

APRIL 19, 2016: 4:00pm: LISTENING TO: FOR YOU, BY: ALL THAT REMAINS

DEAR BLUVSU2,

HI, HOW ARE YOU? I HOPE GOOD. WAS A NICE SURPRISE RECEIVING YOUR COMMENTS IN THE MAIL TODAY. YOU STARTED OFF BY SAYING YOU FEEL GUILTY TOO FOR NEGLECTING THE PERSON YOU LOVE WHO IS LOCKED UP. LET ME TELL YOU WHAT WE NEED IN HERE. I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW IF WHAT WE ASK FOR IS TOO MUCH OR NOT BUT AS MEN IN PRISON, WE ALWAYS NEED MONEY. YOU CANNOT EVER HAVE ENOUGH IN HERE. RIGHT NOW A GUY IS SELLING KEILBASA, CHEESE & SAUERKRAUT SANDWICHES, OTHER GUSY ARE SELLING EGG OMLETS WITH CHEESE, ONION & PEPPERS. THIS IS ALL MADE IN THE KITCHEN AND BROUGHT BACK FOR SALE. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY FOR SOMEONE TO GET A DECENT MEAL IN HERE. THE FOOD IS PRETTY BAD IN PA STATE PRISONS. I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR MAN IS BUT MOST PRISONS AHVE PRETTY CRAPPY FOOD. AND SOMETIMES, WE JUST WANT TO GET A LITTLE EXTRA IN HERE. NOTHING IN PRISON IS FREE. BUT WE ARE MEN, I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THE WOMEN, THOUGH I IMAGINE THEY FEEL THE SAME WAY BECAUSE I USED TO WRITE TO A FEW MANY YEARS AGO. BUT WE GET LONELY. WE ARE MEN WHO NEED FEMALE COMPANIONSHIP. WE NEED A WOMAN IN OUR LIVES WHO CARES, WHO WANTS TO BE THERE, WHO CAN LOVE US FROM IN HERE. MINE WAS JUSTINE. SHE WAS KILLED OCTOBER 25, 2001. HER KILLER ROAMS FREE. YOU CAN GO ON FACEBOOK AT MY NAME TO SEE A PHOTO OF HER. SHOULD BE SOME ON THERE, SHE IS A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE BLOND. SHE WAS THE ONE WHO MADE ME A BETTER MAN. I HAVE NOTHING WITHOUT HER. BUT WE ALL GET LONELY, HORNY, EVERY MAN IN HERE WANTS SEXY PHOTO'S OF HIS WOMAN. WE WANT MAIL, DO YOU KNOW HOW IT FEELS TO HAVE THE GUARD GO BY YOUR CELL MON-FRI AND NOT GIVE YOU ANY MAIL? YOU FEEL LIKE CRAP. YOU FEEL NEGLECTED, REJECTED, UNLOVED, IT'S NOT A GOOD FEELING FOR ANYONE. AND THE PHONE, WE WANT TO BE ABLE TO CALL THE WOMAN IN OUR LIFE, TO TALK, TO HEAR ABOUT HER DAY, TO HEAR THE PERSON WE LOVE SAY THE WORDS, I LOVE YOU. WHEN I WOULD COME HOME FROM A LONG DAY OF WORK, I LIVED WITH JUSTINE AT HER HOUSE IN BENSLEM, PA. I WOULD BE SWEATY, DIRTY, STINKY, COVERED IN DIRT, SHE WOULD LEAP INTO MY ARMS, WRAP HER LITTLE LEGS AROUND MY WAIST, HUG ME, KISS EVERY INCH OF MY DIRTY FACE, AND TELL ME HOW SHE LOVED ME. MY HEART MELTED. MADE YOU FORGET HOW YOUR DAY AT WORK REALLY SUCKED. WE JUST WANT SOMEONE TO BE THERE FOR US. WE MIGHT HAVE NOT BEEN THERE FOR THAT PERSON BUT THAT WAS OUR FAULT. AS FOR ME, JUSTINE IS BURIED, I CAN NEVER HAVE HER BACK. BUT I CAN STILL HAVE FRIENDS. SO THATS WHAT I LIVE FOR, FAMILY & FRIENDS. YOU REMEMBER THIS NAME, RONALD GARRISON JR. MY NEPHEW WILL BE IN THE NBA ONE DAY. HE IS FOCUSED, DEDICATED AND IS AN AMAZING ATHLETE. I LOVE MY NEPHEWS.

AS FOR THE BRAIN STATEMENT I MADE, THAT IS IN NO WAY A COP OUT ON MY PART. I TOOK A MANS LIFE AND I WAS ALMOST GIVEN THE DEATH PENALTY. I WASN'T A GOOD KID. I WAS A BRAT. BUT PEOPLE CHANGE. SURE I STILL GET ANGRY, FRUSTRATED, BUT I HAVE LEARNED HOW TO DEAL WITH MY EMOTIONS. I DON'T JUST LASH OUT ANYMORE, I DON'T GO AROUND CAUSING TROUBLE OR VIOLENCE. BUT IF ONE WERE TO LOOK AT MY LIFE FROM BIRTH, THEY WOULD SAY I WOULD NEVER CHANGE. BUT



I HAVE. IT MIGHT HAVE TAKEN ME 30+ YEARS BUT THATS JUST LIKE THE 600 POUND WOMAN WHO CHANGES HER LIFE AT 60 YEARS OLD. SHE MADE A CHOICE, WHY CAN'T I? THE PAROLE BOARD CONSTANTLY SAYS THAT PRISONERS WHO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE FOR YEARS HAVE LEARNED HOW TO MANIPULATE THE SYSTEM. BUT WHY CAN'T IT BE BECAUSE THEY HAVE CHANGED, GROWN UP, BECOME A DIFFERENT PERSON? IT DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO BE NEGATIVE. I WAS AFRAID, BUT WHEN I THINK BACK, I DIDN'T HAVE TO HIT HIM WITH A HAMMER. HE WAS BIGGER & STRONGER THEN ME BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TO USE IT. BUT YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE PAST. YOU CAN CHANGE THE PRESENT SO THAT THE FUTURE IS CHANGED. I WILL NEVER GIVE UP SEARCHING FOR THAT 2nd CHANCE. HAVE I LEARNED FROM MY PAST? YES. HAVE I CHANGED INTO A BETTER MAN? YES. AM I THE SAME KID I WAS 18 YEARS AGO? DEFINITELY NOT. SO MAYBE ONE DAY IN MY STATE THEY WILL ALLOW FOR A 2nd CHANCE. THEY ARE GIVING JUVENILES A 2ND CHANCE, THEY ARE GETTING READY TO ALLOW THE CHANCE AT PAROLE FOR MEN & WOMEN WHO WERE CONVICTED OF 2ND DEGREE MURDER. AND OUR GOVERNOR JUST LEGALIZED MEDICAL MARIJUANA. MY MOM COULD USE THIS. TO HELP WITH THE PAINS OF CANCER & TO HELP HER SEIZURES. SO HOPEFULLY THEY GET IT UP & RUNNING VERY SOON.

I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL EVER GET OUT B. BUT IF I DON'T, I HOPE I FIND A WOMAN WHO WANTS TO BE IN MY LIFE. WE ALL NEED THAT IN HERE. WE ALL NEED TO BE LOVED, CARED FOR, AND HELPED. MY ADVICE TO YOU, AFTER YOU READ THIS, GO SIT DOWN & WRITE YOUR MAN A LETTER. REMIND HIM OF HOW YOU FEEL & THAT HE IS NOT FORGOTTEN. AND A SEXY PHOTO TUCKED IN THAT LETTER NEVER HURTS. YOU'LL REALLY MAKE HIM FEEL SPECIAL. AND IF HE IS FAILING AT MAKING YOU FEEL LOVED, SPECIAL, APPRECIATED, REMIND HI THAT YOU NEED TO IT TOO. SOMETIMES WE FORGET, NOT INTENTIONALLY, BUT WE MAKE MISTAKES. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, YOU GET BORED DROP ME A LINE, IF YOU EVER HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR ME, I'M ALL EARS. GOD BLESS, CIAO.