

AN EXOFFENDER SPEAKS

A POEM BY EX-OFFENDER ERNESTO R. RODRIGUEZ #92536-JACKTOWN MICHIGAN

You made a choice for me
to be a capitalistic flea
you borned me as you wished
with no consent from me
you made the money--the Roots of all evil
and called it a fee
you showed me the ways
of the Master and the Slaves
and taught me about greed
now I am like you --in your image
reaching into the purses of others
who trusted in me
indeed even into the pockets of relatives
like mom and dad who have it to give
you taught me the golden rule
you said that he who has the gold
makes the rules
and taught me how to profit
the profits we all share
and a focus to be placed here and there
tapandole el ojo al macho
you told me that in the land of the blind
the one-eyed-Jack is king
and that the hand had to be quicker
than the eye
and yes there had to be the scape-goat
and thus you turned
and calling my name you pointed at me
you had me placed in an iron cage
for all the world to see
and indeed they focused just on me
to hide the profits you made by selling me
to the keepers of the iron cages
Billions you made and can't deny
in selling souls into the sea
of mass incarceration
poor scape-goats like me
who are the slaves of the American Prison Empire
and who continue to suffer in the devil's fire

and even though you hide
in the darkness of yourself
Verily I say unto thee
soon thou shall in paradise with me
where the Devil's fire we shall feel
this we cannot escape--farewell my friend
I'll meet you there!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E.A.R.' with a long, sweeping underline.

Sunday, November 16, 2014--Signed:

BY: LEON I RBY

DATED: JANUARY 21, 2015²