MARCH 2, 2014: 6:30am: LISTENING TO: ZOMBIE BY THE CRANBERRIES HI CJP, FIRST I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR POST. YOU HAVE LEFT ME A COMMENT HERE AND THERE ALL THE WAY BACK TO LAST SUMMER SO I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO READ WHAT I WRITE. I LIKED WHAT YOU WROTE AND I THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR PAIN WITH ME. I HAVE LEARNED THAT WHEN IT COMES TO FAMILY, REACH OUT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE. WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, OUT OF ANGER AND PAIN, I SAID SOME PRETTY HURTFUL WORDS TO PEOPLE I LOVED AND NOW THEY ARE NO LONGER HERE. IT IS ONE OF MY GREATEST REGRETS. I NEVER HAD A RELATIONSHIP WITH MY BIOLOGICAL FATHER BUT I HAVE A STEP DAD WHO I LOVE AND WAS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME. BUT I DESPERATELY WANT TO BE THERE FOR MY DAUGHTER. SHE IS ONLY 16 AND NEEDS HER DAD, SHE NEEDS TO BE LOVED, AND I NEED TO DO MORE THEN JUST TELL HER I LOVE HER. SHE FEELS SO NEGLECTED AND ABANDONED THAT I NEED TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO SHOW HER THAT I LOVE HER. I AM IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH BOTH OF HER SOCIAL WORKERS AND HANNAH AND TANYA ARE VERY HELPFUL AND I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW MY DAUGHTER IF IT WEREN'T FOR HANNAH BUT I WANT TO DO MORE. BUT HOW CAN I FROM HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY AND IN PRISON? I JUST HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT YET. I DON'T KNOW YOUR NAME, YOU JUST PUT CJP, SO THIS IS MY ADVICE TO YOU CJP, YOU LOVE YOUR DAD AND YOU SOUND LIKE YOU STILL DESIRE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, TAKE A CHANCE, REACH OUT TO HIM. WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENED AND YOU NEVER GOT THAT CHANCE? YOU WOULD REGRET IT. SEEK HIM OUT AND MAKE THE FIRST MOVE. THE OLDER WE GET, THE MORE STUCK IN OUR OWN WAYS WE BECOME SO MAYBE HE IS HAVING TROUBLE REACHING OUT, OR MAYBE HE IS THINKING THAT IT'S BEEN SO LONG YOU HATE HIM AND THATS WHY YOU DON'T REACH OUT TO HIM. YOU ARE PAST THE ANGER AND FRUSTRATION STAGES, NOW IS THE TIME TO WRITE HIM A LETTER, TELL HIM HOW YOU FEEL AND WHAT YOU WANT AND SEE IF HE WANTS THE SAME. TELL HIM YOU WANT AN ANSWER, YOU WANT YOUR DAD BACK IN YOUR LIFE. I'M A BIG ADVOCATOR OF SPEAKING UP FOR WHAT YOU WANT. AND IN HERE, JUST AS IN LIFE, A CLOSED MOUTH GETS YOU NOWHERE. IF YOU DON'T LIKE TO WRITE, CALL. BUT FROM MY EXPERIENCE, WRITING IS SO MUCH EASIER. I KNEW SOMEONE FROM YOUR COUNTRY ONCE. A LONG TIME AGO. WE WERE FRIENDS. I WAS ASHAMED AS TO WHY I AM IN HERE SO I LIED TO HER ABOUT IT. WHEN SHE FOUND OUT THE TRUTH AND CALLED ME ON IT, I WAS SO EMBARRASSED AND ASHAMED FOR LYING, I NEVER RESPONDED TO HER LETTERS. I LET TOO MUCH TIME GO BY AND I LOST THAT FRIENDSHIP FOREVER. IT IS ONE OF MY REGRETS. SHE WASN'T MY BLOOD BUT SHE WAS A REAL FRIEND. SHE LIVED IN, YOUR ADDRESSES STILL CONFUSE ME, BUT IT WAS CHILWELL, BEESTON, NOTTINGHAM. BUT THAT WAS OVER 10 YEARS AGO AND SINCE THEN I HAVE MADE IT A POINT TO NEVER HIDE WHY I AM HERE AND I PRIDE MYSELF ON BEING HONEST. DON'T APOLOGIZE FOR YOUR LONG POST, IT WASN'T THAT LONG AND MY RESPONSE TO YOU IS ALOT LONGER (: I LIKE TO WRITE. I'LL NEVER GIVE UP ON MY DAUGHTER. NONE OF THIS IS HER FAULT, AND I'LL DO ANYTHING I CAN TO MAKE IT UP TO HER. I HOPE YOU DECIDE TO REACH OUT AND CONTACT YOUR DAD. IF YOU DO, PLEASE LET ME KNOW HOW IT GOES. YOU HAVE ME INTERESTED NOW. TAKE CARE, GOD BLESS AND STAY SAFE. REACH OUT, CIAO.