

# Tom T. Hall, Turn It On, Turn It On, Turn It On

Johnny got up one morning; he went down to the company store  
Got him a big box of bullets to fit into his .44  
The store man said, "Son, are you gonna work? You know you owe me too much to stop.&quot;  
John said, "I got a little workin' to do but I ain't goin' by your clock.&quot;  
People said John was a slacker, 'cause he wouldn't fight in their war  
A man wasn't much if he wouldn't fight back in 1940 and 4  
The doctor said John was just too sick to go, but the people said that he was a coward  
And one of the men makin' fun of him was a fellow named Milton Howard  
Milton was down at the cold spring, a-drinkin' from a mason jar  
He said, "John, you better get yourself to work or you're gonna fool around 'til you get fired.&quot;  
John blew the dust from his old .44, put two holes in Milton's head  
When Johnny walked off to get some more shootin' done, that ol' cold spring was a-runnin' red  
Next guy he met was a Stigall boy, and the boy had a hammer in his hand  
John said "Son, you should've built yourself a box, 'cause you're a headed for the Promised Land  
Stigall fell down to his knees to pray, and he cried "Lord, Johnny please don't shoot!&quot;  
Before he got halfway to saying "Amen&quot;, well old Johnny shot him out of his boots  
Word went out through the county, that old John had lost his head  
The people were runnin' and screamin'; there were seven of 'em lyin' there dead  
Johnny hid out in a farmhouse; he had satisfaction in his eyes  
He said "I know they're coming to get me, boys, but they ain't a-gonna take me alive.&quot;  
People gathered 'round that old farmhouse; it was the relatives of all them dead  
Now John said, "If the sheriff comes through that door I'm gonna fill him plumb full of lead.&quot;  
The sheriff kicked down that old farmhouse door, but old John's gun would not shoot  
Johnny just smiled at the sheriff and said, "The Lord must think a lot of you.&quot;  
They took old John to the jailhouse; he entered in a guilty plea  
The judge said death in the electric chair, 'cause it's murder in the first degree  
John's last meal was a lot of fried chicken, cold beans and baby squash  
He ate every bite that they brought him, then he smiled and said, "I thank you all a lot.&quot;  
They put old John in the electric chair; they shaved his ankles and his head  
The preacher said, "Son, have you got something to say; in a minute you're a-gonna be dead  
John said, "I ain't no coward, and the people know that I won't run.&quot;  
Then Johnny smiled up at the warden and said, "Turn it on, turn it on, turn it on!&quot;