

Artist Name: _____

Jerry Metcalf

I paint because society locked me away in this cruel, dark place and forgot about me. They told me to go get fucked, but I refused. I strive each and every day to be happy, to be better, to be a loving, caring human being. Art helps me accomplish that. My art is a reflection of me, of my mood, of how I was feeling that day when I painted it. A tiny piece of my soul is attached to each painting I've ever painted. My art will live long after I am dead and gone, which means — to me — tiny pieces of my soul will live on as well. Isn't that cool?

Jerry Metcalf is a self-taught writer and artist who has spent the past 29 years behind bars. At the age of 20 he tracked down and shot the rapist responsible for the brutal sexual assault of his teenaged girlfriend. For that deplorable act of vengeful violence Jerry is truly and deeply sorry. He is now a pacifist devoting his life to making the world a better, more-inclusive place where the Arts shine and happiness matters. He is a contributing writer for The Marshall Project, Prison Writers, and the Prison Journalism Project.

If you wish to read some of his writing (fiction, poetry, nonfiction), view or purchase his art, buy one of his books, or listen to his podcast, you may do so by visiting him at [Facebook.com/jerryametcalfjr](https://www.facebook.com/jerryametcalfjr) or [X@JerryMetcalfJr1](https://twitter.com/XJerryMetcalfJr1) or [Instagram.com/jerryametcalf_artist.writer](https://www.instagram.com/jerryametcalf_artist.writer) or [Jamartgallery.etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com/jamartgallery) or YouTube Channel: XV3 The Red Zone, Live From the Plantation podcast.