

outside in - 8.12.06



Written by bubba

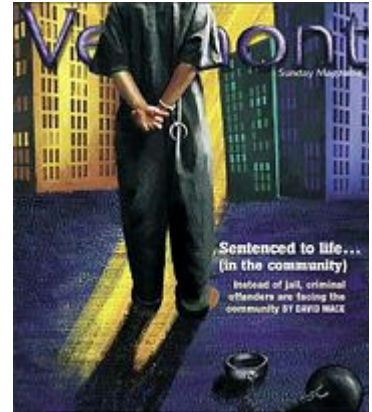


Yo Eddy...sorry I haven't written in awhile. I won't belabor the reasons why; I just need to do it. It was good to talk to you the other night. You sounded confident and resolved, like some of the things that used to bother you in there are gone or at least you are used to them by now. I wish we could have talked longer. I'm sending you some money so you can get some phone cards and we can talk more.

Five months left brother. Hey here's a question for you: What are you worried about the most in relation to getting out?

I'm very curious. See, sometimes I put myself in your predicament...or any predicament I find unusual or outside of the realm of my experiences. Then I wonder how I would be thinking about and handling things. I've already told you – I don't think I could do what you're doing. Maybe that's silly. Of course I could. But it would definitely be the hardest thing I ever went through...I think anyway.

If I had to guess, I would guess that you worry about relationships more than anything else – the ones you had before you went in and the ones you might have in the future. There's a huge stigma involved in a case like yours, something I know you think about. Wondering how that might affect future relationships is something you've mentioned before. And obviously I know that you are worried about Jen & Jayden and what, if anything, will still exist. It's what I worry about the most in relation to you getting out – You not staying away from them. You don't seem like you have mentally disengaged from that whole concept and it definitely seems from talking to you like the one big thing...or only thing...that keeps you away is her not being responsive to you and you not being able to follow up and confront her about it because you are locked up. What are your thoughts on this?



Are there other things you think about? I know I would be worried about work too, at least some. Although I have to say...I'd be a lot less worried about it now than when I went to jail when I was 22. Back then, I was all about getting a job, worried about a career, afraid that I would be shut out of jobs that would allow me to grow. Now? I'm so regularly focused on a career shift that I'm not so sure I would be devastated by an inability to re-enter my current career. Fuck who knows. I take all that back. I have a good job that gives my personal life a lot of options. Maybe I would be overly concerned about it. Hmm...Well I'll just say that I'm just not afraid of change. That's probably the most accurate commentary.



I hear Todd is having some rough moments and is on the path to iron out some personal fractures and fissures. Actually, that's just my take on it. Scotty says he (Todd) is pursuing some sort of change-in-perspective camp in California. I don't really understand it and am only hearing about it second hand but the point is clear – Todd is re-evaluating himself and his life in an effort to make positive changes. Not so different than what you're doing. I'm doing it too, though in a less pressured way. So is

Scotty. I guess we are all wondering how we spend the time between now and death the most productively as possible, eh?

I think I told you that Troy got divorced again, didn't I? Another marriage would be his third. So weird. I see a lot of people our age struggling with their marriages lately. And I try not to be too judgmental seeing as I have only been married for two years. Just the same, I have been married for two years and it is working for us. Then I think, well, I shouldn't over-generalize our situation and think that it applies to everyone. However, in my opinion, what makes our relationship stay even is that we talk about things – everything – and that we are equal partners in life. There isn't an uneven balance of who does what. And

though there are some things that one of us does more than the other, for example I do 90% of the cooking, it's because one of us is better at it or enjoys it more or it just makes sense given what our daily schedules are, you know what I mean?

It seems to me that people need to communicate more...about themselves and where their heads are but also about issues in relationships that affect both people. But I also think that I have seen many cases of people just not being willing to do things differently. I think that's harder for people who got married young because you aren't exactly as intuitive and introspective at a younger age as you are when you get older and more wise. Changing communication patterns that were put in place at age 20 but don't work anymore has got to be a struggle.



Anyway...I started this by asking what you worry about the most, and that's because you'll be getting out soon. You are rounding the corner of the last lap and will be out before we both know it. Because of baby #2 it is unlikely that I will be able to come out for the event, but we'll see how things shape up. Even if I can squeeze a 24 hour turnaround in, I'll do that.

Ok here are my mundane life updates:



We have decided against moving this summer. Instead, we are going to re-do our basement. Work started yesterday on rebuilding the family room, bathroom and kitchen downstairs. It used to be finished, but the fucknut who finished it didn't do a good job so we had massive flooding last year. I think it was last year. Maybe the year before. So that's the big 2006 project. Depending how it goes, we might do a deck too, but I would say that is highly unlikely seeing as we have to sock away money for when Rhonda is off with the baby.

I have been working a ton. Its campaign season you know. Between now and November it will only get more intense. I spend a fair amount of time in Columbus, working out of our main office. More than I'd like to, that's for sure. I have to be honest though – this is the lifestyle that I come out of. I haven't spent the last 10 years in some 9 to 5 job, I've been running campaigns. I like the pressure. I like when there is more work. It's a challenge for sure, but at least it isn't boring. Its times like this that keep me stimulated professionally.



Ava is walking all over the place! Boy, it was a change in daily living when she was born, then when she could crawl...now walking? We can't get anything done! Most of my work now gets completed between 10pm and midnight or 4am and 9am. How in the hell are we going to do it with 2?? It gets frustrating at times, but I like it. We were ready for it. Rhonda is starting to show now...and we're pretty sure the next one is also going to be a girl. Ava got her first haircut last week too. That was funny. Man, they have some crazy shit now. This was a little kid's beauty shop that looked like an amusement park! All

the seats were animals or race cars, each station had its own television and dvd player. It was nuts. I wish I could send you videos in there. When you get out I will.

Remember my friend Henry? (The one you tackled into the water at the wedding?) he just moved out here. He starts law school at Ohio State next week so he's living in Columbus. Good for him. Good for me, too. I'm glad to have someone out here I know from back home. Ohio is no



kind of fun when it comes to locating people that I can relate with.



Oh yeah, Cory is moving back to Denver. He apparently got a job back there. Good for him too...sucks for me. I really like hanging out and staying with him when I was in DC. I also liked that we saw each other a whole lot more with him on this side of the country. Oh well. It is what it is. I guess people can't make all their life decisions based on keeping me happy, right?



Update on my family...my dad had a mild heart attack a few weeks ago. He won't call it that, even though the doctors do. He's having some testing done. His health is definitely taking a turn for the worse in recent years. And its more that his body is just eroding after years of wear and tear...hip replacement, shoulder surgeries, knee and back surgeries...now this. Ugh. Will keep you posted. My mom is in Scotland for 2 weeks. It's no place I would want to go, that's for sure, but it fits her. She loves that part of the world. Nothing new with Kim. I wish she would put that mean ass dog of hers to sleep already. He's been like the walking dead for at least 2 years.



Ok...back to work my brother. Here are some pictures and money will follow (need to get a money order but I want to get this in today's mail stream). Also, I'll print a bunch of reading material off my web sites for you and send. Anything else?

Talk soon. ~ b

Close Window