

Artist Statement: 27th Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name: I didn't know I was an artist until I came
to prison. I needed to find a way to release my
emotions. I am a very emotional person. Growing up
in group homes I always envied others that could draw
and just assumed I could: so I never did. In prison
there is nowhere to cry, nowhere to scream. I sat
on the yard one morning just depleted and drew the
work titled "Self portrait." "Out" was how I felt laying
on my bunk staring at the T.V. Like a light had gone
out of me and I was just existing, being warehoused.
I just tuned out. "The Simple life" brought me
peace. I could feel the detail as I drew each plank
separately and uniquely. The knots in the wood.
The saw marks, I can smell the pine and hear
the Creek on the other side. Just me, a book, and the woods.

Please edit your Artist Statement to fit the space provided.