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"Courage! It is to live that requires courage, not to die."
- Marie Antoinette

Dear Readers,

02-05-14

Howdy! A great variety of things have happened since I last wrote - some highs, many lows, some of which don't matter anymore.

But, perhaps I should start with what's ~~no~~ most on my mind right now. I received a bit of a shock in the mail today. I got a letter from a former "trick" (in gay parlance, someone you "fooled around with") who freakin' found me on the internet! (goddamn computers!)

Backstory: (Honestly, now that I write some of you, I feel embarrassed to admit some things! Yikes! whatever). OK, so I hooked up with this guy whenever we would see each other at a sleazy gay establishment in Houston when we both lived there. OMB he was so fucking hot! What a body! Anyway, years later I had moved cross-country twice & was working at the time in Cleveland for 4 months & we again hooked up in a similar sleazy gay establishment there. (Admittedly, I don't remember this, he does. I was a "bit" of a slut in Cleveland when I wasn't working). Flash forward a few years & another cross-country move & he found me online in Ft. Lauderdale where we were both living. Shortly thereafter I was arrested. According to his letter, his ex-lover was working with my ex & so they followed our case on the news. Lovely.

So, here it is, almost 10 years later & out of the blue I receive

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a letter from this guy, who is now back in the Cleveland area. Wow. On one hand, I'm really embarrassed & ashamed about hearing from someone in my past. I really do wish I could crawl in a hole & die. On the other hand, I am really touched that he wrote. Double wow. The return letter is gonna be rough.

In other news, I learned a week or so ago that my appeal to fight a couple "shots" (incident reports) was turned down by the Court of Appeals. I received one shot for helping a blind man with his email & was accused of using his account - although the BOP provided no proof of any emails or anything connected to me, because there were none. I was only helping him. For that I lost 2 weeks' of "good time" (so my prison time is extended). All for helping a blind man with his email.

The second shot is for when I was squatting in a hall when I was sick waiting for an institution "move" to leave. A C.O. who was harassing me ordered me to stand & later claimed I was blocking the hallway - even though there were walkers & wheelchairs next to me that took up more space. His "shot" claimed I told him "no" & therefore refused to obey an order. He lied. I stood & was able to provide the court a ~~witnesses~~ witness's statement to support me. For that I lost another 2 weeks' good time.

Both shots were bullshit & I lost a month out of my life because of them. Then, naturally, the court system really doesn't give a shit about prisoners & will back the BOP no matter what. There is no justice in America.

Love & Blessings,
