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Dillon 1

1 message

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Shajiyah interviewing Dillon Vermuele #249024 in Dillon's cell, C31-07, Santa Cruz Unit, Monday 5/26/25 after 4pm Count cleared

SI - Before we start I want you to know that this interview will be public on unnaturallife.org and the pigs from down here from lowest level up to Central Office could see it some point. Is that OK?

DV - Yes.

SI- And I need you to know unnaturallife.org might develop into a full 'fuck the police' type site designed to get the voices of specifically lifers and long timers out. Is that OK?

DV - Yes.

SI- How long have you been down and what is your sentence?

DV - I've been down 16.5 and I have Natural Life. Life With Out Parole.

SI - Where else have you done time?

DV - CIW, CRC, VSP, and Chowchilla.

SI - How much time have you done in your life and how old are you now?

DV - I've done...? All the time I've served? 40 years all together. And I'm 68 years old. If I had known about Arizona I would have taken the plea for 7 years.

SI - Dillon. You refused to sign a plea for 7 years so they gave you Natural Life?

DV - Yes. And no one would help me. No one had funding to help me. They said a first year law student could have won my case.

SI - Tell me about this prison.

DV - This prison is inconsistent. I've been in other prisons and I have much in my life to compare this shit to. This place...I've never seen anything like this shit in my life. No other prison even comes close to being as crappy as this prison.

SI - What is wrong with this prison?

DV - The staff are disrespectful. They make our time harder. They don't have to do that. I had been out 20 years so I wasn't institutionalized like the people coming in now. In California you do a day and get a day, they are 50%. I was out 20 years and got a DUI in 2001. Then I got here. In Max... In Max...

SI - Dill, what happened in the Hole? That's what you mean by Max, right? 30 yard?

DV - Yes. In Max I experienced the most suffering. After 36 years without having a nervous breakdown I had one in Max. I was assaulted by staff. I had a nervous breakdown. The ACLU has been fighting that assault for almost 7 years.

SI - How did staff treat you when they realized you were getting help from the ACLU?

DV - First they turned the water off in my cell and took all my toilet paper. Then when my toilet was off they fixed it so when the girls around flushed all their piss and shit and toilet paper came up out of my toilet onto my floor. It came up into my room. It flooded my floor. They left my cell flooded with piss and shit for 48 hours. On graves (graveyard shift) a

Seargent came to my cell to see why I wasn't eating and saw my cell. I hadn't eaten for 14 days since the assault. I was scared. They had roofied me in my meals. That Seargent that checked on me would stay late in the mornings to bring me food after that so I could eat.

SI - Do you remember Smilez? (Cynthia Apkaw killed in the Hole in 2015. Listed as suicide.)

DV - Smilez had seen the cops assault me. She had seen the officers enter my room. She could see my cell from hers. When she saws my body afterwards she told me she had seen them. She saw what they did to me. Thomas (female red hair), Multer, and Angus (female brunette) had tried to help me but Medical refused to help. Admin put me on watch to investigate the accusations. They took my letter I wrote to the ACLU and my letter to my POA (power of attorney). They opened both letters, which were legal mail, and then extracted me from my cell. They put me on watch with no I.D. for 21 days. On graves 2 cops would come in and threaten me. They would tell me no one would miss me. They said no one knew where I was and so I should just kill myself.

SI - Did they kill Smilez?

DV - Yes. They killed Smilez. Smilez, was my only witness and they killed her. And some good officers got fired over Smilez.

SI - How did you act after the assault?

DV - I would crawl under my bunk and hide there. I was under there hiding. I was so scared he was going to get me. He usually made sure his keys were loud and his radio was loud, most times. But when he was going to assault me he was quiet. He was so quiet.

SI - Is he still here? Or the others?

DV - I dont know where the main one is? He was here up until I came to Medium. It was fucked up, Angel, it was so fucked up. My God. Two of them still work on Lumley.

SI - What year was this?

DV - 2015

SI - How did it stop?

DV - When they brought Jodi Aries in she had some people with her. Reporters or lawyers or something. I started screaming, "Help! Help! Nobody knows I'm back here! Theyre holding my hostage! Nobody knows what happened to me!". Maybe they were reporters? Maybe not lawyers, because they asked questions. I got some letters out and nobody knows how. Then DW Scott let me off watch.

SI - Perryville right now. This Programmification / Humanization shit they are doing. Do you think we should get serious about educating the kids coming in?

DV - Yes. There's so many young kids coming in. And the young cops are so easy to pursue. They are so quick to do favors for the kids. They are too easy...

SI - Is that a bad thing? Pliable, weak, persuadable cops?

DV - Yes, it is bad. These kids need to have a safety net. They need education and business training. They have no where to go when they get out. They are homeless now. They get out to the street and what can you do then? All these kids can do is prostitute, do home invasions or sell drugs. Yes, its a bad thing. They aren't learning anything. They are just hustling dumb cops. They need businesses that will hire them. They need training. Day labor won't give them a place to sleep. This isn't how to do time.