

Nov. 2, 2016

RE: Latest posting for <http://betweenthebars.org/blogs/1339/>

Jamie,

Yeah that was a dead fly. Tattoos get infected all the time. The security staff is always catching them with a fresh tattoo that's a little too red and full of pus. It does transmit hepatitis 'C' and HIV, but most of the 50% of the inmate population infected with hepatitis got it from injecting dope while they were outside the prison. Heroin addicts are so hungry for dope that if there's a little bit of blood left in the ~~sp~~ syringe from the previous user - instead of washing it out they deliberately inject it cause it has a small amount of dope mixed with the blood.

Sorry about the depressing notes about suicides in here. But at least the murder rate is very low in here. The victim of a suicidal impulse believes it will end his torment, but if he tried to become spiritually aware, he would realize it (suicide) will increase his torment immensely. Of course there's no real way to pretty up prison. A lot of it is very ugly. The really ugly thing that stands apart from the rest is a fraction of prison staff that get an almost sexual delight in increasing the psychological suffering of the prisoners. It's a safe indulgence for them because there's no real law against psychologically tormenting convicts. And the ghastly smiles they have when they finally succeed in pushing someone over the edge is just foul. The only real weapon I have against such hideous creatures <sup>are</sup> my daily prayers. My typewriter does very little against them.

Yup. "Jim" is short for "James".

Yer friend,  
Jim

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