

Ear Hustle Season 1 Episode 9: Gold Coats & OGs

Male [00:00:00.00]: Now, who gonna hire a 65-year-old man?

Andres [00:00:03.07]: Oh, excuse me, excuse me. Excuse me.

Male [00:00:05.06]: You gonna sit behind a desk?

Andres [00:00:05.24]: No, I'm 70 years old.

Male [00:00:07.15]: 70 years old.

Andres [00:00:08.04]: I can sit behind a desk, and let me tell you something. Matter of fact, if I run up on you, I might just knock you for your old lady, and then have no problems because I'll be in your pocket.

[laughs]

Earlonne [00:00:18.17]: You are now tuned into San Quentin's 'Ear Hustle' from PRX's Radiotopia.

Listener Alert [00:00:23.21]: The following podcast contains language and content that may not be appropriate for all listeners. [intro music]

Earlonne [00:00:30.14]: I'm Earlonne Woods, a prisoner at San Quentin State Prison in California.

Nigel [00:00:34.20]: I'm Nigel Poor, a visual artist, and I volunteer at San Quentin.

Earlonne [00:00:38.15]: And together, we're gonna take you inside.

Lonnie [00:00:41.19]: I can't do this. I can't take care of you, man. You've got to go. You've got to go to the hospital, man. [intro beat]

Female [00:00:56.22]: [upbeat music] Support for 'Ear Hustle' comes from MailChimp. MailChimp is the world's largest marketing automation platform serving 15 million customers, from small e-commerce shops to big online retailers. Whether you need to sell your products, share some big news, or tell a story, our campaign builder makes it easy to create email campaigns that best suit your message. And, with MailChimp reports, you'll know how well you're connecting with your audience and how much money you're bringing in. Get started free at MailChimp.com. MailChimp, build your brand, sell more stuff.

Lonnie [00:01:34.17]: I came to prison in 1978. [melodic music] And, uh, when I saw old dudes in prison, I was like, "Man, how in the hell you be in prison at 60 years old? What? You know, you trippin'. What you do to be in prison at 60 years old?"

Earlone [00:01:49.02]: Lonnie Morris is 66 years old. In 1977, he shot and killed a police officer during a jewelry store robbery. His sentence was 7 years to life.

Lonnie [00:01:58.27]: I didn't think I would only going serve 7 years, but I sure didn't think I was going to serve 40. Because of the nature of my crime, I thought maybe I'd get out in 15, 20 years, something like that.

Nigel [00:02:10.20]: Lonnie's been in prison for 40 years, and 35 years of those years have been right here in San Quentin. And, E, it's pretty unusual for a guy to be here for so long.

Earlone [00:02:20.15]: Very unusual. I mean, most guys have spent a lot of time in other prisons before they get to San Quentin. Usually, they come here from a higher security prison. Guys spend years trying to get to San Quentin because of the programming.

Nigel [00:02:32.20]: [shuffling drum beat] And by programming, we mean educational opportunities and all the groups that are here.

Earlone [00:02:36.15]: Yeah. They have, they have a lot of self-help groups.

Nigel [00:02:38.28]: And like Shakespeare.

Earlone [00:02:40.11]: Right. You have No More Tears, which is a violence prevention group. Uh, Criminal Gangs Anonymous, which help criminals and gang members.

Nigel [00:02:47.16]: Yoga.

Earlone [00:02:48.27]: You do have yoga, and I do have to get into yoga.

Nigel [00:02:51.01]: And there's also, um, there's like gardening here. Oh, there's that new cooking class!

Earlone [00:02:56.29]: Yeah, Quentin Cooks. Uh, they have, what is the one? Coding.

Nigel [00:03:01.04]: Yeah! They're actually learning how to code. It's amazing.

Earlone [00:03:03.01]: Yeah.

Nigel [00:03:03.08]: So, there are so many opportunities here and it makes sense that guys want to be here.

Earlone [00:03:07.07]: Yeah, 'cause I wanted to transfer to San Quentin because of the film program that they had back in the day, and I did that. I got here and now I'm into podcasting with you.

Nigel [00:03:15.25]: I am so glad you made it here.

Earlone [00:03:17.14]: Who you tellin'?

Nigel [00:03:19.18]: [laughs] How long did it actually take you to get here?

Earlone [00:03:21.09]: It took me roughly about 6 years to get to San Quentin.

Nigel [00:03:25.08]: Man, you were tenacious.

Earlone [00:03:26.18]: I would tell you how I got here, but I'm gonna let that go.

Nigel [00:03:29.04]: Okay, so all we have to say is thank god you got here.

Earlone [00:03:31.16]: I got here.

Nigel [00:03:32.12]: So, when the guys get here, they tend to be, um, on the mature side?

Earlone [00:03:36.24]: What that mean, like ripe?

Nigel [00:03:34.29]: [laughs] Well, it actually means to me that the population at San Quentin is getting towards middle age and up. I mean, you guys aren't young.

Earlone [00:03:47.07]: I mean, what you mean not young? [Nigel laughs] Look, they have, um, 18-year-olds here.

Nigel [00:03:52.07]: Yeah.

Earlone [00:03:53.00]: You know, it's a small segment of the people, segment of the population should I say. But, most of the guys are in their 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s. And, the old guys here face the same health problem that older people face everywhere.

Lonnie [00:04:09.00]: You know, the body doesn't respond as well as it used to respond to. I used to run up the steps. Now, I walk up them, I'm breathing a little harder. So, all that stuff, you know, comes to the fore, but I try to take care of myself.

Nigel [00:04:20.25]: Same as on the outside, guys here try to take care of themselves, to put off the inevitable for as long as possible.

Earlonne [00:04:27.02]: The inevitable?

Nigel [00:04:28.07]: You know, the thing no one wants to talk about.

Earlonne [00:04:29.25]: Ok, ok. I got you. I got you.

Nigel [00:04:30.28]: Dyin'.

Earlonne [00:04:31.28]: I got you.

Nigel [00:04:32.18]: But here's what's different about aging in prison. For Lonnie and a lot of other guys, it's not just sickness and death that they're afraid of.

Lonnie [00:04:40.09]: So, for me, my big thought process is that I'm not dying in prison. So, I'm not going to think about it. I'm not going to entertain a thought of dying in prison. Um, they put me on a, outside the gate on the sidewalk and I'll keel over dead. I'd rather that happen than for me to die in prison. That's, uh, that's one of the things that myself and a lot of guys dread, the possibility of that.

Earlonne [00:05:01.26]: [effervescent music] The truth is, with an aging population, guys do get sick and they do die in prison. And that's what we're talking about in this episode. How does San Quentin, a community of prisoners, staff, and volunteers, deal with getting old and all that comes with it?

Nigel [00:05:19.19]: Hey, Earlonne, your sentence is 31 years to life, and do you ever think about getting old and maybe even dying in prison?

Earlonne [00:05:27.05]: I never really think about that, like when you know when you look in the mirror and you see those extra gray hairs popping up, you realize-

Nigel [00:05:35.24]: Yeah, I see more of those lately on you. [laughs]

Earlonne [00:05:37.00]: Yeah. You realize, "Damn. It's happenin'. It's happenin' right in front of me." But, I still got a full head of hair, so I'm good with that.

Nigel [00:05:45.20]: And you do have that, the, the Earlonne-

Earlonne [00:05:47.09]: [laughs] My brother don't have that.

Nigel [00:05:48.11]: I know! He always wears a hat, too.

Earlone [00:05:50.18]: [laughs] I do have that. But, the one thing I don't worry about is getting killed in San Quentin. That wasn't always the case here. Death in San Quentin was not always a natural occurrence.

So, in your 40 years, how many people do you think you've witnessed die in prison?

Lonnie [00:06:08.02]: Hundreds. There I knew, and so it's been a lot of people. [metallic resounding beat] Gunshots. Strokes. Heart attacks. Multiple people dying from stabbings. Pneumonia. Valley fever. HIV. Hepatitis C. Suicides, uh, ugh, gang of suicides. Other guys been thrown off tiers. Other guys have jumped off tiers to their death escaping being stabbed. Know people been strangled to death. People burnt up in their cells. Some purposely set on fire. Others that, uh, their cell caught on fire, uh, and they were burned to death by that. And, one of my friends, I literally heard him being stabbed to death, and, um, he was screaming, and, and we were all locked in our cell. The guy that killed him locked up in the cell with him at count time and stabbed him 37 times, and you could hear him screaming. Um, yeah. That was really horrible.

Nigel [00:07:03.25]: E, when was the last time somebody was killed at San Quentin? I can't even remember if there's been a murder since 2011 when I started volunteering here.

Earlone [00:07:13.12]: I think the last murder here probably was in the reception area.

Nigel [00:07:18.05]: Recently?

Earlone [00:07:20.01]: Uh, I don't know. I think-

Nigel [00:07:21.07]: I mean, the point is, it's not that common, right?

Earlone [00:07:22.18]: Nah, it's not. It's just not that common here, but there's nothing like the level of violence that Lonnie experienced a few decades ago. Back then, getting old in prison meant you had survived.

Lonnie [00:07:32.29]: When I first came to prison, respect was everything. You didn't disrespect people because, back then, you could lose your life. Prison was a very serious place, very dangerous place, and stabbings were regular. They were normal procedures, so it wasn't no, "Oh, let's fist fight. Oh, let's talk about it." You was going to get stabbed and good possibility you was gonna die because people stabbing you to kill you. So, most of the older guys that were in prison had survived and were still quote, unquote "walking the mainline" or are what we call OGs were pretty serious guys.

Nigel [00:08:07.03]: Uh, I used to think OGs meant old guys. [laughs]

Earlonne [00:08:10.05]: [laughs] Original gangstas. You better not call them old guys, Nigel.
[laughs]

Andres [00:08:17.11]: The OG in the buildin'! Yeah. They know who I am. The one that don't like all the loud music and all that loud romping and rompin' and all that loud stuff they doing. You know what I'm saying? They in your mind...

Nigel [00:08:26.20]: Andre Eric Watson has been in prison for 20 years and he's serving a 65 year to life sentence for Second-degree murder.

Andre [00:08:34.28]: First of all, I want it to be known. I refuse to die in prison. I don't care how old I get, I'm going to make it to the streets but at the time...

Nigel [00:08:41.01]: Andre is 72-years-old. He was recently diagnosed with stage III throat cancer.

Andre [00:08:46.05]: "Throat cancer and we thought you was going to die, OG, you're losing all that weight." I'm gotta say, "No. I ain't going nowhere because I refuse to die in prison." Make a long story short, I went through the treatment and I survived it.

Earlonne [00:08:59.00]: He survived and there are two things that keeps him going in his old age. [deep electronic music] He loves to talk shit.

Andre [00:09:07.03]: It's not that, uh, I'm downgrading them all the time, but if they open the door, I'm going to step in and talk some shit. Simple as that.

Earlonne [00:09:15.10]: And there's another thing that keeps him going: the idea of getting out before he dies and finding him a female.

Nigel [00:09:23.22]: Give me a personal ad, now. If you were going to make a personal ad, what would it say?

Andre [00:09:27.01]: What would it say? It would say, "Listen, I'm, I'm a really great guy. I'm, I'm elderly, really great and in good shape. You know what I'm saying? Looking for middle age.
[laughs] Good shape.

Earlonne [00:09:40.09]: So, in other words, you want to go to the Boom Boom Room.

Andre [00:09:43.06]: Soon as possible. Soon as possible. Come on, man! 20 years. I mean, it's just like a bike, riding a bicycle. It may be that I haven't been on a bicycle in a long time, but I sure know how to get on it and ride it again. I mean, you know what I'm saying. I'm not gonna fall off. I mean, that's one thing to keep guys like us living, to live through this, is we're looking to get out there to get in the saddle one more time. Simple as that.

Nigel [00:10:10.08]: Well, I have to say, I really hope that he gets back in the saddle before he's too old.

Earlone [00:10:14.24]: Me too and me too. [laughs]

Nigel [00:10:18.22]: [laughs] Simple as that?

Earlone [00:10:19.23]: Simple as that. I'm with him on that. But, you know, Andres is lucky to have survived throat cancer, and he's lucky he didn't grow old here in the 1980s when this was a very different institution. [melancholy music]

Nigel [00:10:33.01]: So, you didn't see other guys being frail or not being able to take care of themselves because they weren't as physically strong as the younger guys?

Lonnie: Well, you know, it, it's interesting because, back then, it wasn't like that. You couldn't afford to be frail and weak and fragile and vulnerable. Old cats was out there lifting, you know, 5 and 6 quarters. They're 60 years old and they're pumping iron and got 18-inch arms and 19-inch arms. So, everybody had to stay fit. That was part of the regiment.

Nigel [00:11:03.22]: They don't have weights San Quentin anymore.

Earlone [00:11:05.14]: Nah. They don't have them nowhere in the Department of Corrections. Not unless you like in fire camp or something. But, you know, we all surmised that, uh, California took them out of, uh, the prisons because the correctional officers couldn't control dudes.

Nigel [00:11:19.02]: What, because they were gettin' so big?

Earlone [00:11:19.23]: They were huge. Like dudes walking around with 25-inch arms, like, just like, and you like, "Hey, get against the wall." [both laugh] Like, "What?"

Nigel [00:11:28.05]: Intimidating! Intimidating, but hey, I have to say, I see some correctional officers with some pretty big arms on them.

Earlone [00:11:35.24]: But nowadays, you don't need 18s on the hang anymore. Things are a lot safer on Level IIs.

Nigel [00:11:41.06]: That's a good distinction.

Earlone [00:11:42.01]: Yeah.

Nigel [00:11:43.02]: We were talking about Level II prisons.

Earlone [00:11:44.00]: Might be different on Level IV.

Nigel [00:11:45.04]: Okay, let's get back to the idea of aging in prison, and I wanted to bring in somebody who makes the process a lot easier.

Richard [00:11:51.20]: My name is Richard Lathan.

Nigel [00:11:53.09]: Richard Lathan's a former gang member who's serving a 15-year to life sentence for murder.

Richard [00:11:58.08]: And the job I do is taking care of people.

Earlone [00:12:02.26]: [pensive, bright music] Richard is called a Gold Coat, which is guys that are employed by Custody to assist the medical department. They go get guys who are, I don't want to say incapacitated, I just want to say they have some type of disability. Inmate Disability Assistance Program.

Nigel [00:12:19.18]: Yeah. Yeah, that's right.

Earlone [00:12:20.12]: IDAP worker. That's what we call them. We call them Gold Coats because the shirts. We wear blue shirts. They wear gold shirts, which identify them as someone different than us.

Nigel [00:12:30.14]: Right, and they can go to different parts of the prison that we can't go to.

Earlone [00:12:33.07]: Right, right.

Richard [00:12:34.06]: My position is that I do everything that an inmate need assistance on. Going to get his food. Cleaning up scabies. Uh, clean up feces basically. Assisting an inmate in, when he use the bathroom on his self. Making sure they get to their appointments. Assisting them if they can't read or write. I basically just sit and wait to be needed, per say.

Earlone [00:12:59.00]: [outdoor noises, other prisoners talking] So, when you say people that need help, you mean like elderly?

Richard [00:13:02.14]: It could be elderly. It could be people that had operations. Guys who have dementia, maybe. Or, guys who have colostomy bags. It could be guys mobility impaired or hearing impaired. It can be cancer patients bleedin', then I have to take them to the hospital, come back, clean the blood up, make sure their cell is clean.

Nigel [00:13:27.27]: Richard's kind of an assistant, I would say, in the infirmary.

Earlone [00:13:31.11]: Right.

Nigel [00:13:32.14]: But we should make it clear that there are doctors, nurses, and other professional medical staff that work at San Quentin, and guys call it a hospital, but technically, it's an infirmary.

Earlone [00:13:42.03]: Yeah. It's a newer infirmary. It's actually called a Correctional Treatment Center and it was built in 2009.

Nigel [00:13:48.00]: Right. It's actually the first building you see when you walk in through the gate.

Earlone [00:13:51.20]: Right, and it's a new model. It has like 5 floors. It's, uh, it's pretty, pretty fly for a prison, a old prison.

Nigel [00:14:00.07]: Have you been there?

Earlone [00:14:01.06]: I've been in there, yes.

Nigel [00:14:02.17]: For what?

Earlone [00:14:03.02]: You have to go there for dental. You have to go there for mental health. You have to go there for doctor appointments. I've only been on the fourth floor for filming purposes.

Nigel [00:14:14.05]: Yeah. The dreaded fourth floor.

Earlone [00:14:15.21]: Yeah. The fourth floor, that's where the guys are really sick. That's where they go. It's the place where a lot of guys don't want to end up.

Nigel [00:14:23.29]: Was it depressing when you went up there?

Earlone [00:14:25.15]: Well, I mean, I was just looking at it from the point of view where you just stuck in the cell.

Nigel [00:14:30.19]: Oh, man. I just imagine it was like a room at a hospital.

Earlone [00:14:33.29]: What you thinking of, like some military hospital?

Nigel [00:14:35.23]: Exactly what I was thinking, yeah.

Earlone [00:14:36.19]: Everybody just laid up next to each other. They can look over like, "Hey, what's up, Frank?"

Nigel [00:14:40.20]: No. That's exactly what I was thinking.

Earlone [00:14:41.04]: Nah. You're in a cell. [droning guitar melody] So, have you ever noticed guys that didn't want to go like to the fourth floor when they're sick because they don't want to be alone or something like that?

Richard [00:14:57.06]: Well, it's, it's been a quite a few guys. It's been quite a few guys didn't want to go to the fourth floor because they figured that all that they, all that they are going to give them is pills. I said, "Well, what you going to do? Sit here and die?"

Earlone [00:15:08.03]: I think most people are scared of being alone. They know once they get up there, there's no more coming down to the yard. There's no more general population, so they're basically isolating them self, and I think that is what, what, what happens.

Richard [00:15:20.24]: That's exactly right. That's what they scared about. There's no more affection, no more individuals looking out for them.

Lonnie [00:15:31.06]: About 5 or 6 years ago, they put a guy in my cell named T, that was what we called him, but I knew him around the prison before he became my cellie. He was a very healthy guy, worked out every day. Before they took the weights, he'd lift weights. Uh, after they took the weights, he do pull-ups and pushups and run the track. And, so, he was kind of like a, a health nut in terms of working out. [trilling dry music]

Over like a, a 6-month period of time, I watched him deteriorate from this virial man into this person that could not get out of bed on his own accord. And, and I had to help him get out of bed. I had to bring his food to him sometime. They wanted to put him in the hospital and he refused to go. And so, myself and a group of guys that were his friends, we elected to try to take care of him as best we could. And he didn't initially tell me that he had cancer. He was like, "Ah, man. I got something going on." And, then, you know, after some time talking about it, and I guess he felt comfortable. He said, "Man, you know, I got this cancer." He started sleeping a lot, and I think that had to do something with the chemo. No appetite. You know, that kind of stuff there. And, so, I would fix him food. [bright, melancholy melody] You know, I'd fix little spreads in the cell so we, he could eat it. He didn't have to worry about going to chow, and, you know, I share my packages with him. Some days he could walk. Some days he couldn't walk to then becoming wheelchair bound.

And his thing was, "Ah, man. I ain't going. I don't care what them doctors said. I ain't going over there because you know everybody who go up in the hospital die. You know what I'm saying? I'm not going out like that, and you know I'm cool. You know I'll be all right." And, I remember waking up one morning and I was on the top bunk. I got ready to get out of bed and he was laying on the floor, and I was like, "T!" And he was like... Excuse me, excuse me. I'm sorry. I don't know if I can finish this. I didn't think this was going... I wasn't planning on this. Oh, damn, man.

Nigel [00:17:38.00]: Take a break?

Lonnie [00:17:40.50]: He was laying there, man. [sniffles] And I was like, "You all right, man?" And he was like, "I'm all right." And I got down off the bed and I went to pick him up, and he had just defecated on the floor, on his self, and so, I had to pick him up out of the defecation and get him in the wheelchair and then get him outside the cell and, uh, and he kept saying, "I'm all right." And I was like, "Bro, you not all right, man, you not. You got... I can't do this no more. You got to go to the hospital, man." And he was like, "Man, I'm all right. I ain't going to the hospital. I'm going to be okay. I can do it." I said, "T, you're not, bro. Look at the cell. You done defecated all over the floor." And in his bed. I looked in his bed and it was full of defecation. And, I was like, "Bro, I'm not, I can't do this. I don't. I can't take care of you, man. You, I, look at this man. I, I don't know what to tell you, but you gotta go. You gotta go to the hospital, man." [empty, echoing beats]

Nigel [00:18:52.17]: This took place about 6 years ago, before San Quentin had Gold Coats like Richard who could have helped with this situation.

Earlone [00:18:59.25]: So, if you get guys that are stubborn or just tired and don't want to come out they cell, what's your position?

Richard [00:19:06.04]: Well, if you tell me you sick, you coming out of there. I'm not going to let you sit in there. I'm gonna make sense of it. I say, "Look, when you come in here and you dealing with me, you can't just sit in a cell and die. You're not going to do that, because I'm going let them know." I said, "You can fight me all you want, but you going to the hospital. You know and they understand.

Earlone [00:19:26.18]: You know, Nigel, I asked Richard why he spends his time taking care of the sick and the elderly, because it can't be a easy job.

Nigel [00:19:35.25]: Oh, man. No.

Earlone [00:19:37.13]: [outdoor noises, inmates in background] Why do you take that stance?

Richard [00:19:39.01]: Because I was a gang member, so now this is my chance at giving back. This is how I do it. I figure, if I give back to life, then my life will be given back to me. 26 years ago, I did take someone else's life, and I, uh, 2 attempted murders in the process. I was young then. 21 years old then. You know. I'm turning 49 in January. I don't have the same outlook no more. I don't have the same ideologies. I don't have the same values, instilled street values. Don't abide by that, know what I'm saying?

Earlone [00:20:22.10]: Richard's not getting any younger himself, and he's had his own health problems.

Richard [00:20:27.04]: I done had a seizure a couple weeks ago, and the only thing I can think about is taking care of them fellas. It's the only thing I can think about.

Earlonne [00:20:38.00]: Like we said, the Gold Coats weren't around when T was dying. When we come back from the break, we'll hear what Lonnie did.

Female [00:20:46.01]: [rising music] 'Ear Hustle' is brought to you by Texture. If you want to read your favorite magazines but don't want to carry around a heavy stack of them, get the Texture app. Texture gives you easy access to hundreds of magazines like 'National Geographic', 'The New Yorker', 'Fast Company', and 'Rolling Stone' directly on your tablet or phone seconds after they hit newsstands. And the Texture app's Top Stories and New & Noteworthy sections are updated throughout the day to help you feed your curiosities and keep up with the latest big stories. Texture is normally \$9.99 a month, but 'Ear Hustle' listeners who sign up right now at Texture.com/earhustle get a 14-day free trial. That's 14 days to try Texture for free when you go to Texture.com/earhustle. Start your free trial today and download the app. Texture.com/earhustle

Nigel [00:21:41.06]: [jarring piano music] So, T is dying in his cell, but he refuses to go to the hospital, and Lonnie, his cellie, is having a really hard time with it.

Lonnie [00:21:48.25]: I can't do it. He has to go. And, and, and I told him that. And, um, they came and got him, and they took him to the hospital. And, um, when he got up to the hospital, he told dudes, "Ah, man. Lonnie sold me out. Called the medical people on me and had me sent over here to the hospital. I don't need to be over here." He was complaining and I was very, very, very angry. I was incensed. I was like, "I'll be damned."

I took care of this dude all this damn time. Did all this stuff for him, and uh, he gonna say now that I crossed him into the hospital? What the hell am supposed to do? So, I was just really angry about that. And I remember sending word up there, and I felt bad after I did because this man is dying. You know, but my anger got the best of me. I said, "Man, well, you tell T to go to hell, bro. You know, he's a damn underappreciating dude that after all I done, he gonna send word out here that I sold him out." I said, "That's BS." You know, and I was cussing then. I'm not tryin' not to cuss right now. But, anyway, that was the really difficult part. That this was the way the relationship, you know, kind of ended. He stayed up in the hospital a month or two and then he died, so they, you know, obviously, they came and told me he had died and all that. Yeah, and then we had a memorial service for him. You know. Went to that. And, you know. Yeah. Yeah.

Nigel [00:23:11.25]: [light, airy music with bass beat] Thanks to Lonnie Morris for sharing his story.

Earlone [00:23:14.18]: Yeah. That was a hard one. Thanks also to Richard for coming onto the podcast and explaining what a Gold Coat does. Keep up the good work, Richard, but also, take care of yourself. Our sound designer is Antwan Williams. Pat Mesiti Miller is our outside production advisor. Our story editor is Curtis Fox and our executive producer for Radiotopia is Julie Shapiro.

Nigel [00:23:42.16]: We also want to thank Warden Ron Davis and, as you know, every episode has to be approved by this guy here.

Sam Robinson [00:23:49.00]: I am Lieutenant Sam Robinson, the public information officer at San Quentin State Prison, and I approve this story.

Earlone [00:23:55.25]: Next time on 'Ear Hustle', our final episode of the season. It's about getting out of prison the right way and the wrong way.

Male [00:24:03.18]: I didn't really know if I was going to make it, but I had put so much effort into it, and I had planned it, you know, I had to ask myself. You know, you talk a good story. Now, see if you're going to follow through.

Nigel [00:24:16.12]: '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.

Earlone [00:24:28.18]: Please follow us on Twitter and Instagram @earhustlesq and for more information on all things 'Ear Hustle', go to our website: earhustlesq.com. Nigel has been telling me about all those iTunes reviews, and thank you. Thank you for all the positive reviews. We appreciate that. So, for Sarah Koenig and Earlone Woods, I'm Nigel- [laughs]

Nigel [00:24:51.28]: Wait a minute. [laughs] I do not sound like Sarah Koenig. I don't care what people say.

Earlone [00:24:59.19]: That's a compliment.

Nigel [00:25:00.24]: I know, but I just don't hear it.

Andres [00:25:03.24]: Don't be pimpin' on the table. I can't stop him. He's mackin' and pimpin' every time I see him. You guys go to sleep and dream about and wake up and think the game is real. That a game. That's dreams.

Nigel [00:25:16.00]: And thanks to Andrea Eric Watson for popping into our studio and talking some shit.

Male [00:25:20.04]: When I started talking to you, you stated sharpening me up on different things, but-

Andres [00:25:23.28]: Well, it must not be taking, because as long as I been trying to sharpen you up, you still dull.

Earlone [00:25:28.19]: On the real, though, I'm Earlone Woods.

Nigel [00:25:30.20]: And I'm Nigel Poor. Thanks for listening.

Radiotopia outro [00:25:38.08]: Radiotopia from PRX.

Female [00:25:46.19]: Thanks for listening and thanks to Adzerk for providing their ad serving platform to Radiotopia.