

"My heart has more rooms than a warehouse."
- Gabriel Garcia Marquez, 'Love in the Time of Cholera'

Dear Readers,

Wed. 10-07-20

4:54 p

Howdy! Currently "Strip That Down" by Liam Payne is ending on C3PO and "Love That Man" (Peter Rauhofer Retro Fix) by Whitney Houston comes on and I want to wish my best friend, Will, a Happy Birthday since I can't email him as I had planned. We're under full lockdown again, damn it.

I had my birthday on Monday, the 5th, just like every year (I'm a traditionalist that way!). Even though we ~~are~~ were on lockdown (half days then), it was a pretty decent b-day. My friend Dakota had a really nice card drawn for me which a few people signed, and since he couldn't buy me any jewelry off the black market like before, he had a necklace made out of pink + black seed beads with bigger pink beads as accents. It's totally gaudy as hell + I love it! He's such a sweet + thoughtful guy.

To surprise him I bought him a bookmark which my friend Dash (who moved over from F-South) makes. They're really nice + very professionally done. They look like something you would buy from a gift shop. They make great little gifts - I gave Lick (cellie) one a few weeks ago.

In past news, TP, my old cellie, got out of the Hole

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after his psycho meltdown after spending eight days in the H.de. He was put in a different cell on the bottom tier. There's no telling how long he'll last this time.

I'm not normally into potty humor, but I'll share a story of JP's which happened on Monday to give you a little insight of his personality. He said that he was walking around the tier & approaching the CO's office & he had to "pass gas". (OK, he said "fart") So, he went into the CO's office & said to CO Games who was working, something to the effect of "Hey Games, an opportunity like this doesn't come along much, but I've got to fart," and he immediately "let it rip," so to speak. The CO was yelling at him to get out & he said, "No, wait," until he was done. He made it a point to let us know that he had to go to the bathroom so it was really bad.

The small things we do to get back at "the man."
Well... in my last posting I believe I mentioned that we went back to half days after that last full lockdown. That lasted for just nine days. I'm so glad I was able to at least be out for my b-day.
Then the shit hit the fan yesterday.

It appears that someone died of COVID yesterday. I was told it was on the news, but I didn't see it - I'm sure you can Google it if you're interested. I was told that the Warden & other staff were hanging out by Medical a big part of the day.

I had a feeling that we were headed for a full lockdown

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again and sure enough, they didn't let us out this morning. We're back to 3 showers per week & that's it. Jesus. Fucking. Christ.

We're now on our 7th month of this horrible lockdown/quarantine and now that COVID has made a definite appearance here we are screwed. When this all started last April I thought there was no possible way it would last more than two weeks. I scoffed at the guys who have said that this could last all year. It's beginning to look like they may be right.

For the record, I am currently reading, "The Boy and the Dog Are Sleeping" by Sasdijj. It's about a man who adopts a Navajo boy who is dying of AIDS. It's very well-written and a great book. I'm sure I'll be going thru books like crazy for a while.

Wed. 10/14/20 4:18p

Hey y'all... I'm sitting in Club 12 waiting for the 1p "count" as Bananarama sings "Love in the First Degree" on C3PO.

Before I go any further... since the new year is coming up, some of you may be thinking about buying a new calendar. I would like to recommend the Lunar calendar put out by Luna Press.

Being a lunar calendar, it starts with each New Moon and goes to the last day of the waning moon. It includes a lot of information of the times the moon rises & sets and when it enters each astrological sign. This is helpful for any Pagans out there, but it's also just plain interesting.

Luna Press sends out a free calendar to indigent

prisoners who write and request a calendar. I've gotten one the past two years. That's very nice and generous of them.

If you do order one, please let them know that an inmate who has received their free calendar referred you and please thank them. Contact them at: THELUNAPRESS.COM.

Well, we've been on this latest full lockdown for a week now. If I remember, I'm going to include a copy of the memo the warden put out. For the record, we didn't get any memo for the last full lockdown we had.

The memo states that this is "not a disciplinary lockdown." However, as some guys in our vent were discussing recently, they sure as hell are treating us like it is.

For example: why are we only allowed three 5-minute showers per week with the staff yelling at us to hurry up? Why aren't we allowed to revalidate our MP3s or (technically) allowed to charge them (although we can sometimes get help from the orderlies)? Why can't we call or email our families? Why is the commissary spending limit lowered to \$50 - and, as we learned yesterday, why are stamps & OTC meds - which don't normally come off your spending limit - now included as part of that limit? The list goes on.

Today, they removed two of the phones from our phone kiosks. We have two phone kiosks with three phones each that are in a circle an equal distance apart. My cellie and I were assuming that they removed one phone each as a "distancing" precaution, but that still leaves two phones next to each other. How does this make any

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sense at all? Just more of the usual BOP idiocy.

Mon. 10/19/20 5:58p

Well, we're still stuck on this full lockdown. I'm not surprised. I have a feeling this one will last for a while.

I was told that the guy who died was in C-South, which is across from us. We're separated by a hallway that connects the two wings of the building, and staff offices are in that hallway.

Our cell is the closest cell to that hall. We've seen COs go over there with "full gear" which includes a face shield over their masks + something like a hospital gown over their clothes.

However, we've seen COs going over without "full gear" (like when our CO goes over there to "count") and staff keep walking thru our unit from that unit to exit - even though that unit has its own exit. That's not real thrilling.

I've mentioned my estranged friend Pam in the past, so I thought I'd mention that I heard from her. I've sent her b-day cards the past two years in the hope that I would hear from her (her b-day is ten days before

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mine). Well, this year she sent me a card & a letter. She said she's up for being friends again. I cried some and wrote her back to tell her how much I'd missed her. I really hope we can get back to our old friendship. We met in 1985. She's more like family to me than anyone.

Lick and I are getting along OK. Some days are better than others. He has both good points and bad. He still has diarrhea of the mouth, but since his family sent him some books I have been able to read some - he still treats reading like it's a chore.

He can also be immature and won't listen to anything one says. He's constantly talking about calories & fasting (he goes on 24-, 48- or even 72-hour fasts. Then he pigs out & then takes a laxative to "shit out all the food. I keep telling him that's not good for you, but does he listen?), or the other places (prisons) he's been to.

Also... he is dumb as a box of rocks. Literally. Rocks. I had a book with pictures of Britain's Royal family & he said, "So, these are the people who run Australia?" Umm... no. (Yes, I do know that Australia is a member of the Commonwealth & recognizes the Queen as their monarch. I also know that he has no clue what that means).

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We also had an argument recently 'cause he didn't believe that the Earth spins in space. He thinks the sun & everything else spins around while the Earth is still.

His reasoning? Because he doesn't feel it spin; because he's never seen any evidence/film of it spinning; and because we say "sunrise" and "sunset," so it must be the sun moving.

Yes, I did verify that he wasn't kidding & that he was serious. I couldn't believe it either. I finally had to end that conversation 'cause I couldn't take it.

On the plus side, he can be nice and generous (he had his family buy two books for me that I wanted), and we have had some fun together.

Still, I do have my limits.

He only has a year left (he got a very short sentence which is unusual), and we might manage to stay cellies till he leaves. Maybe.

Please say a prayer that they find a vaccine/cure for COVID so we all can get back to normal.

Until next time, I wish you...

Love & Blessings,





U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Federal Correctional Complex
Petersburg

Office of the Warden

Petersburg, Virginia 23804

October 7, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR MEDIUM INMATE POPULATION

FROM:


J. Andrews, Complex Warden
FCC Petersburg, Virginia

SUBJECT:

FCC Petersburg Medium COVID-19 Modified Movement

Effective Wednesday, October 7, 2020, FCC Petersburg Medium will reinstitute movement modifications outlined in the initial COVID-19 Modified Operations Plan. Inmates will remain in their respective housing unit's cell until otherwise informed. All meals will be delivered and issued to the inmate population inside the housing units. In addition, daily symptom checks and medication administration will be provided by Health Services staff.

As this is not a disciplinary lockdown, inmates will still be able to purchase commissary items, with a \$50 maximum spending limit and showers will be conducted Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The inmate population will continue to receive a hot meal for breakfast, a hot meal for lunch, and a bag meal for dinner.

Staff and inmates are to continue adhering to the CDC's guidelines, including social distancing of six (6) feet, wearing appropriate face coverings and washing hands frequently.

Any questions should be directed to Correctional Services.