

6/8/17 04

Dear Ari,

Creetings! Thank you for all you've done. I love your art - art seems to be one of the only things that help me to feel like I have control over my life. I'm glad you like my writing. I do want to be serious about writing the autobiography, however, there's so much about my own life and family that I don't know ^{and} or could recall and it's proving to be such a hindrance. I had, in the past, been assigned a legal mitigation specialist during my pretrial phase, and she had done a masterful job of acquiring documents chronicling my life's history, even including records of my mother. Those documents had become lost to me when I misplaced trust in one of my post-conviction attorneys for him to mail me the documents (beautiful they were!) after my transfer - the attorney stole the documents away from me. The good news is that, I have recently, within the last month successfully tracked that mitigation specialist and requested her response in re the file that I am indicating. So hopefully she'll respond soon with some info!

I can see what you mean about my autobiography maybe not being commensurate commensurate with home printed booklets. I understand that, but, please note that some of my first compilation writings were of the booklet sort. They were just thoughts - philosophies and theosophies. They became lost to me after I mailed them to my father for preservation - then I had experienced that "no control over my life..." feeling, and I just gave up writing. For what? who

cared? who helped? ~~My~~ The worst part about my life is my own biological dad "killed" my aspirations to produce, to sing, to write ... etc. The best part of my life is that I learned that only I can "live" out my dreams. No one else has that measure of control over my aspirations.

I'm not in any writing class or anything. Prison here isn't helping people like that. It just warehouses us. I do have a friend on the outside who I can depend on for feedback and helping me to get it typed. Last I heard, my friend intended to allow her friend, who is a creative writing teacher, read my draft and provide feedback. Our prisons are still in the stone age. We don't get access to computers, law libraries, they don't even allow us to go to the library here - there is one - but we can't go to it.

Your story "An army draft, I liked it." ... no sense of control over my life... is exactly how I ~~felt~~ felt when I did what I did to get in here. From time to time, in this prison, I experience that feeling very strongly. The only thing that really saves me is being able to withdraw into myself and use various mediums of art expression as an outlet. "They" are beginning to criminalize artistry in N.C. prisons now - unless you're "certifiably" suffering from a serious mental health disease. So many of my art supplies and creations are considered "contraband" - can you imagine? Drawing pencils, water-color paint, card stock, beads - sooo dangerous! I'm a renegade, a rebel!

I am moved that I was the first prisoner to write to the "ECW", applying for a forger's ~~license~~ license.

you know what I think? I think that the killer of me has a karmic dharma to work out and you are the one I have to work it out with. Did you know my mother's "profession" was "taxi driver"? Did you know my step dad's "profession" was also "taxi driver"? Hmmm? I didn't really think of that until you mentioned the "coincidence."

I got my nickname after having adopted it as an attribute during my study of theology. Someone's non-jewish interpretation of "Israel", to mean = He (who) [struggles] (with) ³⁸ God, loose though it may have been. ~~bs~~ well, I ⁴⁵ have a nature to me that so dares to shake its fist at God himself when faced with the realities of our world's injustices to ourselves and others. It was my Rastafarian teacher that continued to call me "Israel" and everyone else followed his lead. Furthermore (lol) I am very shrewd in separating ^(man-made) fascist dogma from my theological understandings. Therefore ^{40s - yashar} ^{58 - el} Straight god (no other bs). In other words, I am naturally predisposed to concerning myself with divine qualities and recognizing and ~~see~~ encouraging the same in others. The self as "god." When I create art, I am god. When you create your art, you are god. You create worlds of joy for me and others to live in.

Unfortunately, I cannot get a typewriter.

Safety and security bullshit. I've spent from 2009 to present trying to get administrations in these prisons to consider those types of outlets for prisoners. Staff don't listen to prisoners. Period. If someone else on the outside brings it to their attention, then publicizes it, they listen. I'm focusing most of my energy now on getting out of prison.

It'd be cool to get a visit from you, man. I don't have anymore family so I don't get any visits, mail, money, etc. Which reminds me, I want to ask you - I would really appreciate the highest form of charity from you. Will you help me get a job? For example: deviantart^(r).com is one of such websites that I understand sells prisoner art on/through their website. I can do the work, I just don't have someone to inform me. I need info like, what are the requirements, the safeguards - liabilities, rates, etc. There are many different sites that I have addresses to, but not the resources to browse them. Do you think you can help me? I have lots of ideas but, let me be brief so as not to overwhelm you. I've noticed that fashion is trending beaded jewelry. I was hoping to reach out to some vendors / designers licensing some of my designs and/or ideas. LMK.

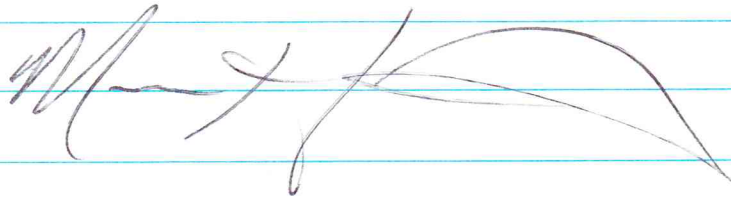
Yes. I do have TV access: FX, TBS, TNT, ESPN, FOX, NBC, ABC, USA - very limited. We get the local greenville

newspaper (sucks) - I just listen to NPR top hour/half hour
for news updates.

And yes I did get "regulations are flexible".

Hey, I like corresponding with you, man. You're a cool guy
and have positive vibes. Hope to hear from you soon. R.S.V.P.

With love and Jay,

A stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large, sweeping flourish that extends to the right.