF DADE )

I, JUNE LAPOINT, do hereby certify that the case of State of Florida, Plaintiff, versus James Morrison, Defendant, pending in the Criminal Court of Record in and for Dade County, Florida, Case No. 69-2355, came on for hearing before the Honorable Murray Goodman, as Judge, on the 16th day of September, 1970; that I was authorized to and did report in shorthand, the proceedings and testimony in said hearing; that the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 89, inclusive, constitute a true and correct transcription of a portion of my shorthand report of the proceedings in said hearing.

DATED this 15th day of September, 1970, in the City of Miami, State of Florida.

  
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JUNE LAPOINT, Official Reporter,  
Criminal Court of Record,  
Division "D".