Man and Man Siena Marilyn Ledger (858) 722-6766

8:00 AM

A middle-age INMATE wearing tan prison overalls is in a solitary cell. He has had relatively no contact with anyone in nearly eight years. He sits on a cot facing the rear of the room. A young WARDEN enters.

WARDEN:

Hi. Good morning. I am going to be assisting you today. I have a new pair of overalls for you. They're clean. If you want to change into those.

It's protocol that I tell you the... Itinerary: I've given you the overalls... Next, you have the right to a final visit with family and or loved ones. Following, you will be given your final meal of choice. You then have the option of taking last rites with a priest, or a minister before the—

INMATE:

Buzz.

WARDEN:

The execution begins. Is there anyone I should contact, anyone who you want to see before-

INMATE: No.

WARDEN: Are you sure?

INMATE: Yes.

WARDEN:

Alright then. You have about six hours before we begin... Do you know now what you would like to eat, I can get that under way.

INMATE: Live organs.

WARDEN: What?

INMATE turns to face WARDEN.

INMATE: An orange.

WARDEN: That's all that you want?

INMATE: Yea.

WARDEN: Alright then.

INMATE turns back to face the wall. WARDEN exits the cell.

11:30 AM

INMATE is standing in the middle of the cell at rise. WARDEN enters with a large orange on a white plate on a plastic tray.

WARDEN: An orange.

INMATE:

Thank you.

WARDEN: Why an orange?

INMATE: I thought this room could use a little color.

WARDEN: What?

INMATE: The walls are so... Bleak. And everything is gray. Even this, I remember when this was orange...

INMATE refers to the overalls.

INMATE:

Now it's this lifeless, this manila color. I miss the orange ones. I miss orange. So I asked for the color orange.

WARDEN: That isn't the color though, that is the fruit.

INMATE: It may be a fruit, but it still has the color. It still has orange. An orange is still orange.

INMATE offers a piece of the orange to WARDEN.

WARDEN: Well I guess.

INMATE: I guess.. that's kind of how it is though, isn't it?

WARDEN: How what is?

INMATE: This.

WARDEN: Execution?

INMATE: Yeah.

WARDEN: I'm not following you.

INMATE:

When you get here, not you, me. When I get here... I am not a person anymore, am I? I am not orange. I'm just fruit. I mean I lose, no, everyone else, all of you lose the ability to see me as anything but fruit. You don't see the orange. But I still am. I am orange, I am man.

WARDEN: What's your point?