



**Born - February 11, 1945 --  
Assassinated - January 17, 1969**

*Below is a letter written to  
John Huggins by his wife  
Ericka prior to his assassination  
by the US organization*

my jon,

sometimes i feel as though our — my — your purpose here was to do exactly what we are doing now. trying to end oppression and murder of black people — of all oppressed people. i feel that we as ericka and jon were destined from birth to die for the liberation of — the shackled and chained. our child was conceived out of revolutionary love and so shall it be born.

i only wish that you and i will live to see it love and understand the people, the oppression, our world and the decadence that for so many years we have lived with. it sounds selfish to want to live any longer than we are supposed to but i want to watch this child's mind grow as strong as its body must.

i think that i have come to a conclusion through objective analysis, that is i love you — with all the terrible and draining consequences that are part of loving a revolutionary. but you are aware of those beautiful things that are every day expressed in my face. so i thank you — for if i am strong you have made me strong — if i am patient — you have made me patient, if i am headed in the right political direction — you have led me toward the development of the correct ideology.

if you do not return tonight — or tomorrow night — i will know that it is because you are laying the foundation so that our small and helpless little man will be able to fight one day a battle supported by the people.

i am hoping that however far we may stray from each other physically, our minds will be one and you will carry me with you wherever you go, even after death. i will always love you for your strength,

all power to the people  
black power to black people  
panther power to the vanguard

— love ericka