

GOOD FRIDAY: 4:00PM: LISTENING TO: CASTLE OF GLASS BY: LINKIN PARK

DEAR CANADIAN COMRADE,

HI, I JUST RECEIVED YOUR COMMENTS AND LET ME SAY FIRST, NO YOU HAVE NOT OVERSTEPPED WITH YOUR ADVICE. I HAVE NEVER CLAIMED TO BE THE BRIGHTEST APPLE IN THE BUCKET, BUT THATS NOT EVEN HOW THE SAYING GOES. I AM ALWAYS OPEN TO ADVICE, SUGGESTIONS, WHATEVER. SOMEONE SUGGESTED I GO TO CATHOLIC MASS ONCE, NOW, I WONT MISS IT. WE HAD 2 VERY GOOD SERVICES THESE PAST 2 DAYS (HOLY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY). TOMORROW IS THE SATURDAY VIGIL WHICH WILL CONCLUDE HOLY WEEK. I DON'T KNOW YOUR NAME BUT I'LL REFER TO YOU AS CC (CANADIAN COMRADE). I DO KNOW THAT ALOT OF IMMIGRANTS CAME TO THIS COUNTRY, BY WAY OF CANADA, & ALOT STAYED. SO I HAVE LEARNED THAT THERE ARE ALOT OF CULTURES IN CANADA.

ANYWAY, I HOPE MY OLD WRITINGS AREN'T TOO BORING FOR YOU. I DO LIKE THE FACT THAT I AM REACHING A YOUNGER AUDIENCE. I'M 39. KIDS THESE DAYS GOT IT TOUGH, THE WORLD IS A SCARIER PLACE THEN WHEN I GREW UP. BUT I JUST YESTERDAY RECEIVED MY DAUGHTERS ADDRESS FROM MY BROTHER AND I WILL WRITE HER OVER THE WEEKEND. SHE LIVES IN CLEVELAND OHIO. I AM FRUSTRATED THAT SHE DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY SHE HAD TO GO TO COLLEGE FOR FREE. SHE IS TOO OBSESSED WITH BOYS, ALOT LIKE HER MOM I GUESS. BUT SHE HAS NOT MALE ROLE MODEL EITHER SO I GUESS THIS IS ALL MY FAULT AS WELL. I LEARNED THAT I CANNOT JUMP IN & TRY TO BE A FATHER. I AM TRYING TO BE A FRIEND FOR NOW. SHE TOLD MY BROTHER THAT SHE LOVED ALL OF MY PUPPY DOG PHOTO'S ON FACEBOOK SO THAT GIVES ME SOMETHING TO START MY LETTER TO HER WITH. AND I WOULD LOVE TO SEE HOW SHE LOOKS NOW, BEEN A FEW YEARS SINCE I HAVE SEEN A PHOTO. AN AMAZING SOCIAL WORKER, HANNAH MARTIN, SHE GOT THE PLACE SHE WORKS FOR (THE VILLAGE NETWORK) TO PAY FOR MY MOM & BROTHER TO BE FLOWN FROM PHILLY TO CLEVELAND, PUT IN A HOTEL, SO THEY COULD SPEND 2 DAYS WITH KRISTA & BOND WITH HER MORE. HANNAH WAS AN AMAZING PERSON. SHE DID ALOT FOR US. BUT THATS THE LAST PHOTO'S I HAVE OF KRISTA. HANNAH SENT ME DOZENS.

I WASN'T ALWAYS A GOOD PERSON CC. I TALKED TO MY MOM THIS MORNING & SHE MENTIONED THAT I NEVER GOT INTO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL, & I TOLD HER, FOR SOMEONE WHO DIDN'T USE DRUGS OR DRINK, HOW DID I SCREW UP MY LIFE SO BADLY? BUT THEN I TOLD HER, IT TOOK ME TOO LONG IN LIFE TO GROW UP & LOSE THE CHIP FROM MY SHOULDER. I STILL GET FRUSTRATED, ANGRY, IMPATIENT, BUT I AM PROUD OF THE MAN I AM GROWING TO BECOME. I JUST WISH THAT I HAD THE CHANCE TO DO MORE. WE HAVE GOTTEN WITH A FEW ORGANIZATIONS WHO ADVOCATE FOR PAROLE FOR LIFERS, & A BILL IS BEING WRITTEN TO ASK THE POLITICIANS TO CONSIDER THIS, WE WERE ASKED TO WRITE DOWN ALL OF THE POSITIVE THINGS WE HAVE DONE. MY LIST IS A SHAME COMPARED TO SOME OF THE GUYS WHO HAVE BEEN HERE FOR 30+ YEARS. THESE DAYS THINGS ARE DIFFERENT, LIFERS ARE



NOT INCLUDED IN MOST JOBS, WE ARE LEFT OUT OF SCHOOL, PROGRAMS, THINGS TO BETTER OURSELVES. SO MY STRIVE TO DO MORE WILL BE HARDER BUT I CONTINUE TO TRY.

BOSTON LEGAL WAS ONE OF THE BEST SHOWS EVER. SPADER & WILLIAM SHATNER WERE SO FUNNY TOGETHER, THEY HAD SUCH CHEMISTRY AS ACTORS. SPADER PLAYS AN AMAZING ROLE IN THE BLACKLIST. DARKER, MORE SERIOUS BUT EQUALLY AS GOOD. YOU KNOW WHAT, I DO NOT EVEN REMEMBER SPADER IN PRETTY IN PINK. FROM THAT MOVIE I JUST REMEMBER MOLLY RINGWOLD. PROBABLY SPELLED THAT WRONG.

SO TELL ME 2 THINGS, WHAT MADE YOU READ WHAT I WRITE & HOW DID YOU FIND IT? JUST CURIOUS. I'M NOT SURE WHAT TOPICS I AM TRULY INTERESTED IN. THE THINGS I AM CURIOUS ABOUT ARE TRUE FACTS. LIKE WHY IN MY STATE AM I SENTENCED TO ROT IN HERE FOR 60+ YEARS UNTIL I DIE WHEN OTHER STATES OFFER THE CHANCE OF PAROLE TO LIFERS? WHY DID OUR US SUPREME COURT JUST RULE THAT JUVENILES CAN'T BE GIVEN LIFE SENTENCES BUT AN 13 YEAR OLD AN. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 17 & THE DAY YOU TURN 18? IT'S 1 DAY. PROBLEM IS THEY USED THE SCIENCE THAT THE HUMAN BRAIN IS NOT FULLY FORMED UNTIL YOU ARE ABOUT 25. I WAS 21, I DIDN'T WANT MY CRIME TO HAPPEN. DESPITE WHAT ANYONE BELIEVES, I DIDN'T PLAN THIS. I JUST MADE SOME HORRIBLE DECISIONS AFTER. SINCE THEN MY JUSTINE WAS KILLED, MY DAUGHTER HAS GROWN UP WITH NO FATHER, I'VE WATCHED COUNTLESS FAMILY MEMBERS THAT I LOVE ALL DIE WHILE IN HERE. WHY IN MY STATE IS THERE NO CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION? NO SECOND CHANCE? WHY DOES OUR PRESIDENT ONLY SPEAK ABOUT THE PRISON REFORM FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS. WHAT ABOUT STATE? WE HAVE 50,000+ MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN IN PA STATE PRISONS. THIS DOESN'T EVEN INCLUDE COUNTY JAILS, REHABS, OR JUVENILE FACILITIES. BUT OBAMA ONLY SPEAKS ABOUT FEDERAL.

I'M NOT THE MAN I WAS WHEN I CAME HERE. I WASN'T EVEN A MAN. I WAS A CHILDISH, ARROGANT KNOW IT ALL WITH A CHIP ON MY SHOULDER & A BIG ATTITUDE PROBLEM. LOOK AT ME NOW, I SANG MY BRAINS OUT IN CHURCH LAST NIGHT FOR SATURDAY VIGIL EASTER MASS. OH BY THE WAY, I FORGOT TO MENTION THAT I STOPPED ON FRIDAY TO GO TO MASS & NOW IT'S SUNDAY. I GOT MY DAUGHTERS ADDRESS & I WROTE HER. JUST 1 PAGE BUT I LET HER KNOW THAT I LOVE HER, I MISS THE CRAP OUTTA HER, I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM HER & I HOPE SHE IS DOING GOOD. I PROMISED HER NO JUDGMENTS. HOPEFULLY I GET A RESPONSE.

SO WHERE IN CANADA ARE YOU? ARE YOU A HOCKEY GIRL? I AM A BIG FLYERS FAN. ALL I AM FOCUSED ON RIGHT NOW IS TRYING TO GET MY MOM UP HERE FOR A VISIT, IT'S BEEN OVER 3 YEARS, & AFTER THAT, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR ME. I TRY TO KEEP THE FAITH & REMEMBER THAT IT COULD ALWAYS BE WORSE.

WELL FOR NOW I MUST GO. I HAVE TO GET READY FOR YARD, I LOVE BEING OUTDOORS. MY LAST PRISON WE HAD PUPPY DOGS & I WAS BERSERK PLAYING WITH THEM. THERE SHOULD BE A FEW PHOTO'S IF YOU LOOK MY NAME UP ON FACEBOOK. I HAD A BUNCH, ME WITH PUPPY DOGS NAMED SARGE, TYCO, PRESTON, BABY RAFTER. WHO CHOOSES THESE NAMES, I HAVE NO CLUE BUT I LOVED THOSE DOGS. I COULD SIT & PLAY WITH THEM FOR HOURS. IT WAS NICE HEARING FROM YOU CC, TAKE CARE, I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU AGAIN. GOD BLESS, CIAO.

# **Pennsylvania Lifers Association**

*Non-Profit Organization*

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