

# Barbed Wire Halo

Aaron Watson

Well God bless Texas  
And Deakon Shackelford  
He read the bible seven times  
And he believed every word  
That ol' beat up leather book had been through it all  
He sat on the back pew so he could chew him a chaw  
Singin'  
"Amazing Grace  
How sweet the sound"  
That saved a wretch like me  
He carried candy for the kids in his Sunday dress coat  
He'd take me fishin' after church  
And taught me things I needed to know  
No, Deakon didn't have a family  
Lord knows he wished he did  
He told the whole congregation that I was his grandkid

And today he joined up with Jesus  
Wearing shiny pearl snaps  
We sang a few gospel hymns  
And then the soldier played taps  
I bet he's walkin' with Pete down the street paved with gold  
Showin' off his brand spanking new wings  
And his barbed wire halo

He married sweet Emma Grace before the war was through  
She held his right arm next to his anchor tatoo  
He was on a ship off at sea when she died in child birth  
He lost his whole world from the far side of the earth  
He lost the will to love  
He lost the will to live  
Until he met a man who taught him to forgive  
Yeah life took him to hell and back  
To hell and back a time or two  
But in the end he beat the devil until he was black and blue  
Singin'  
"I once was lost  
But now I'm found  
Was blind  
But now I see"

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Before he went he made me promise him that I wouldn't cry  
And though I told him that I wouldn't I couldn't help but lie  
Cause today he joined up with Jesus  
Wearing shiny pearl snaps  
We sang a few gospel hymns  
And then the soldier played taps  
I bet he's walking with Pete down the street paved with gold  
As sure as the old church bell still rings

He always said he had country in his soul  
He's showing off his brand spanking new wings  
And his barbed wire halo  
Sweet chariots coming forth to carry me home