

Dear Friends:

I would like to share with you something that I wrote while in Atlanta awaiting transfer to Butner. I hope you like it - it's my thoughts while on 23 hour lockdown.

Penitentiary Blues by Cedric Dean

It's been over 16 years

Living out my fears

Even though the crack law changed

My life is still the same

Sleeping in tiny cells

Similar to hell

Wanting to go home

Tired of being alone

Chorus

Penitentiary Blues...Penitentiary Blues

I am reaching out to you

To help save the youth

From Penitentiary Blues

Roaches crawling on the walls

I just can't kill them all

Will this nightmare ever end

Lord forgive me for my sins

Every single day
I kneel down and pray
For God to make a way
For this pain to go away

Chorus

I try to be strong
I try to hold on
I cry at night
Lord this ain't right
I need to be free
From this place of misery
Does congress even care
That my life is going no where

Chorus

I've done all that I can
To prove I'm a better man
I'm tired of living like this
Away from those I truly miss
Saving the kids is my dream
Don't want them to be like Cedric Dean
They need a life of hope

Nothing good comes from selling dope

Chorus

I've written over 20 books

Have you took the time to look

At what you can do

To save them from these penitentiary blues

I speak the truth

Seeking to save the youth

But what about you

Don't you want to save them too

Chorus

Talk is cheap

What you sow you also reap

I'm doing my part

It's time for you to start

Chorus