Dead Man Walking

Sister Helen Prejean’s Speech was a really great one and I really enjoyed it. She didn’t shy away from any of the details throughout the speech and that kept me interested the entire time. One of the parts that caught my attention the most is when she explained how she got introduced into the justice system and the death penalty. It all started when someone asked her if she wanted to be a pen pal to an inmate on death row and she said sure and she wrote him and he wrote back. She then later found out he could get visitors so she went to visit, thinking it would be a one time thing, and after that she said that “her journey had begun.”

She later explained when she finally went to talk to the victims families and the father of the boy who was killed really touched her when he said that instead of giving the two brothers spiritual guidance his family was who she should’ve been helping. She later then gave credit to the father when she said he was the real hero of the book “Dead Man Walking”
Sister Helen also talked about the death penalty from the view of the guards who were in the room during the execution. She said they had to practice strapping down the victim quickly when he was calm but also when they knew he would put up a fight. She then said one of the guards told her that after an execution it would take him a while to clear his head, his wife and kids knew to leave him alone until he was good to go.