

Dear Mr. Berens,

7/11/05

I recently recieved your letter notifying me of your interest. I'm Surprised, at any point, in that anyone would want to know what makes a man become the monster in the closet.

I'm not very good at expressing things nor do I know what exactly you would like to know or understand. I'm really not much of a writer, but perhaps your right, that somehow someone can be helped.

First of all, I don't wish to mix words. I knew I was guilty from the moment it all happened. I wanted to change it, I wanted to say I was sorry, I knew that I had to tell the truth. I continue to say that there are no excuses. I can't say that my father or mother are at fault or that life was just too hard. Those are rationalizations. The truth is that I made decisions. I never started out with plans to hurt that innocent child. I grew up helping others and worked for many years as a nursing assistant. I moved into registered nursing

as a natural growing extension of my desire, no need to help others. I felt that my value came from what I could give and I often gave until there was nothing left. I frequently worked with little sleep, making my way through 100-90 hours a week of mixed shifts. At some point my boundaries became ~~unclear~~<sup>unclear</sup>. Nursing, in itself is an intimate interaction with those you care for. Exhaustion, frustrations, and personal struggles came together in a destructive act that I can't take back and will never be able to pay for. I don't blame society for hating me and what I did. I can't even imagine what I would do if my own children were hurt in this way. Many would say that it's to live with a long enough sentence. I know that my family suffers in my absence and dream of my home coming. I know that no matter what happens, I will carry the weight of my actions for life. If I can be of assistance I will try, though I'm not sure what I can do.

I am scheduled to transfer to Shelton on Thursday the fourteenth of July. If you need to contact me, you can connect with me there.

Washington Corrections Center  
P.O. Box 900  
Shelton, WA 98584

As I said before, I'm not sure how much I can really help. If this can somehow help me repay in part the debt I owe for the damage I've caused, I will be thankful.

Sincerely,  
Raymond Hughes.