

### **"I Forgive You Because..."**

I forgive you because... My prison cell has taught me I'm not perfect after all.

I forgive you because... Your character flaws developed way before I could crawl.

I forgive you because... In the span of your life you did more good than bad.

I forgive you because... I'm the antithesis of your success yet I have way more empathy than you had.

I forgive you because... You left this earth never once owning up to your mistake.

I forgive you because... The anger & hatred consumed me until it was all I could take.

I forgive you because... Your rejection came from a place of not knowing how to be a man.

I forgive you because... I've been blessed with the inner strength thanks to the Holy Spirit and I Am.

Peter S  
Illinois

cause... I've been blessed with the  
Holy Spirit and I Am.

# Thank You FOR READING!

Below are some questions to reflect on from this piece. Feel free to also use one as a conversation starter with a fellow reader, or even a loved one on the outside!

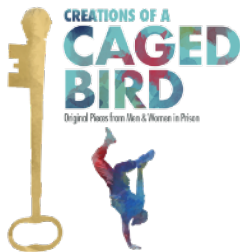
*Have you tried to find a way to forgive people, perhaps family members, who had serious struggles of their own?*

*When did you begin to recognize those struggles, and how did this help you to understand, and perhaps forgive? Has recognizing the pain and difficulties of others brought a kind of release from your own pain? How would you describe that release – or how do you hope to experience that release one day?*

We'd love to hear what you thought of the piece, or if you've had any meaningful conversations as a result. Or perhaps you'd like to share an expression of your own (visual art or creative writing). You are always welcome to write to us at Shining Light at P.O. Box 267, Annville, PA 17003.

*\*Note: We will not be able to provide a response to your letter or receipt of your submission, but know that we value your feedback and contributions and will take them seriously.*

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