Hi Alyssa! Thank you for reading my ramblings. It's been a minute since I've posted but I believe there's a couple of letters I wrote to the AVA.com - Anderson Valley Advertiser- that I copied to my blog. They should land soon.

So, as to your questions - I'm not sure it's totally appropriate to honestly answer them seeing as how I currently have a "girlfriend!" Actually I know it's not appropriate, but I'll try to give you a little without pissing my girl off! Some of the ways men deal w/missing women? I'm sure you know the answer to that one! Do men change not being around women? Do you think it changes a dog to be kept in a cage for years? Of course this is a destructive punishment - in no way rehabilitative - that makes men look at women differently, treat them different, etc. I know after 18 yrs I am more reserved and have a hard time trying to deal w/ having a girlfriend, one you can't touch other than holding her hand. And I was one of those guys who loved women. Couldn't keep my hands (etc) off of them. I still get along with my ex-wife and several of my ex-girlfriends so I obviously wasn't a guy who mistreated the girls. But now? I'm different. I've lost my ability to open up and express myself and my girl hates it. It's going to take time in the real world to "find" myself again. I've still got a piece of my soul left so I know I'm not totally
destroyed by the State, but the confidence I used to have has been suppressed for so long—almost 18 yrs!—it's going to take somw work. That's just me, though. As for others, I can't say, but nothing good can come from it. It's a very hateful thing—one of the unspoken punishments—just like the loss of our children. My youngest son turned 18 in Aug. 2016. I haven't seen him since he was 1 yr old. Another is 19, another is 23, and the oldest is 33. None of them know me. I wasn't sentenced to that punishment, but I guess they, and the women in my life, are "collateral damage."

Alyssa, I know these are not quite the answers you were looking for, your demeanor seemed a little flirty;) but like I said I have a "girlfriend" so I can't really reply in kind. Sorry.

Okay, I'm done. Thanx again. Stay posted for more art postings. I have 10 or so paintings I've done to post. (And "thank you!" to the transcribers!)