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JOURNAL ENTRY

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In NK Jemisin's Broken Earth Trilogy, orogenes are a class of people who use magic to control nature (stop earthquakes, move inconvenient boulders). Problem is, they're taught and trained to be tools, that their gifts are only good as long as ~~the~~ they're useful to the state. They're trained harshly, since without control their magic can easily kill. They're bred to make more powerful generations, better tools.

This last week and a half, I totally sympathize (empathize? feel the same as). There were 3 intra-gang fights on Tuesday, and we got locked down. The rest of the week, we've been let out of our cages to go to work, back to the unit to be locked down and then out for an hour to shower. The 1st night, we didn't even get a shower. Just tools (slaves) to be taken out, used, then put away.

It's the hypocrisy that infuriates me: if the situation is so serious, that we're locked down, why are we sent to work, where we've got access to hammers, 2x4s, seam rippers and there's multiple gang members? If it's not that serious, and it's "safe" for 200+ people to be around each other with only 5 staff members supervising, why are we locked down?

And why is the laundry not open? Are the dozen people there under more danger? Why can we work but not have clean clothes?

Since Christmas, we have an unbroken record of being
locked down for at least 1 day every week.
I don't even know what to feel anymore. Despair? Anger?



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