

Letter To Camille - sent 1 Apr. 2018

Hola Camille

Greetings Camille

J'ai écrit en français quelque de, comme j'espère

I wrote in French some of this, because I hope

vais perfectionner ma facilité
to perfect my fluency

et j'espère tu vas dire moi
and I hope you will tell me

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si j'ecri corriger.

if I wrote correctly.

Camille, your English is pretty good, so, below my French is what I'm trying to say, written in English

I hope this doesn't seem too much like homework to you, but I've long hoped to find a reliable pen-pal to perfect my French with. That may/may not be you, French is the smoothest, most rhythmic language, the language of literature, especially poetry, so I've wished to master it for years. However, I can only do so by using it, which requires another.

Do I come across as a maniac who will bite the head off of someone who leaves banal comments? That is not my intention, but you are not the first person who seems insecure about reaching in to me. (This, from my experience, seems common in women - they worry that they are not pretty/smart/interesting/etc. enough, and thus don't take chances. Men, on the other hand, are often too bold.)

Anyway, uh, don't be shy - it's been a couple years since I bit someone... 😊 (I'm not joking.)

What you may think is "stupid and boring" I might find to be a breath of fresh air, especially given what I must hear (e.g. last week I was in a rec. cage, had to hear the guy next to me - yelling so loud he was breathing heavy - say he was going to rape me, had raped other "White boys", and

got away with raping some white woman). As extreme as that example was, or seems to you, it's normal to me (not all Black prisoners are like that; many disapprove of rape and homosexuality); so you see how banal friendly chatter might be cherished by me?

By the way, there is only one way for me to deal with things like that homo thug described above. But for me to do so gives prisoncrats an excuse to punish me, label me a monster. Hell, I guess it'll be my community service.

Anyway, one reason that I haven't posted much lately is that I've been busy helping prisoners sue prisoncrats over serious issues: torturing us with segregation, punishing a guy for requesting educational programs. I wrote a very thorough 91-pg. lawsuit against this place.

Also, I've not made any lasting, reliable connections through my blog. I've been doing it for... seven years. The one lady who claimed she'd help me e-publish my autobio, she vanished, keeping copies of chapters 1 & 2, which I trusted her with. (To say that pissed me off is an understatement, which may have been her neurotic aim.) There's no way for me to know for sure that you are who you say you are, and not, for example, the same lady who swiped my writing.

It's easy to not realize that I am a person, that I have needs and goals, given that people are looking at a computer screen and not my face, moreso given my competence and confidence. My needs have intensified, as have my desires to achieve my goals, and this blog has been little help. Postage and paper costs money, and I'm \$11,000 in debt, must rely on others purchasing such for me (as a college student you may understand how important simple needs are). I don't like asking people for things, especially when they're unreliable.

Imagine how frustrated I am when I have nothing, need much (to achieve my goals), and someone tries to "help" me by, e.g., purchasing pens for me (I don't need pens, they

are provided) or a hardcover science book (only softcover books are allowed), and I have to watch them be destroyed, because that's what happens to things I'm not allowed. This has happened several times this year.

So, I have those and many other frustrations to deal with. People outside, being people, generally think, "I have problems too" — anyone who thinks that, stop following my blog, get lost — not realizing that they, but not I, are capable of fixing their problems, while I'm stuck in a box. Again, I've made no lasting, real connections with people through this blog.

Even the college student, studying men/women in prison and how they relate (see Feb-Mar. 2017 posts), my thorough replies established no lasting ties.

I don't have the resources — emotional, financial — to be people's blog bitch, whom they seek from and contribute nothing. And this reality I mean to say to all readers, if anyone is reading this.

When I find the time to finish essays on such topics as human consciousness, etc., I'll post them on my blog, if I can't find a more effective, productive outlet. But I will not jump at the request of readers who will not even skip for me.

Those who like my writing can find much on prisoner express.org, under "Theme Essays." My writings are seen by prisoners all over the country when I send them to P.E., and go on their website, so I've been sending them my stuff. Plus P.E. has people who may help me get my books published, which may fix my debts, etc.

Now you know what's going on with me.

I am interested in corresponding with you — through the mail or through this blog — in French, so I can improve my grasp on the language. What I would like to do is write you as I did at the beginning of this letter, and you write me back in the same manner, so I can see how the language works with

a real French person. Our conversations will likely be banal, discussing language, in two languages. Let me know if you're willing.

I can't think of what else to say. Things to do.

I would appreciate it if you would share connections to my blog on other websites (there are many posts on my blog, even if new ones are few), so I might find the help I need to:

- publish poetry, short story, art & essay books that I have finished.

- share news about my lawsuits & prison issues, to obtain outside support, pressure the system to obey the law

- run social media for me, as "Prometheus Writes!"

That's it Camille. Hope to hear from you soon (my mailing address is at the start of this letter). Be well.

Sincerely,
Nate.

P.S. Anyone who wants to help me financially may do so by purchasing the following items from www.JLMarcusWisconsin.com

Item #

8039	Five-pack stamped envelopes	\$3.15
8119	White lined paper	\$2.26