

Dwan Chatman

190-20

Caged

I have been incarcerated/in prison or should I just say locked up for 18 years for a crime that I did not commit. Like so many others that has been released over the pass 2 or 3 years from Detroit. When I first got locked up 18 years ago, I was looking for something to help me ease the pain by me being a innocent man and being locked up for a crime that I didn't do. I couldn't find anything to ease my mind. Then I started doing crafts like making card, ^{scratching} ~~sculpting~~ on mirrors, doing wood work and doing leather work. I found that doing leather work gave me the most peace of mind. All the leather and other artwork that I have done gave me peace but leather work gives me the most peace of mind, it gives me a get away. Before getting locked up I didn't know I could do all that I could do. It's funny how when you are young your mother would always tell you you can do anything you want to do as long as you put your mind to it. It's true if I didn't have the time like I do now I wouldn't have done any of the artwork that I do now, because I didn't know that I could or even knew that I like doing it. The two pieces that I have done has 18 little birds flying free, one for every year that I have lost, wishing that I could have them back, one is called half caged and the other is caged. That's how I feel from time to time hoping I get some help soon to help me out of here so that I could do it on a bigger platform hope you like the work.