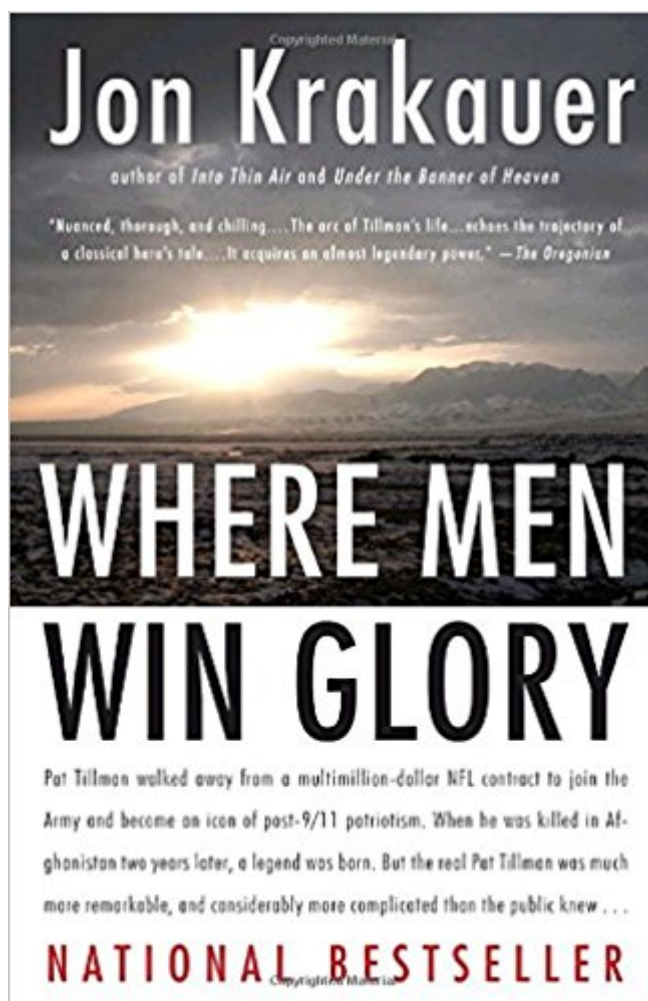


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Where Men Win Glory: The Odyssey Of Pat Tillman



Synopsis

This edition has been updated to reflect new developments and includes new material obtained through the Freedom of Information Act. Pat Tillman walked away from a multimillion-dollar NFL contract to join the Army and became an icon of post-9/11 patriotism. When he was killed in Afghanistan two years later, a legend was born. But the real Pat Tillman was much more remarkable, and considerably more complicated than the public knew...A stunning account of a remarkable young man's heroic life and death, from the bestselling author of *Into the Wild*, *Into Thin Air*, and *Under the Banner of Heaven*.

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Customer Reviews

Book Description The bestselling author of *Into the Wild*, *Into Thin Air*, and *Under the Banner of Heaven* delivers a stunning, eloquent account of a remarkable young man's haunting journey. Like the men whose epic stories Jon Krakauer has told in his previous bestsellers, Pat Tillman was an irrepressible individualist and iconoclast. In May 2002, Tillman walked away from his \$3.6 million NFL contract to enlist in the United States Army. He was deeply troubled by 9/11, and he felt a strong moral obligation to join the fight against al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Two years later, he died on a desolate hillside in southeastern Afghanistan. Though obvious to most of the two dozen soldiers on the scene that a ranger in Tillman's own platoon had fired the fatal shots, the Army aggressively maneuvered to keep this information from Tillman's wife, other family members, and the American public for five weeks following his death. During this time,

President Bush repeatedly invoked Tillman's name to promote his administration's foreign policy. Long after Tillman's nationally televised memorial service, the Army grudgingly notified his closest relatives that he had "probably" been killed by friendly fire while it continued to dissemble about the details of his death and who was responsible. In *Where Men Win Glory*, Jon Krakauer draws on Tillman's journals and letters, interviews with his wife and friends, conversations with the soldiers who served alongside him, and extensive research on the ground in Afghanistan to render an intricate mosaic of this driven, complex, and uncommonly compelling figure as well as the definitive account of the events and actions that led to his death. Before he enlisted in the army, Tillman was familiar to sports aficionados as an undersized, overachieving Arizona Cardinals safety whose virtuosity in the defensive backfield was spellbinding. With his shoulder-length hair, outspoken views, and boundless intellectual curiosity, Tillman was considered a maverick. America was fascinated when he traded the bright lights and riches of the NFL for boot camp and a buzz cut. Sent first to Iraq—a war he would openly declare was "illegal as hell"—and eventually to Afghanistan, Tillman was driven by complicated, emotionally charged, sometimes contradictory notions of duty, honor, justice, patriotism, and masculine pride, and he was determined to serve his entire three-year commitment. But on April 22, 2004, his life would end in a barrage of bullets fired by his fellow soldiers. Krakauer chronicles Tillman's riveting, tragic odyssey in engrossing detail highlighting his remarkable character and personality while closely examining the murky, heartbreaking circumstances of his death. Infused with the power and authenticity readers have come to expect from Krakauer's storytelling, *Where Men Win Glory* exposes shattering truths about men and war.

Exclusive: Jon Krakauer in Afghanistan

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Krakauer and First Lieutenant Eric Hayes on a foot patrol along the Afghanistan Pakistan border. (Photo © Dennis Knowles) Krakauer doing Humvee maintenance, 2007. (Photo © Eric Hayes) Observation Post, Forward Operating Base Tillman

--This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Starred Review. There may be no better example of the tragic aftermath of 9/11 than the story of pro-football-player-turned-Army Ranger Pat Tillman, whose death in the wilds of Afghanistan in 2004 created a scandal of government cover-up. In this masterful work, bestselling adventure writer Jon Krakauer (*Into the Wild*) renders an intimate portrait of Tillman and brilliantly captures the sadness, madness and heroism of the post-9/11 world. After the attacks, Tillman, a rising football star, eschewed a \$3.6 million NFL deal with the Arizona Cardinals to join the military with his

brother. From the outset, Pat was elevated by politicians and pundits as a symbol of America's resolve, a role he detested and shunned, believing his football career afforded him no special status. After a grueling three-year training with the elite Army Rangers, however, instead of fighting terrorists, he found himself first deployed to Iraq--a war he called "an imperial whim." Tillman was later redeployed to Afghanistan, where he was killed in an almost unfathomable incident of friendly fire, which the Army obfuscated for weeks while the government hailed Tillman as a hero. Drawing on interviews with family, fellow soldiers and correspondence, Krakauer's page-turning account captures every detail--Tillman's extraordinary character, including the "tragic virtues" that led him to give up a comfortable life and athletic stardom for the army; the harshness of military training and life; the rugged terrain of remote Afghanistan--and, of course, the ravages of war. Most critically, Krakauer, by telling Tillman's personal story and blowing apart the "cynical cover-up" that followed his killing, Krakauer lays bare the best--and worst--of America's War on Terror. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

I was blown away by this book. The way the Tillman family was treated by the US Army after Pat died was heartbreaking. Like most Americans, I love my country. However, this book helped me to understand what I think we all suspect. The US government and military will do what is right for themselves, not what is right for its people or its soldiers. Our country is headed for a dark place if this type of leadership is allowed to continue. I've never read about or heard of a man like Pat Tillman. Men like Pat (if they even exist) are the unique type of human being truly capable of altruistic leadership, but how can these men succeed in a culture where cheaters and liars have the obvious advantage and are the type that covet positions of power?? This book was enlightening, concerning, and inspiring. Krakauer is a fine writer and I'm very thankful that he shared Pat Tillman's story. THANK YOU!

Excellent account of the conspiracy to cover up the death of Pat Tillman by friendly fire. Were it not for the courageous, persistent, relentless pressure put on the military by Pat's mother, Mary Tillman, the truth would never have been revealed to the public by the military who were trying to cover up the fratricide. Mary, Kevin (Pat's brother) and Mary's brother Mike held the military accountable and were shocked to learn that the men responsible for killing Pat and his commanding officers were not going to be punished for the murder and cover up!

I'm already a Krakauer fan, so I knew going into this story that it would be skillfully researched and written. I was very ignorant of the circumstances surrounding Pat Tillman's death and of the subsequent subterfuge that followed. Krakauer was able to make sense of the complicated events that led up to, and followed, Pat Tillman's death. Jon Krakauer's unrivaled ability to bring clarity out of chaos is at its best in "Where Men Win Glory." Pat Tillman was a remarkable human being; his story is told with the dignity and respect that he deserves. I loved reading quotes from his journal entries; he was an incredibly intelligent, compassionate and enlightened person who loved his family and adored his wife, Marie. He lived his life on a daily basis in congruence with his ideology. Material things meant nothing to him! He left that all behind, and despite being disillusioned with the war, he did his job with the utmost integrity. Unfortunately, he wasn't shown that same virtue in return! I am so touched and inspired by Pats character and his love of life; his unwillingness to take the easy way out. I have so much respect for his family, particularly his mother and brother Kevin, for their courage and continuing efforts to uncover the truth! I have three sons myself, and I only hope I do half as good of a job as Pat Tillman's mother did in raising him and his brothers! Wonderful book, definitely a must read!!!

Bought this for my father who is a die hard AZ Cardinal fan and obviously a Tillman fan as well. He is conservative BUT loved it none the less (I decided to go for it despite some of the negative reviews on here). In fact he bought 2 other books by Krakauer because of this book which I think is a good sign of his opinion. So as a GIFT, 5 Stars!

Oh boy, can you say tangent? Krakauer goes on these long tangents to fill the needed page count. Holy cow. It would be great to just get the straight story without all the long ass tangent side stories. After reading Under A Banner of Heaven I question Krakauer research and spinning of history. Still in the end the Pat Tillman story is an awesome story.

A very complex man with a personal code of living and a strong sense of patriotism. It is such a shame as what happened to him, with the BS story from Washington and the Army, much the same as what happened to Jessica Lynch when the country was so in need of heroes. Even wonder why the citizenry has a jaded impression of our leaders. including supposedly men of integrity like our generals? As usual, the writing is excellent and obviously Jan did his research. This is an excellent piece of history about our military.

Jon Krakauer is an excellent storyteller and unusually thorough in his approach to all of his subjects. This book is no different. Where some see a political agenda, I see an unflinching and objective analysis of what evidence remained after the events unfolded, and those with a vested interest in preserving an endeavor that they fully believed was in the best interest of our country, attempted to control the damage of a tragic event that took the life of a true patriot and inspirational young hero. The reason that this book is so worth reading is that it illuminates a remarkable man, his young life, maturation, motives for making extraordinarily difficult decisions that put his life in peril, and the myriad unforeseen variables that came to play and ultimately led to his demise. I am so grateful to have read this book and been blown away by what a complex and inspirational man existed behind the popular character that mistook for Pat Tillman. Pat was a man of rare character. He lived well and affected many lives in the most positive way possible, living by a set of ideals that were always under scrutiny yet never daunting due to adversity encountered in the pursuit thereof.

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