

# POEM; Something We Miss in This Country... In Honor of Pat Tillman

A Poem for Glenn Beck

By [Prof Peter Dale Scott](#)

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Theme: [History](#), [US NATO War Agenda](#)

(November 6, 1976-April 22, 2004)

## A Poem for Glenn Beck

In Honor of Pat Tillman

Glenn Beck! There is something we miss

in this country

that has made both of us

think about *honor*

and since you have just had the decency

to apologize on Fox News

*August 29, 2010*

*(I have a big fat mouth)*

for calling our President a *racist*

*New York Times, August 29 2010*

let me apologize in turn

for writing a whole book about America

of one hundred thousand words

in which the noun *honor* does not occur

*American War Machine*

when both of us

along with your huge red state audience

and my tiny blue state one

should be able to agree

to recognize and celebrate  
the honor of Pat Tillman  
who gave up a lucrative NFL career  
to enlist as a U.S. Ranger  
and fought in the Iraq war  
with (as he noted in his journal)  
*little or no justification*

*other than our imperial whim*

*Krakauer Where Men Win Glory 167*

and then after emails  
about his desire to talk to Chomsky  
was killed two months later  
by a comrade in “friendly fire”

*Krakauer Where Men Win Glory 227*

Pat Tillman is what we have missed for a long time —  
a national hero!

Not like the hypocrites above him  
as high as the level of Rumsfeld’s office  
and eventually the White House

*Krakauer Where Men Win Glory 307-8 324*

who in an election year  
ordered a cover-up  
and then a cover-up of the cover-up  
burning his clothes and his notebook  
in what his Ranger brother called  
a series of *intentional falsehoods*  
*that meet the legal definition for fraud*

*Krakauer Where Men Win Glory 319*

(with the destruction of evidence  
and three bullet holes  
*in a tight cluster* in the forehead

the doctor suspected *criminal intent*)

Krakauer *Where Men Win Glory* 317

Where are you Woody Guthrie?

And where are you Pete Seeger?

Is there not now some Leonard Cohen

who can bring us all together

to sing in the football stadiums

and poetry boutiques

across America

in honor of Pat Tillman

and condemn those hypocrites

who as could have been predicted

punished the men at the bottom

including the innocent

Krakauer *Where Men Win Glory* 311

while General McChrystal of JSOC

*Joint Special Operations Command*

*whom the Army's own inquiry*

*recommended be disciplined*

for giving *misleading answers*

<http://www.johntreed.com/McChrystal.html>

and who had already presided

over the torture and cover-up at Camp Nama  
2006

*Esquire* August

was  
rank?

*promoted*

to

the

*highest*

<http://www.johntreed.com/McChrystal.html>

Cf. Jon Krakauer, *Where Men Win Glory: the Odyssey of Pat Tillman* (New York: Doubleday, 2009)

*Peter Dale Scott's latest book of poems, Mosaic Orpheus, appeared in 2009 from McGill-Queen's University Press. It [can be ordered from Amazon.com](#). His other chief poetry books are the three volumes of his trilogy Seculum: Coming to Jakarta: A Poem About Terror*

(1989), *Listening to the Candle: A Poem on Impulse* (1992), and *Minding the Darkness: A Poem for the Year 2000*. In addition he has published *Crossing Borders: Selected Shorter Poems* (1994), published in Canada as *Murmur of the Stars*. In November 2002 he was awarded the Lannan Poetry Award.

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