MAY 18, 2016: 3:30pm: LISTENING TO: WHO TAUGHT YOU HOW TO HATE BY: DISTURBED

HI EVERYONE. MY BEST FRIEND AJ, HE WAS A KID WHO MESSED AROUND WITH DRUGS. LIKE MOST TEENAGERS HE EXPERIMENTED WITH DRINKING & DRUGS. HE CAME TO PRISON AS A TEENAGER, HE WAS HERE FOR MURDER. HE GOT OUT IN 2010, WATCHED HIS FATHER DIE OF CANCER WHEN HE GOT OUT, BUT THEN SOMETHING AMAZING HAPPENED, HE MET TARA. SHE HAS 2 KIDS FROM ANOTHER RELATIONSHIP. BUT NOW, JUST A FEW DAYS AGO I FIND OUT THAT TARA IS PREGNANT FOR THE 3rd TIME (SHE SADLY MISCARRIED THE FIRST 2 TIMES). SHE IS 4 MONTHS PREGNANT, & I PRAY SHE CARRIES TO TERM, & THEY ARE HAVING A LITTLE GIRL (: BUT THE BEST NEWS CAME TODAY, I RECEIVED THEIR WEDDING INVITATION IN THE MAIL. I WISH TO GOD I COULD WATCH MY BEST FRIEND GET MARRIED. WANT PEOPLE ON THE OUTSIDE TO KNOW THAT EVERYONE IN PRISON IS NOT WORTHLESS, WE ARE ALL NOT IRREDEEMABLE, WE ARE NOT A LOST CAUSE. PLEASE DON'T GIVE UP ON US. WHEN PEOPLE GIVE UP ON US, WE TEND TO GIVE UP ON OURSELVES. I HAVE BEEN GIVEN UP ON BY SO MANY PEOPLE, WHEN THAT HAPPENS, WE FEEL LIKE WE ARE NOT WORTH SAVING, WE GIVE UP OURSELVES. BUT THIS ISN'T ABOUT ME. THIS IS ABOUT MY BEST FRIEND AJ & HIS AMAZING SOON TO BE WIFE TARA. I WILL HAVE TO GET A NICE CONGRATULATION'S CARD FOR THEM. THIS WAS A MAN WHO SOCIETY WASHED THEIR HANDS OF AT 16 YEARS OLD. HE DID NOT KILL ANYONE, HE WAS WITH AN OLDER GUY WHO WAS ALSO HIGH ON DRUGS, HE ROTTED IN HERE FOR OVER 16 YEARS, WHEN HE GOT OUT, HE WASN'T WORSE, HE WASN'T A HARDENED CRIMINAL, HE WORKED HARD, HAS A GOOD JOB, AND IS MAKING AN AMAZING LIFE FOR HIS NEW FAMILY.

I AM NO HYPOCRITE, FORGIVENESS IS VERY HARD. BUT TRY TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND. GIVE PEOPLE A CHANCE UNTIL THEY PROVE YOU RIGHT. YOU CAN BE AS JUDGMENTAL AS YOU WANT, AS OPINIONATED AS YOU WANT, AS HATEFUL AS YOU WANT, BUT GIVE PEOPLE A CHANCE, LET THEM PROVE YOU RIGHT, OR WRONG, BEFORE YOU DUB THEM UNFORGIVABLE & THROW THEM AWAY LIKE GARBAGE. WE ARE ALL HUMAN. LOOK AT THE ACTOR MICHAEL DOUGLAS. HIS OWN SON IN PRISON, A DRUG ADDICT. A GUY WHO HAS MANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS HAS A SON IN PRISON FOR BEING A HEROIN ADDICT. WE ARE ALL HUMAN, WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES, SOME WORSE THEN OTHERS SURE BUT WE ALL MESS UP. WE ARE NOT TRASH.

TO MY FRIEND AJ, I LOVE YOU AS MY BROTHER AND I WISH YOU, TARA AND THE GIRLS A LIFE OF PURE HAPPINESS. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP ALWAYS. WHEN THE BABY IS BORN, ROBERTA IS A PRETTY GOOD NAME FOR HER (: TAKE CARE EVERYONE, GIVE SOMEONE A CHANCE, YOU DON'T ALWAYS REGRET IT. GOD BLESS. CIAO.

PS: HAS ANYONE SEEN THE MOVIE PITCH PERFECT? I REALLY LIKE WHEN ANNA KENDRICK DID THE SONG ON STAGE WITH A PLASTIC CUP, YOU'RE GONNA MISS ME WHEN I'M GONE. DID SHE REALLY SING THAT? ON STAGE WITH A PLASTIC CUP, YOU'RE GONNE MISS ME WHEN I'M COME. DID SHE REALLY SING THAT?