

# I GUESS THE ROACHES

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## ARE BEAUTIFUL

BY

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I USED TO HATE ROACHES. THEY WERE DISGUSTING. THEY FREAKED ME OUT. I WOULD: SMASH, OBLITERATE EVERYONE I SAW. THEY WERE "GROSS"

WELL, I BEEN IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT FOR 3 YEARS. AND I HAVE MADE FRIENDS WITH THE ROACHES. DON'T GET ME WRONG. I "CULL THE HEARD". I DO NOT LET THEM GET OUT OF HAND OR PROLIFERATE.

INFACT, I PREFORM "ABORTIONS" ON THEM OFTEN. WHEN I SEE ONE THATS "PREGNANT". I GRAB IT AND GENTLEY REMOVE ITS EGG-SACK. THEN I FUSH THE EGG SACK DOWN THE TOILET. AND I LET THE ROACH GO FREE.

THEY ARE FASINACTING CREATURES. I WILL EVEN GO SO FAR AS SAYING THEIR, "BEAUTIFUL".

NOW, I SEE THEM AS A METAPHOR FOR ALL MY: FLAWS, VICES, ..... MENTAL ILLNESS. THEY ARE UNIVERSAILY VILLIFIED. BUT, I AM STUCK WITH THEM AND I SAY THEIR, "BEAUTIFUL"

I HAVE SEEN THEM: SHED THEIR SKIN, EAT PLAY DEAD, RUN, HIDE, STRATIGIZE. I HAVE ALSO

SEEN THEM DISPLAY: AFFECTION, ALTRUISM AND 2  
INSIGHT. I HAVE EVEN SEEN THEM HAVING SEX!!

A FEW YEARS AGO. I WAS ON THE 'REC YARD'  
(BEFORE I GOT PUT IN SOLITARY) AND I SAW MY WHITE  
FRIEND, FIGHTING A BLACK GUY THAT I AM FRIENDS WITH.

I AM AN OLDER WHITE GUY, PLUS I WAS THE  
LEADER OF A GROUP OF WHITES WHO WERE ON THE  
YARD, I SAW A BUNCH OF BLACKS START GROUPING  
UP AROUND THE FIGHT, SO, I RAN OVER THERE TO  
MAKE SURE NO ONE JUMPED ON MY WHITE FRIEND.

I AM NOT 'RACIST', BUT, UNFORTUNATELY PRISON  
IS RACIALLY POLARIZED. AND WHITES ARE EXTREMELY  
OUTNUMBERED. SO, WE HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER.

ALL THE SUDDEN, THE BLACKS AND WHITES  
STARTED FIGHTING, I WAS FIGHTING 5 OF THEM. THERE  
WAS ONLY 7 WHITES. FIGHTING 30 BLACKS. I STARTED  
TO GET ONE DOWN. I COULDN'T SEE. I WAS GETTING  
HIT FROM ALL DIRECTIONS, THEY BEAT ME DOWN AND  
STOMPED MY HEAD. I HAD THE WORST INJURIES AND  
I WAS SENT TO THE HOSPITAL. I WAS BLEEDING PROFUSELY  
AND HAD TO HAVE MY HEAD STAPLED SHUT.

WE GOT SHOT WITH TEAR GAS AND RIOT BULLETS,  
AFTER, THE GAS CLEARED, I WENT AND HELPED OUT  
THE WHITES WHO WERE DOWN, THEN THE ADMINISTRATION

MADE ALL THE WHITES COME IN FIRST. YET, EVEN 3  
THOUGHT I WAS BLEEDING THE WORST. I MADE SURE ALL  
THE WHITES GOT IN SAFE BEFORE I DID.

I CAME IN LAST. SO, IN MY MIND I REALLY  
DID NOTHING WRONG, I WAS TRYING TO PROTECT ONE OF  
MY PEOPLE. I WAS ATTACKED. I FOUGHT, BUT, I WAS  
SO OUTNUMBERED. I MADE SURE MY FRIENDS GOT IN  
SAFE. BEFORE I DID: THATS ALTRUISM

I AM NOT RACIST. I LOVE ALL MY BEAUTIFUL  
HUMAN FAMILY. I AM A PROUD 'AMERICAN'. AMERICA  
IS AN AMALGAMATION OF HUMANITY, WE ARE THE  
'PLURALISTIC IDEAL'. THE MOST: DIVERSE, INVENTIVE,  
PROSPEROUS, ALTRUISTIC NATION IN HISTORY!!

THE ADMINISTRATION. PUT ME IN SOLITARY,  
FOR: RIOTING!!! I BEEN IN SOLITARY 3 YEARS AND  
IT HAS EXACERBATED MY MENTAL ILLNESS,

I HAVE 'PARANOID SCHIZOPHRENIA' AND OBSESSIVE  
COMPULSIVE DISORDER. IT IS EXTREMELY DEBILITATING  
IT IS A LIVING HELL. I AM GREGARIOUS BY NATURE.  
SOLITARY IS EVIL: PERIOD.

THERE ARE: GOOD, DECENT, CARING, INTELLIGENT,  
CHARASMATIC, GREGARIOUS, ALTRUISTIC PEOPLE. WHO  
HAVE BEEN IN SOLITARY FOR: 5-10-20 YEARS.

AMERICA CAN DO BETTER!!!

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ONE TIME I HAD A REAL BIG, HUGE ROACH AS A PET. HE GOT IN THE TOILET. WAS TRAPPED ON HIS BACK AND HE DROWNED!!!

I PULLED HIM OUT. PUT HIM ON HIS BACK AND I PERFORMED CHEST COMPRESSORS ON HIM, HE COUGHED UP WATER AND CAME BACK TO LIFE!!!

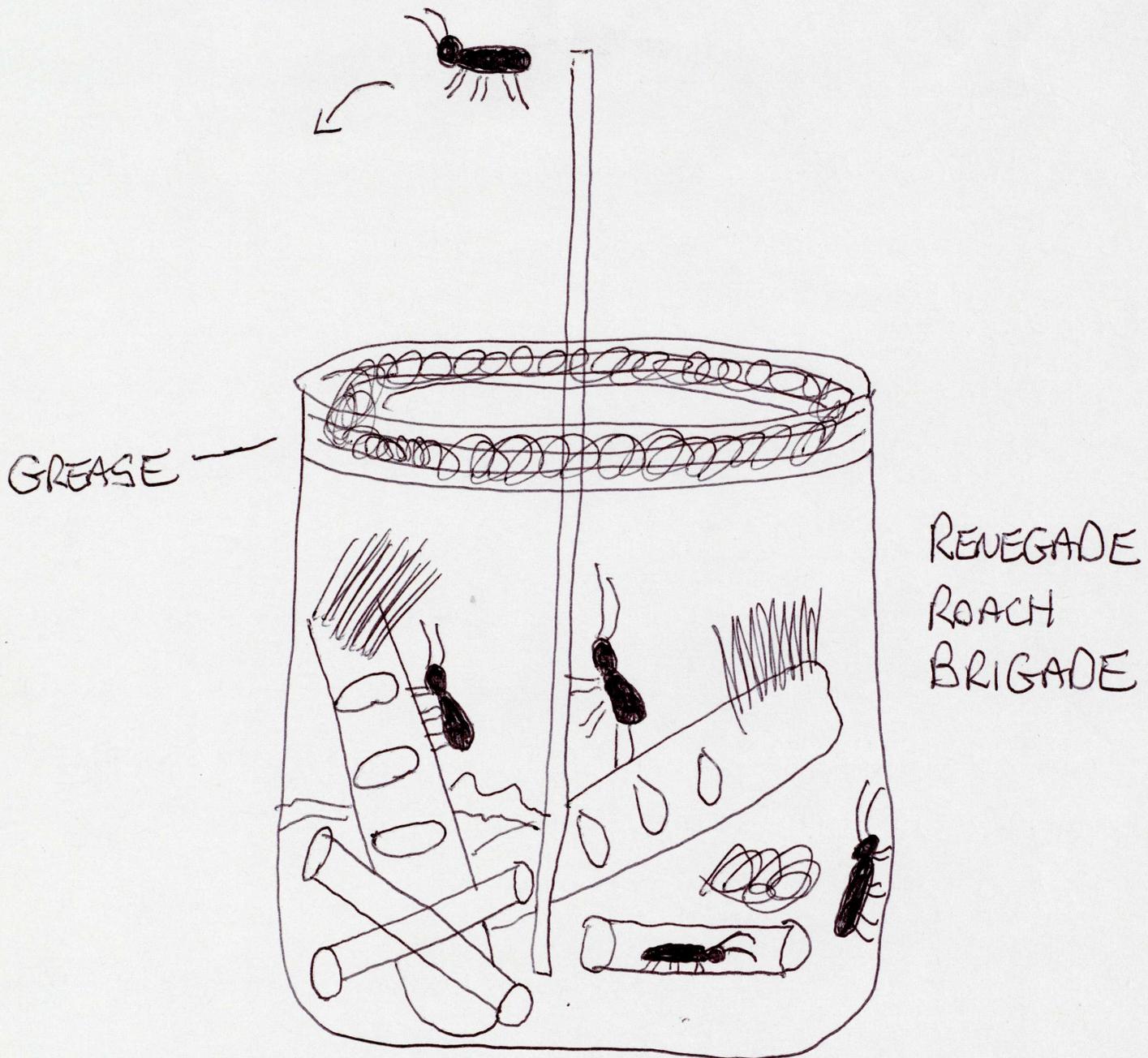
LIFE WANTS TO LIVE AND SOLITARY IS WORSE THAN DEATH!!

THE ROACHES ARE MY FRIENDS NOW. I EVEN CREATED AN AMUSEMENT PARK FOR THEM. I TOOK A PEANUT BUTTER JAR, PUT HAIR GREASE AROUND THE TOP (THEY CANT CRAWL OR JUMP OVER THE GREASE)

THEN I FILLED THE JAR WITH OBSTACLES: OLD TOOTH BRUSHES, BROKEN PENS, RUBBER BANDS. THEN I PUT A PEN TUBE STICKING OUT THE MIDDLE. SO, THE ONLY WAY FOR THEM TO 'ESCAPE' IS TO: FIND THE CENTER, CLIMB TO THE TOP AND JUMP OUT ON FAITH... THEN HOPEFULLY LAND SAFELY OUTSIDE THE JAR!!!

ITS FUNNY WATCHING THEM: STRUGGLE, FIGHT AND SEEK THE WAY OUT. THEY ARE VERY CURIOUS AND INTELLIGENT. AND THEY ARE NOT MONOLITHIC.

SOME OF THEM MAKE IT, AND SOME DONT. THE 5  
ONES WHO NEVER MAKE IT, NEED HELP. SO, I HELP THEM  
THE JAR LOOKS LIKE THIS:



SOME TIMES THEY JUMP AND DONT MAKE IT,  
SOMETIMES THEY CHICKEN OUT AND DONT TRY,  
THEY CLIMB BACK DOWN, SOMETIMES THEY JUST  
ROAM AROUND AND GET LOST IN THE OBSTACLES.  
IN OTHER WORDS: THEY ARE JUST LIKE US.....

AND ESPECIALLY PEOPLE LIKE ME: UNIVERSALLY  
VILIFIED. ADDICTED, MENTALLY ILL, CRIMINALS!!!!!!

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YET, IN REALITY, PARADOXICALLY VERY: INTELLIGENT,  
GREGARIOUS, ALTRUISTIC.

THE ROACHES ARE MY FRIENDS NOW. BUT, EVEN  
MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'VE MADE FRIENDS WITH MY  
ILLNESS. IT IS A PARADOX: IT IS BOTH UGLY AND  
BEAUTIFUL!!!

PLUS, IN A RELATIVE SENSE I AM VERY FORTUNATE.  
THE GUY NEXT TO ME HAS 'LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE'. PLUS,  
I AM GRATEFUL THAT I DID NOT GET BIG FED TIME,  
BECAUSE MY EX-WIFE AND A HUNDRED OF MY FRIENDS  
GOT BIG FED TIME FOR BIG KILOS OF 'METH'. IT WAS A  
BIG 'DRUG CONSPIRACY CASE'. I MISSED IT. THE  
ONLY REASON I MISSED IT, IS BECAUSE I WAS IN  
JAIL FOR A YEAR WHEN THE FEDS HIT. IF I HAD  
NOT BEEN IN JAIL I WOULD HAVE BIG FED TIME,

SO, I STAY GRATEFUL. BEFORE IF I SAW  
A ROACH IN THE 'FREEWORLD'. I WOULD SMASH IT,  
I WILL MAKE PAROLE SOON. IF I SEE A ROACH  
WHEN I GET OUT, I WILL SIMPLY, SMILE TO  
MYSELF AND SAY, "HI, LITTLE BUDDY"

