

TO EXTRA

Nov 8th 99 ①

Hi, My name is Carol Edwards, and I have been Mary Letourneau's room mate for three months. I also have lived in the same unit for another eight months. Let me dispell some rumors that your Nov. 8th show with Christina Dress portrayed. And no, I dont need to get payed for this; I have one motive: To shed some true light on Mary Letourneau in prison. Although the full program was blocked here because of a game, I have heard many exerpts and gotten summaries of the show's content. The content disturbs me because I know and see with my own eyes a much differnt picture. The following are some of those issues

- II 1. There is and has never been a male or female in this prison, that Mary has any intimate interest in. Many women do engage in affairs here, but Mary and I do not. The look-alike-lover-girl to Vili does not exist. The one discirbed on your show was made-up. Mary spends all her time at prison mandatory programming, the law library, the visiting room, phones, sometimes in the gym, or in our room, (We are locked down

for at least eleven hours a day. ②

II². Mary Letourneau is not defiant in the rules here. I have never once seen her raise her voice or be disrespectful to any officer or any inmate.

II³. She does not think this prison is like a college campus. Occasionally we all joke about this place. It's only a coping mechanism to survive the very harsh reality of our oppression in this place; A loss of literally everything including censoring and controlling our thoughts and speech. Mary once joked and said that she could think of this place like her all-girls-high school and the guards being the mean nuns.

II⁴. About the children, there have been many nights and weekends that Mary and I cry about and for our kids. We continually make gifts for them, we share pictures, read letters and talk about our fears and our losses together. All of Mary's children - especially the children in Alaska are talked about. They are the ones that are missing her - only those four children have been impacted

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the most by her imprisonment. It hurts Mary so much, too much probably, to talk about them to others, but with me she can and ~~does~~ because it is safe and I understand, but it is not without tears and incredible pain. If Mary didn't talk to Christina about her children consider this:

Christina is not a mother and could not possibly comprehend the intense pain of a mother being ~~separated~~ from her own kids. I for one would not talk about such complex and deep emotions to a person like Christina either.

Also, apparently Christina showed a drawing that Mary made of Vili's face in art class. The drawing shown was a practice piece that everybody took part in, it was not Vili's face. I was in the class.

Mary laughed that her practice piece turned out looking like a little Asian man. She joked about changing the eyes and it might look like Vili - then she joked that she'd also have to change the mouth ... the nose ... the whole thing. She never did make the changes to it - it was stolen from the art room and we never knew

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who did it until now. The two formal portrait drawings that she did draw were of her two oldest children. I wonder why Christina did not tell you that. She sat right next to her in art class.

#5. Yes! Naturally she also talks about Vili, they are in love. It's not "obsession", it is mutual love.

#6. By the way - Mary would do "Playboy", not "Penthouse". And why "Playboy"? Why Not!? Because it might cause disgrace to her family or the community? I think Not! It would only bring back her natural and feminine ^{soul} that the media has tried to make hideous. Mary is a beautiful person inside and out and if she has any control in planning an artsy layout, I'm sure it would be layered with cosmetic satire and it will also be very tasteful and not over exposing nudity or being cheap.

#7. The advice column: Knowing Mary as I do better than anyone here, it would be a hit. Mary's straight honest and has a sensitive awareness of life's details and the big picture. She finds hope and most importantly She's refreshingly hilarious in her wit.

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Anyway - its not an advice column that she's talked about, its something much more creative than that. Its too bad Christina didn't listen to or sincerely care about Mary when she asked her what she might or could do in the future with Vili and her combined talents.

By the way I am in prison like Christina was, but check the records, my judge has been disbarred for judicial misconduct; my case is being reviewed now for appeal. I would say I am a bit more credible than Christina Dress. And I did not have to steal or lie to make a point. A lot of people have made up lies or twisted the truth in order to keep lining their pockets, and so it now seems for their own gain they would like Mary to stay in prison drama, rather than to do the right thing and help her to get out. Do you know how much money people have made on her and how much it's harmfully cost Mary? And they act like they have a right to sell her no matter who it hurts, just because of her choos ing a "forbidden love". And who says its forbidden!? People

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who have never found love, or the ones who can't manage it, or the ones who wanted more and lost all they did have? What's in an age, as long as two people know what they want and it's the same good thing? Let them be! Nobody had to be hurt. Help them, fight for them and the freedom we all are supposed to have to choose for ourselves and our family in acts of love and life.

Many of us in prison are here because of half truths, twisted words, words left out, or words put in, or just plain and simple anger, revenge or to place the blame on anyone else but themselves. And it cost too much money for the state or an individual to be judged on the real truth so someone is made to take the blame for a show to the public.

Please do not use half of what I said or twist the words or change the words to make this letter something it is not. The contents of this letter are the truth to the best of my knowledge.

Thank you,

Carl Edwards
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