

**TERRELL C. WRIGHT: BLOOD SOLDIER REBORN.** By Soul Man.  
Gangbanging on the streets of South Central. It's a lifestyle in Cali. A vicious cycle that repeats itself generation after generation. Young black and brown soldiers representing their hoods and dying on the field of battle. There are only two outcomes for a gangbanger—death and/or jail. On the mean streets of L.A., that's life. Living in the concrete jungle of the City of Angels is no joke. And a new book by convict author Terrell C. Wright, a.k.a. Loko, delves deep into gangbanging culture and what it truly represents.

"I've always wanted to tell my story as a Blood soldier," Terrell says of his book, "Home of the Bodybags" on Senegal Press, which takes a harrowing look at the Blood's lifestyle. "I felt it was way overdue for a Blood soldier from the field of battle to tell a Blood tale from the Blood's side of the fence. The neighborhood Blood's in particular."

The 37-year-old who says he's "still pushing around like I'm 20," is incarcerated for a Beverly Hills jewelry store robbery where an estimated three-quarters of a million dollars worth of jewelry was taken. Of the venture Terrell says, "It wasn't no walk in the park. The establishment was some two stories high with a 21-camera count and with two security guards. In the end we were snitched out with a reward for informa-

are Crips who have brought my book here and had me sign it. And there are the haters, who are not confident in their gangsterism. In other words they can't see themselves giving a Blood soldier of my status props. But like I said in the opening pages of my book, Teflon bullets to all of the haters and I meant that." But looking at the bigger picture is the book a way to stop others from entering the harrowing world of gangbanging?

"Yes," Terrell says. "I would not encourage no youngster who has read my book to follow in my footsteps. It's not for everybody. I honestly encourage all who read my book to stay focused and I encourage all to do something positive with their lives. Don't follow in my footsteps." And the book is doing well too.

"My sales are still growing. If I were to give you an analogy my sales would be compared to an avalanche growing in size and moving faster, soon to be out of control." Terrell says and there are more books planned.

"My next book, 'Revelations of an Ordinary Childhood' is

# HOME OF THE BODY BAGS

tion leading to our arrests." Terrell is serving a sentence for the charge at State prison in California Department of Corrections.

Terrell's case helped to lead to the writing of this book. "With my high publicity case, coupled with my well known name throughout L.A., I was the perfect candidate from the Gang Unit inside the Los Angeles County jail where I met my publisher. She had come to the jail to do interviews of black gangsters and their lives," Terrell says. "I conducted my interview which eventually led to my present book deal." And Terrell has an extensive gang history, too.

"I was born and raised in South Central, Los Scandalous—as most gangsters here in L.A. like to refer to the city," he says. "I've lived on the East and the West side of the city which is better known as the home of the body bags." Hence the title for the book.

"Every neighborhood I grew up in was gang-infested and eventually that presence of the gangsters started to weigh on me and eventually it influenced me." And as the book is autobiographical, Terrell brings it all to life. Terrell continues, "By 1982 I was a full fledged L.A. gangsta and the rest is history.

On what he hopes to accomplish with the book Terrell says, "I'm a faithful Blood soldier with experience dripping from my brow. And I've always had an innate desire of wanting to share the Blood experience with the world at large. So basically I've always wanted to pull back the flaming red bandana and allow the world a private peep into the world of Bloods." But in a world where the code of omerta is enforced by gunplay, how have Terrell's homies responded to his depictions in the book and its exposure of their lifestyle?

"My homies love the book actually," he says. "But then again they love me so they have ultimate faith in me and what I do. They're waiting on the next book to see if their name will be in it. But to sum it all up, my homies love me unconditionally." The respect given to a true comrade-in-arms.

And on being a Blood and what it means, Terrell says, "To me, it could be summed up in a few short words: a courageous person with the heart of three people combined. The Blood Army is always outnumbered in any given situation. Therefore, since we have the odds always stacked up against us by so many combat troops from so many opposing armies, the Bloods have to have twice the courage in the field of battle which is everywhere or we could cease to exist as an entity. And for me to be a Blood soldier is something I have no regrets about. The experience is something invaluable to me." And brutal to the world at large. The inner-city of L.A. is a war zone. But how are his fellow prisoners taking the book?

"In here I'm only accountable for the Blood army," Terrell says. "And frankly I'm not interested in what the other groups have to say because in my book it's plain that they are my enemies." But all that aside Terrell is a public figure. "Don't get me wrong, there

out this spring. It'll be available at [senegalpress.com](http://senegalpress.com) just like the "Home of the Bodybags," Terrell says. "The book is about my life in the pre-banging stages. I have a third book finished, 'T.H.U.G.S. The Hustlers Ultimate Goal is Success,' that is fiction. Alejandro Alonso from [streetgangs.com](http://streetgangs.com) will be publishing that this summer. And I have a surprise for my fans. I'm presently writing part two of 'Home of the Bodybags.' It will be available at [streetgangs.com](http://streetgangs.com) by the end of the year. I plan to write at least 20 more books, maybe more, who knows." Terrell stays busy penning tomes because he also has a family to work for.

"I'm a father of two beautiful daughters who I love dearly," he says. He also insists that his life isn't all about gangbanging. "I've always considered myself to be a person who wears different hats—my gangsta hat which my enemies and friends alike understand and know, and my educational hat where I'm buried in to one book after another. I love history, philosophy and political science. In the end I'm a man that's multi-complex." With his new life as a writer Terrell has taken to wearing another hat.

"I've always felt I had an author dwelling inside of me," he says. "But it was the addictive high of being on the streets which kept me from taking out some quality time for myself to sit and write. But now since I've done it this is my new addiction. I'ma do it until I reach that 20-book mark."

In closing, Terrell C. Wright, a.k.a. Loko, Blood soldier and convict author says, "I would like to give my DAMU, love and respects to all DAMUS from the West coast to the East coast, Midwest and in the South—Suwhoooooooop!"

From the streets to the penitentiary that's straight from the mouth of a Blood soldier.

For more info on Terrell C. Wright's literary works visit [www.senegalpress.com](http://www.senegalpress.com).

