



## Have you ever wondered what you'd miss in prison?

By Vanilla Gorilla, 46 years old, 6 years on death row

Have you ever wondered what prison is like? I'm sure you have, and I bet you thought about your safety, how bad the food must be and being so isolated from those you love. But have you ever tried to imagine what you'd miss that you now take for granted, some simple everyday event, or pleasure, like taking a bath (only showers in prison) or having a pillow to sleep with?

The first time I was locked up as an adult I was separated from nature completely for over five months and when I was sent to prison, I was able to walk outside but everything was concrete.

A couple of months after I was at that first Unit, I was called out at night to do some extra duty work outside. The officer watching us wasn't paying attention and I took off my boots and socks and stepped off the concrete into the GRASS!!! I was only 17, by far the youngest around, and at first the other guys laughed at me and then one older Mexican guy had a look on his face that said he got it and in no time, he was barefoot in the grass with me!

When the guard finally noticed us, he started to wind himself up to scream at us and all the sudden I could see him getting it too and he said nothing at all.

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