

Charlie Acker Came Back¹
by Larry White (Papa Rage)²

When I got word that Charlie Acker had died, I was kind of doubtful about it. It just didn't seem certain that Charlie Acker would lie down and that was it. Like it was all over and done with.

Charle Acker, as he came to be referred to at the Haven, is renown, even among prisoners who never met him, as the one who rose from the dead. The living dead, that is.

Charle Acker was a heavy, a lifer serving twenty-five or so to life. And as often happens to heavies, he became overwhelmed by the enormity of his situation and bugged-out, as they say. He became one of the living dead. A state of being most feared by all those serving heavy time. It was the no-no of all no-nos, for few rarely ever returned from the land of the living dead. And those few who did, never returned whole and all together. They may have managed to get better, but they never got well!

But Charle Acker did come back and is remembered even today, years after as one of the prison yard legends. Charle Acker, the one who rose from the dead!

For some the myth of Charle Acker, the Rev. and the Exodus Cadre, are part of prison yard fantasy. But for me it is as real as that thirty-foot wall.

Rest in peace Charle!!

¹ For more about founder Charlie Acker see Rev. Muller's Study Paper "Hope is Foundational."

² In this paper Larry refers to himself as Papa Rage, but he became, almost universally, known as Luqman (look mahn).