



Episode 5: Catch a Kite
First aired August 9, 2017

Nigel [00:00:00.00]: [fan noise] We got to turn that fan off now.

Earlonne [00:00:02.14]: It's fixin' to get hot. You're now tuned in to San Quentin's 'Ear Hustle' from PRX's Radiotopia.

Listener Alert [00:00:13.10]: The following podcast contains language that may not be appropriate for all listeners.

Female [00:00:18.18]: [delightful music] Thanks to MailChimp for supporting 'Ear Hustle'. MailChimp is the world's largest marketing automation platform. 15 million customers, from small e-commerce shops to big online retailers use MailChimp to reach customers and grow their business. You need more than one channel to connect with your audience. With MailChimp, you can spread your marketing efforts across platforms with integrations tools like Facebook advertising. Get started for free at [MailChimp.com](https://mailchimp.com). MailChimp, build your brand, sell more stuff. Thanks for listening. 'Ear Hustle' is brought to you by Squarespace. This summer is the perfect time to turn your great idea into a beautiful new website. Using Squarespace's powerful e-commerce and analytics tools, you can sell anything online and watch your business grow in real time. Check Squarespace out at [Squarespace.com](https://squarespace.com). Register a domain name and start

your free website or online store trial today. When you're ready to launch, make sure to use the offer code earhustle to save 10%. That's Squarespace.com with offer code earhustle.

Earlonne [00:01:29.24]: I'm Earlonne Woods.

Nigel [00:01:31.03]: And I'm Nigel Poor. We're breaking away from our format to bring you a special Q&A episode of 'Ear Hustle'.

Earlonne [00:01:37.02]: We're halfway through our first season and we thought it would be a good time to step back and thank everybody who's been tuning in and to answer some of these questions that we've been getting on our postcards.

Nigel [00:01:46.08]: It is really cool to go into the post office and walk over to the P.O. Box and open it up and find beautiful post cards, and I just like tra-la-la in there. [laughs] And, when there's something in the P.O. Box, I just like am smiling like an idiot. And, when I'm walking out, I just want to say hello to everybody like, "Hey, look what we got! We got all these great cards."

Earlonne [00:02:07.10]: Right. Right.

Nigel [00:02:07.10]: And then I realize I'm not in San Quentin. If I say hello to strangers, they're going to look at me like I'm nuts.

Earlonne [00:02:12.02]: Nah. They'll probably look at you like, "Oh, she's nice." She's, you know.

Nigel [00:02:15.13]: We did get a lot of questions about the process of making 'Ear Hustle', but for this episode, we're going to concentrate on questions that have to do with life inside prison.

Earlonne [00:02:24.00]: Right. Right. For answers to all the questions about the process of making 'Ear Hustle', check out the new frequently asked questions page on our website, earhustlesq.com.

Nigel [00:02:33.05]: All right. One more thing I want to mention before we get into answering the questions is we've gotten so many great comments about the music that we're using.

Earlonne [00:02:40.19]: Ah, yeah. So, a lot of people commented about Scoop Stack's song, 'Worth It'.

Scoop Stack [00:02:44.21]: [singing and tapping] Tell me, was it worth it? We gonna make it worth it. I don't know how, but we're gonna make this shit start working. Think about these niggas all but I won't take it back because I didn't have a job. Nah.

Earlonne [00:02:56.29]: And they want to hear it in its entirety, which is, which is cool. You know, um, we're all about just showing what goes on in prison and sometimes that's what it is. You go to the yard, you hear different dudes. Guys over here might be, uh, playing the guitar, singing something. Guys over here might be banging on the tables, uh, rapping.

Nigel [00:03:14.19]: Yeah, and there's been requests to post complete songs and we'll try to do that. That might take us a while to figure out, but the thing that's important is we don't bring people down to the studio. We're recording them out in the yard.

Earlonne [00:03:24.13]: Right.

Nigel [00:03:24.18]: So, there's a lot of just kind of the natural ambient sound around it and we don't always get there at the beginning of a song either. Uh, Jasper, who works down here with us in the media lab was just right out in front of the media lab.

Earlonne [00:03:34.20]: Right.

Nigel [00:03:37.20]: Playing guitar and singing.

Earlonne [00:03:39.08]: Yeah. He pretty much do that on his lunch break.

Nigel [00:03:40.28]: It was beautiful and of course-

Earlonne [00:03:42.21]: You went out there, came, ran in here fast, grabbed the Tascam-

Nigel [00:03:46.07]: Actually, I didn't run. You can't run in prison.

Earlonne [00:03:48.00]: Yeah.

Nigel [00:03:48.15]: I walked fast.

Earlonne [00:03:49.04]: She, she ran in here fast, grabbed the Tascam and the mic, and was gone.

Nigel [00:03:53.24]: [laughs] And so, let's just play a little bit of what he was up to before we get into the Q&A.

Earlonne [00:03:59.08]: Yeah. Lee Jasper. [accented guitar music] All right, Nig. Let's dig into the questions.

Nigel [00:04:09.14]: All right. So, the first question is from Lucy in New Jersey and she writes, "Walking into a cafeteria as a new kid at school is awkward because you never know where to sit. It must be worse in prison. So, what do you do on your first day? Where do you sit?"

Earlonne [00:04:27.00]: Well, to answer this question is simple. You have 2

rules, official and unofficial, meaning official is you can sit wherever you want to sit or there's a controlled feeding, meaning officers directing you to the next available seat. So, it'd be in the row. You would just fill in this one table. Then, you fill up the next table and then so on and so on.

Nigel [00:04:47.19]: So, on your first day in the cafeteria, was it the official or unofficial rule that you followed?

Earlonne [00:04:53.03]: Uh, the place I was at, it was the unofficial.

Nigel [00:04:55.13]: OK, uh, well-

Earlonne [00:04:56.19]: You know what the unofficial consists of?

Nigel [00:04:57.27]: I know we're gonna find out from these guys that we talked to.

Yard Talk [00:05:01.13]: When you first walk into the cafeteria, the first thing you do is you look for people that look exactly like you.

On my first day, I met an Asian homie. He showed me where to sit and then that's where I sat at.

And you say, well, the blacks on this side. The whites on this side. The Hispanics on this side.

When I walked into the cafeteria for the first time, I could see the white guys on one side and everyone else on the other side, so I just kind of sat with them.

So, once you get to the people that look like you, then you're trying to figure out like who's who, so it's kind of like in school, right. It's, it's like all the popular kids sit on this side, but then once I get to the popular kids, the

football players here, the basketball players here, the cheerleaders over here. So, I mean, normally, someone would say, "Hey, man, this isn't the table where you sit. Who are you?" "Oh, I'm from such and such place." "Well, you need to sit over there." And that can become an altercation, right. So, your own people are not going to let you sit somewhere where they think is gonna be a problem because if violence erupt, then those who associate with you are responsible for coming to your aid. You're the new guy but you're a part of a family when you get here.

Some of us that are not as attuned to this lifestyle have to be told like, when I came to prison, when I came to reception here at San Quentin, the CO said, "What are you?" I was like, "What do you mean?" And he said, "Well, who do you run with?" And I said, "What is that?" And he said, "Like a unit, gang, or what." And I said, "Well, no. I'm Mexican." And I had never thought about it until then at age 23, right. And I was like, well, I was born in America, but I'm Mexican ethnicity and cultural wise. That was more than he needed to know. He just wanted to know like what race and what gang and I started to understand then.

[Japer's guitar playing]

Nigel [00:06:49.27]: Since we were just talking about the cafeteria, let's continue with the topic of food.

Earlonne [00:06:53.16]: Which is a topic that many people asked about and Nigel been wanting to do this episode on food for the longest. I can't wait for her to do the episode on food so I can taste.

Nigel [00:07:03.13]: [laughs]

Earlonne [00:07:04.03]: I mean, I get to be, I mean, I have to be one of the judges.

Nigel [00:07:07.02]: Oh, that's right. Oh, and the funny thing is is, I won't be able to taste it. I will only be able to smell it.

Earlonne [00:07:11.23]: People might want to know why you're saying that you can only smell the food, Nigel.

Nigel [00:07:14.28]: OK. There's many rules in prison that have to be followed and there is a very specific one about food. You cannot eat any food that I bring in and I cannot eat any food that you guys have. So, if we do a cooking episode, I can only smell what is prepared. I can never taste it.

Earlonne [00:07:31.16]: So, is that why your sandwiches never smell?
[laughs]

Nigel [00:07:34.06]: That's why I bring in the blandest food possible. I know you guys wonder why I eat the same thing every single time I come in here.

Earlonne [00:07:40.09]: Everyday. Everyday.

Nigel [00:07:41.18]: I don't want, I don't want to bring in anything that's gonna look appealing.

Earlonne [00:07:46.03]: Look. I got that. I dig that. I never, I never knew that. I just thought you just eat the same sandwich every day.

Nigel [00:07:51.21]: No, so you guys always know there's not going to be anything different. It's always going to be the same damn thing when I open up my lunch bag.

Earlonne [00:07:57.25]: Indeed. All right. So, y'all know why she can only smell it, but don't worry about. I'll give y'all a play by play on what it tastes like. There's some guys in here that can burn.

Nigel [00:08:07.02]: What do you think of the food at San Quentin?

Yard Talk [00:08:09.05]: Good. [laughs]

You know, usually, the breakfasts here are the same as, as eggs, eggs, eggs, some more eggs. Then, the powdered eggs, too.

I think the food is worth shit.

Dinner. Green salad with dressing. 3/4 of a cup.

I went into the chow hall one Saturday morning to eat pancakes and a bird pooped on the table.

Spanish rice. 4 ounces.

The food at San Quentin.

Eh, not so good.

Nasty.

Chicken Nachos. Tortilla chips, 1 ounce.

We were getting vegetables for a time and then they took those away. The story is that someone threw an entire onion at a CO so now it's a danger.

Salsa, 2 ounces.

Nigel [00:08:54.11]: Is that true? Somebody threw an onion at a CO?

Earlonne [00:08:56.14]: Naw. I think they were saying that an onion could

be used as, it's a 1 pound onion. Everybody got 'em. That's some bullshit though. Know what I'm saying?

Yard Talk [00:09:04.28]: Chicken, 4 ounces.

Ah, it's delicious. No. I'm just kidding. It's terrible.

It's tasteless and bland.

I would compare it like a few steps down from like an elementary school meal like.

Shredded cheese, 1 ounce.

The food here is exceptional.

Nigel [00:09:21.10]: Oh. What do you like?

Yard Talk [00:09:22.23]: I would say the chicken breast and mashed potatoes and gravy. They have stepped their game up a lot.

The state food? The state food is horrible.

Mexican beans, 6 ounces.

Excuse me, it [exaggerates voice] horrible.

Icy treat, 1 each.

Thank god for Top Ramen soups. They're 25 cents each. Without that, I'm not sure how I would make it.

Beverage, 8 ounces.

You know who they fuck over here?

Who is that?

They fuck over the vegetarians.

Whoo.

All they get is different kind of beans. Lentil beans, regular beans, black eyed peas, beans, red beans, white beans. But they bean their ass to death. I'm talking about like, like you'd have to tap out, like I'm cooled on this shit.

Nigel [00:10:09.26]: You know, we're gonna hear from some of the cooks here and they're going to be like, "Don't bash us. We do the best we can."

Earlonne [00:10:14.15]: They gonna be, nah, they gonna be like, "Damn, that's so true."

Nigel [00:10:17.28]: [laughs] Well, the reason we want to do a show about cooking is there's some amazing cooks here.

Earlonne [00:10:23.04]: Cooks outside the kitchen.

Nigel [00:10:24.04]: Yeah.

Earlonne [00:10:24.28]: Great. That's why everybody eat outside the kitchen.

Nigel [00:10:27.10]: Yeah. So, we have to make it clear. We are talking about the cafeteria food. We are not talking about the food that guys actually cook in here. That's for another episode.

Earlonne [00:10:34.05]: Right. Right.

Nigel [00:10:35.16]: Do you ever eat in the cafeteria?

Earlonne [00:10:37.06]: I do. I do. Even if I don't want to eat, I still go for the walk just to get out the building, get some fresh air. The cafeteria do give up ice cold water, so I'll go get the water. If I miss it, I'm not missing nothing, not unless they're serving watermelon. [laughs] They serve it like once a year, so, like we just had it for breakfast the other day just blew my mind.

Nigel [00:11:02.00]: Watermelon's so good.

Earlonne [00:11:03.07]: This is when the bartering system came in play because I bartered everything on my tray for watermelon.

Nigel [00:11:09.27]: How many pieces did you get?

Earlonne [00:11:11.02]: Like 6.

Nigel [00:11:12.18]: So who didn't want their watermelon?

Earlonne [00:11:14.00]: People. Some people wanted the banana because they gave a banana up with it. They gave up a cinnamon roll with it. They gave up some other stuff, so I was trading everything. I had, and one of my partners gave me another cinnamon roll, so I had another cinnamon roll to trade.

Nigel [00:11:25.15]: I think you got the best deal. Was it cold?

Earlonne [00:11:27.09]: Cold. Ice cold. I didn't even eat them the dinner way where you know you just pick it up and start eating it. I used my spoon

and cut off chunks.

Nigel [00:11:34.12]: Oh, you slowed it down.

Earlonne [00:11:35.25]: Yeah. I had a gang of chunks in the middle of my tray, and I had a field day. [Jasper's guitar playing]

Nigel [00:11:47.26]: Okay, E, what do you have to say to Dan from Canada? If you could change one thing about prison, what would it be?

Earlonne [00:11:55.09]: Oh, that's easy. I would make prisons co-ed.

Nigel [00:12:01.20]: Uh. [laughs] That is not what I expected to hear from you.

Earlonne [00:12:08.21]: Nigel, I'm a guy. I'm a dude. I live around too many dudes. Shower with dudes. It's just too much of dudes. You know? So, it should be co-ed.

Nigel [00:12:19.10]: Um, okay, yeah, I guess that makes sense.

Earlonne [00:12:22.03]: If you could change anything about prison, what would it be?

Male [00:12:25.09]: The sentencing structures. Yeah, probably change the sentencing structures. I would make it so men could get out once they have shown that they've made the necessary transformations to no longer be a threat and danger to society.

Earlonne [00:12:40.02]: Yours was deeper than mine. I think mine probably was shallow.

Male [00:12:42.25]: What was yours?

Earlonne [00:12:43.14]: I said I'd make prison co-ed.

Male [00:12:45.27]: I probably do that too.

Earlonne [00:12:47.09]: Oh, oh, you changing?

Male [00:12:47.28]: I mean, well, I mean, I mean, I mean, I mean there's a lot of things, right, that you could change. You know what I'm saying. I mean, it's, right off the bat when you think like, co-ed, I mean, you know, that's, yeah, that's like top list. The reasons that normally we want to be around women just because you've been in prison so long and people instantly think sexual encounter, but I think it's a bigger, uh-

Earlonne [00:13:10.15]: Dynamic.

Male [00:13:11.03]: Dynamic to learn when you're just around women, just in general. Learning to be respectful, right. Learning to be more soft. Just learn a bunch a things you learn around women that you can't learn around men. So, like, when I go to visit like with my mother or like my nieces or sister, you know, I go out there and I'm kind of like scared to hug them, kind of shake their hand kind of weird. Right, because I'm around these dudes all day.

Earlonne [00:13:31.26]: Right.

Male [00:13:32.00]: So, If I was around women more, then they would kind of teach me these, these different type of, uh, you know-

Earlonne [00:13:39.17]: Life skills.

Male [00:13:39.24]: Life skills and just, just, just way to be around women that's a little bit more casual and more respectful. So, in that regard, I think

it would be pretty cool outside of just the obvious that-

Male 2 [00:13:49.12]: I would change the cell situation. You seem to do your time more easily when you're in the cell by yourself. Oh man, I had some crazy cellies, man. Glad we didn't fight, you know? I've always been really small, so like, how am I gonna beat this guy? [laughs]

Nigel [00:14:08.17]: Yeah, so what's your strategy?

Male 2 [00:14:10.21]: Strategy is humility, man. Humility, and uh, communication, and uh, respect always works. It's worked for me these past 12 years. I haven't got in 1 fight.

Nigel [00:14:24.15]: Wow. That's great.

Male 2 [00:14:25.17]: It's survival. How am I gonna survive in here? You know, this loner kid, and I just, I started there. Navigated my way around people that I knew were dangerous, you know. Went to places where I knew that were safe, you know, education. The library. And I ran a lot, so I was out of everybody's way when I ran. So, that's how, so I made it this far.

Earlonne [00:14:51.23]: If you could change something about prisons, Officer Reyes, what would it be?

Officer Reyes [00:14:58.07]: Um, uh, take the race card out. You know, treat everybody fairly. You know, ask a lot of questions. Um, just try to act honestly and fairly.

Earlonne [00:15:11.15]: It's pretty segregated on a unofficial level.

Officer Reyes [00:15:15.23]: Um, yeah, out there or in here. Same thing. You know, just because certain people are wearing blue and some are in green, you know, nothin'. It doesn't necessarily mean you have to

discriminate in that way. I mean, we're both, we're all human beings. So, you ask a question, I try to answer it. I ask you a question, you answer it. And, you know, get together that way. [Jasper's guitar playing]

Nigel [00:15:48.22]: Uh, this person says, please keep my information anonymous if you share it. I have a cousin who's serving time for murder and I miss him despite the heinous crime he committed. He's still family and I don't want to lose touch with him for the bad decision that he made. Long story short, I'd like to write to him but I'm not sure what to say. I feel like anything I could tell him about things I've been up to would seem unimportant and stupid by comparison to the heavy events that he's dealing with. I don't want to annoy him and talk to him about my dogs or new restaurants I've tried. Should I even bother to write to him? What do you think?

Earlone [00:16:25.11]: You can write your family member or your friend or whoever and you can talk about the birds chirpin' outside your window and that would be sufficient enough for guys in prison. When you come back to your cell and the officer come by and call your name for that letter, you're like, "Shit. Who? Who wrote?" First, in your mind, "Who wrote me?" You know, then you get it and you might even have a ritual. You get their letter, you don't even open it. You go make you a shot of coffee, sit down and really absorb the words. You know. We just want to hear from you.

Nigel [00:17:00.05]: So, I don't think we can say strongly enough how important it is to-

Earlone [00:17:03.15]: Letters are very important. If you're curious or if you're concerned, um, about writing somebody and how they'll feel, they gon', they gon' love it.

Nigel [00:17:12.02]: So, hopefully, that cousin is about to get a letter.

Earlonne [00:17:15.20]: Mmhmm. And to all the people I haven't heard from: mmhmm.

Nigel [00:17:19.10]: [laughs]

Earlonne [00:17:21.15]: [laughs] [Jasper's guitar playing] Let me find the next question.

Nigel [00:17:26.26]: Yep.

Earlonne [00:17:27.19]: Okay. When a cellie leave, do they keep in touch? This question is from Adam and he's in the UK.

Nigel [00:17:34.11]: So, we did a whole episode on cellies and your cellie left.

Earlonne [00:17:38.15]: Correct.

Nigel [00:17:39.24]: So, can you answer that question?

Earlonne [00:17:42.11]: Well, um, I can say this. I hear that he's doing okay. Um, I think when a person get out, they have to focus on getting their lives together, you know. So, even my conversation to him when he left was, "Hey, man. Check in in a year." You know what I'm saying? "Give me an update in a year."

Nigel [00:18:02.17]: Since we're speaking about cellies, this would be a great time for a Earlonne Woods cellie update. What happened? What happened?

Earlonne [00:18:11.16]: So, so, Cleo left, and I know I said that, um, they gave me a cellie within hours, which was true. He was about 22 years old. He was born in 1995, but he was a cool youngster. See, see, you can get

some that's just level-headed. I'm talking about he was cool. Didn't bring traffic to the cell, didn't hang out. You know, wasn't into it with the officers. He was just on about his business, but he, he got a dirty test. I think he had, he had weed in his system.

Nigel [00:18:36.02]: [groans]

Earlonne [00:18:36.14]: And so, the dirty test, they kicked him out and sent him to a higher level security.

Nigel [00:18:40.16]: So, you are solo again.

Earlonne [00:18:42.21]: No. Actually, um, so, uh, they have this other prison called Tracy, and Tracy was changing its levels from a level 2, which is a lower level, to a level 3, which is a higher level. So, they was making all the level 2s leave, so my brother put in for San Quentin knowing that I'm here. So, the same day that my young cellie left, my brother came that night.

Nigel [00:19:08.13]: That's insane.

Earlonne [00:19:09.09]: Yeah, he left that morning. My brother was here that night. When they moved him to the building, they moved him in the cell because my cell was open.

Nigel [00:19:15.06]: [laughs]

Earlonne [00:19:16.08]: Ain't that something?

Nigel [00:19:16.21]: That, that is. No, that is something. How the hell does something like that happen?

Earlonne [00:19:20.02]: Well, I mean, it's just, it's the luck of the draw. You

know, um, it's, you know what? For my mother, it's great. She don't have to travel all over California to see her babies.

Nigel [00:19:31.26]: Uh, is it great for Earlonne?

Earlonne [00:19:34.11]: Well, you know, it's like this. So. [laughs]

Nigel [00:19:38.18]: [laughs] Is, is there an Eddie and Emile story here?

Earlonne [00:19:40.24]: [laughs] Nah. No. I wouldn't say Eddie and Emile, but I'll say it's interesting, and this is why it's interesting. The last time I hugged my brother was in 1988 and the first time I hugged him again was 2017.

Nigel [00:19:57.29]: Wow.

Earlonne [00:19:58.19]: So, I've been in prison for a long time. It's, it's our first time meeting each other, technically, as adults. It was a funny because, when I seen the new guys coming in, it was, it was like, I knew that they was coming, but one guy walked by with his stuff like, which is a blanket, a pillow case. So, I'm like, "Oh, they came." So, I go back around to my cell to see if Bro got here, right, and when I'm turning the corner walking down the aisle, he's coming and he passed me.

Nigel [00:20:26.11]: Oh, wow.

Earlonne [00:20:27.10]: He don't even acknowledge me because we haven't seen each other in so long.

Nigel [00:20:31.13]: You didn't recognize each other?

Earlonne [00:20:32.19]: I got the big beard now, you know, um.

Nigel [00:20:34.28]: Oh my god.

Earlonne [00:20:35.25]: So, when he walked passed me, I did what you're not supposed to do. I grabbed him and shook him up. [Nigel laughs] You know, like real quick like, just roughed him up. And he just looked and he was just and he seeing and he noticed it was me and he hugged me and he gave me a kiss on the cheek.

Nigel [00:20:50.07]: Aww.

Earlonne [00:20:50.21]: And, um, like, "What's up, man?" Like, "What's up, man?" All that sort of stuff, so you know, you have a older brother. He's older than me, 4 years older than me. In his mind, he has that, 'I'm the big brother, you the little brother' hierarchy, and I had to quickly tell him, "Bro, we grown. That shit played out. You know, we did that shit when was 9 and 14, whatever. We're adults. We're, you know, you're my brother, but there will not be no hierarchy."

Nigel [00:21:15.29]: Mmm. Is there going to be a potential story in here?

Earlonne [00:21:19.14]: No. Okay, okay. I know that you want a story here, so I got one for you. In the 'Cellies' episode, before you answer it, I want people out there to answer. I want the listeners to answer this. [Nigel laughs] What was the one thing I said I hated? All right. You can answer.

Nigel [00:21:36.07]: "Talking. I hate that shit." [Nigel and Earlonne laugh]

Earlonne [00:21:40.28]: And, my brother can talk like too much. Like, he asks every question about everything. And I be like, "Bro, Bro, Bro, Bro, Bro, Bro, Bro, Bro. I just need some time, Bro. Just, just, you know, you, you know. Real talk.

Nigel [00:21:58.21]: Oh, man. [Nigel and Earlonne laugh]

Earlonne [00:22:00.27]: I mean, it's good to talk. We talked, you know, we talked a whole. Did we talk the whole first night? We tried to talk the night just to, you know, catch up-

Nigel [00:22:07.05]: Yeah.

Earlonne [00:22:07.18]: But, outside of that, talk too much. [Jasper's guitar playing]

Nigel [00:22:15.11]: I know I said we weren't going to answer any questions about the process of making this podcast, but we had the rare opportunity to get the public information officer, Lieutenant Sam Robinson, down here, and E got right on that. So, after the break, we're going to hear some of that conversation.

Earlonne [00:22:35.01]: All right. How you doing there, Lieutenant Robinson?

Sam Robinson [00:22:36.25]: I'm doing well, Earlonne. How are you doing?

Earlonne [00:22:38.11]: I'm great. So, we have this Q&A session and we have listeners that asked a question about censorship.

Sam Robinson [00:22:45.14]: Okay.

Earlonne [00:22:45.22]: Because at the end, uh, you come in and say you approve this. So, from a public information officer's standpoint, when you say you approve this, this story, what do you mean?

Sam Robinson [00:22:57.20]: When I say that I'm approving the story, it isn't about censoring. I, I think in our conversations and our engagement on this project, I think you are [laughs] maybe, to the listener, maybe, more

credible than I am in that, it's not about censorship. It's a collaboration. It's making sure from the public safety side that there are things that don't exit this prison that would harm people here within our facility, other facilities in the state of California, or even people outside the walls. And so, what we're looking at from my office is no one is going to be adversely affected by it. Um, in terms of what your story is, uh, uh, in terms of the interactions and the engagement and the artwork in the podcast, that's all you.

Earlone [00:23:44.01]: Okay. So, for the people that think that we only can say so much, long as it's not violating the public safety, we good.

Sam Robinson [00:23:53.03]: Well, tell me this, has there been anything that you've wanted to say that I have rebuffed you on?

Earlone [00:24:01.06]: No. Not yet.

Sam Robinson [00:24:03.20]: Not yet. [laughs]

Earlone [00:24:04.03]: Not yet. [laughs] [light, stuttering musical beat] That's all the Q&A we have for you right now, and I know we left a lot of questions unanswered.

Nigel [00:24:13.05]: We'll definitely do this again, so please keep the cards coming. And, just a reminder, if you prefer to keep your card private, that's not a problem at all. We absolutely respect that. Just write 'private' on the card and we won't post it and we won't talk about it on air.

Earlone [00:24:30.01]: Thanks to all you listeners and big thanks for taking the time out to send us your questions and comments. We truly appreciate that. Our sound designer's Antwan Williams. Pat Mesiti-Miller is our outside production adviser. Curtis Fox is the story editor and executive producer for Radiotopia is Julie Shapiro. We also want to thank Warden Ron Davis and, as you know, every episode has to be approved by this guy here:

Sam Robinson [00:24:56.17]: This is Lieutenant Sam Robinson and I approve this message.

Earlonne [00:24:59.23]: Nah, now, that was political. Story. Approve this story. [laughs]

Sam Robinson [00:25:00.18]: Aw, dang. All right. That's all right. [laughs] I gotta be coached. [laughs] This is Lieutenant Sam Robinson and I approve this Q&A episode.

Nigel [00:25:13.08]: Next time on 'Ear Hustle'.

Earlonne [00:25:14.28]: That is, if we get it done on time.

Nigel [00:25:17.06]: Yeah, that's right, because Lieutenant Sam Robinson's going on vacation, and we are pulling our hair out trying to get this done before he leaves because it is a great story.

Earlonne [00:25:26.03]: And he might have a problem with this one though. It's going to be about married inmates who, in spite of being in prison, they find a way to get with their wives.

Male [00:25:34.19]: First hour and the last hour of all the visits, the patio was couples only. Wasn't no babies allowed outside. Grandma wasn't able to come out, and if grandma did come out, she had to watch out, because we was out there doing adult things. [light, stuttering musical beat]

Nigel [00:26:00.15]: Okay, just to be clear, what he just described there did not happen at San Quentin.

Earlonne [00:26:05.15]: Yeah. We'll see what Lieutenant Robinson thinks about it. But if there's not a podcast in 2 weeks, that probably mean we just

didn't get it done. It don't mean he said no. He just went on vacation and that's life in prison. Your schedule is not your own.

Nigel [00:26:21.11]: If we don't get it done and if you're still hungry for stories about people in prison and how their families cope, we have a suggestion.

Earlone [00:26:28.13]: Check out 'Death, Sex, and Money', a podcast from WNYC Studios.

Nigel [00:26:33.06]: Recently, they shared a story about Lawrence Bartley, an inmate at Sing Sing Correctional Facility in New York. He's been locked up since 1990 for a murder he committed when he was 17. While in prison, he got married and had 2 kids with his wife, and this month is his first chance at parole.

Earlone [00:26:51.11]: The host of the podcast, Anna Sale, talked with Lawrence inside Sing Sing and his wife at home. Hear their story at deathsexmoney.org. 'Ear Hustle' is a proud member of Radiotopia from PRX, a collection of the best podcasts around. Radiotopia is made possible with support from the Knight Foundation. Hear more at Radiotopia.fm.

Nigel [00:27:13.10]: Keep those postcards and emails coming. You can find out where to send them on our website, earhustlesq.com, where you can also sign up for our newsletter. We've added a new gallery page to the website where you can see portraits of the people in our stories, see some of the beautiful postcards we've been getting, and check out our newest visual request. We're asking listeners to send photographs of what they do when they listen.

Earlone [00:27:38.12]: And find us on Instagram and Twitter, [@earhustlesq](https://www.instagram.com/earhustlesq). And, if you have time, go to iTunes and please write a review. We're gonna go out with Nigel's new favorite song. Here's Lee

Jasper, 'Enduring That Dream'. I'm Earlonne Woods.

Nigel [00:27:53.19]: And I'm Nigel Poor. Thanks for listening.

Lee Jasper [00:27:56.17]: [playing guitar, singing] Darn that dream. I dreamed each night.

Nigel [00:28:07.10]: I have a brief update about our next episode. After we recorded this episode, San Quentin went on lockdown. It doesn't happen very often, but when it does happen, it means that there's very restricted movement inside of the prison. Earlonne and Antwan can't come down to the media lab and I can't come into the prison. So, unfortunately, our production has come to a halt. We do hope to be up and running again soon, but our next episode is going to have to be delayed a week. So, instead of coming out on August 23rd, it will be out on August 30th. As Earlonne always says, "Inside of prison, you never control your own schedule." But, please stay tuned and know we'll be back as soon as we can.

Lee Jasper [00:28:48.04]: [playing guitar, singing] A paradise. Woah, darn that dream. Darn this one track mind of mine. Can't understand that you just don't care. But just to change this mood I'm in, I'd welcome a nice old nightmare.

Radiotopia outro [00:29:16.12]: Radiotopia from PRX.

Female [00:29:24.09]: Thanks for listening and thanks to Adzerk for providing their ad serving platform to Radiotopia.