

## A Simple Eagle Ceremony

*(The Honor Guard escorts the Eagle candidate and family to their seats.)*

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Scout Oath**

Senior Patrol Leader

SPL *(raise Scout sign)*: “Ladies and Gentlemen, may I have your attention please.”

*(When all are quiet)* “As Senior Patrol Leader of Troop XXX, I call to order all who assemble here to honor *(Eagle Candidate’s name)* as he receives his Eagle Scout award, the highest rank that can be earned by a Boy Scout. Please rise.”

“Color Guard, advance the colors. ... Halt! ... Switch. ... Present the colors.”

*(Announce)* “Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. ... Scouts, Salute!”

*(Turning to salute the flag, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.)*

*(At completion)* “Ready, two. ... Boy Scouts, please render the Scout Sign and say the Scout Oath.”

*(Lead the Scout Oath.)* “On my honor...”

*(At completion, lower Scout Sign)* “Post the Colors! ... Please be seated.”

**Welcome**

Scoutmaster

SCOUTMASTER: “Good evening. As Scoutmaster, and on behalf of Troop XXX, I welcome you to this Eagle Court of Honor for *(Eagle Candidate’s name)*. Many Scouts set out on the Trail to Eagle, but few have the perseverance to follow it to the end. *(Scout’s name)* is one of those few, and we are here tonight to honor his great achievement.

Our advancement chairman will now present the record of your achievement.”

**Review of Candidate’s Scouting Record**

Advancement Chairman

ADVANCEMENT CHAIRMAN: “*(Scout’s name)* joined ...

*(Scout’s Name)* has earned *(number)* merit badges, including those required for the rank of Eagle Scout. Following is a recitation of *(Scout’s)* merit badges: ...

“For his Eagle project, *(Scout’s Name)* ...”

SCOUTMASTER: “That is a list of accomplishments of which you may be justly proud.”

“The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest honor that can be bestowed by the Boy Scouts of America, and by that rank you will always be distinguished. With this high honor also comes a high obligation. I now call upon Eagle Scout (*Name*) to review the Eagle Challenge and to lead the Eagle Scout Promise.”

### **The Eagle Challenge or Obligation**

Honored Eagle Scout

HONORED EAGLE SCOUT: “The majestic eagle is the living symbol of all courageous and freedom-aspiring Americans. When the Eagle Scout badge was designed in 1912, it consisted of a silver eagle suspended from a tricolor ribbon of red, white, and blue. So it remains today.”

“The foremost responsibility of an Eagle Scout is to live with honor. To an Eagle Scout, honor is the foundation of all character. He knows that 'a Scout is trustworthy' is the very first point of the Scout Law for a good reason. An Eagle Scout lives honorably, not only because honor is important to him, but also because of the vital significance of the example he sets for other Scouts. Living honorably reflects credit on his home, his church, his troop, and his community. May the white of the Eagle Badge remind you always to live with honor.”

“The second obligation of an Eagle Scout is loyalty. A Scout is true to his family, scout leaders, friends, school, and nation. His loyalty to his troop and to brother scouts makes him pitch in and carry his share of the load. His example builds the loyalty that means devotion to community, to country, to one's own ideals, and to God. Let the blue of the Eagle Badge always inspire your loyalty.”

“The third obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be courageous. Courage has always been a quality by which men measure themselves and others. To a scout, bravery means not only the courage to face physical danger, but also the determination to stand up for the right. Trusting in God, with faith in his fellow man, he looks forward to each day, seeking his share of the world's work to do. Let the red of the Eagle Badge remind you always of courage.”

“The fourth obligation of an Eagle Scout is to be cheerful. To remind the Eagle Scout to always wear a smile, the red, white, and blue ribbon is attached to the scroll of the Second Class Scout award, which has its ends turned up in a smile.”

“The final responsibility of an Eagle Scout is service. The Eagle Scout extends a helping hand to those who are still toiling up Scouting's trail, just as others helped him along the Trail to Eagle. The performance of the daily good turn takes on a new meaning when he enters a more adult life of continuing service to others. The Eagle stands as protector of the weak and helpless. He aids and comforts the unfortunate and the oppressed. He upholds the rights of others while defending his own. He will always 'be prepared' to put forth his best.”

“You are deserving of much credit in having achieved Scouting's highest award. However, wear your award with humility, ever mindful that the Eagle Scout is looked up to as an example. May the Scout Oath and the Scout Law be your guide for tomorrow and onward.”

*(Scout's Name)*, are you ready to assume this higher responsibility and to this task pledge your sacred honor?"

EAGLE CANDIDATE: "I am."

HONORED EAGLE SCOUT: "Please present yourself before the Court of Honor."

*(Candidate stands, facing audience.)*

### **The Eagle Promise**

Honored Eagle Scout

HONORED EAGLE SCOUT: "Scouts of all nations make up one of the most wholesome and significant movements in our time. You have been judged by the Boy Scouts of America as being worthy of this honor. All who know you rejoice in your achievement. This award, as you will come to know, is one of both honor and responsibility. You are a marked man. As an Eagle Scout, you assume a solemn obligation to do your duty to God, to Country, to your fellow Scouts, and to mankind in general. This is a great undertaking. As you live up to your obligations you bring honor to yourself and to your brother Scouts."

"America has many good things to give you and your children after you; but these good things depend for the most part on the quality of her citizens. Our country has had a great past. You can help make her future even greater. I charge you to undertake your citizenship with a solemn dedication. Be a leader, but lead only toward the best. Lift up every task you do and every office you hold to the highest level of service to God and to your fellow man."

"So live and serve, that those who know you will be inspired to finer living. I charge you to be among those who dedicate their hearts, hands, skills, and abilities to the common good. Help to build America's future by continuing to set an example of clean living, honest work, unselfish citizenship and reverence for God, whatever others may do. You will leave behind a record of which you may be justly proud."

"Eagle Candidate *(Scout's Name)*, I charge you to enter this Eagle Scout brotherhood holding without reservation and ever before you the ideals of honor and service. By the repetition of the Eagle Scout Promise before your fellow members, you will become an Eagle Scout. When you pledge yourself on your sacred honor, you will be sealing your eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout with the same words which close the Declaration of Independence."

"I call all Eagle Scouts here present to stand and renew your Eagle Scout Promise as *(Scout's Name)* joins our brotherhood. Please make the Scout Sign and repeat after me;

"I reaffirm my allegiance ....

to the three promises of the Scout Oath ....

I thoughtfully recognize ....

and take upon myself ....  
the obligations and responsibilities ....  
of an Eagle Scout. ....  
On my honor, I will do my best ....  
to make my training and example, ....  
my rank and my influence....  
count strongly for better Scouting ....  
and for better citizenship ....  
in my Troop, ....  
in my community, ....  
and in my contacts with other people. ....  
To this I pledge my sacred honor.”

“Please be seated.” (*Candidate remains standing.*)

HONORED EAGLE SCOUT: “Your conduct along the Eagle Trail has been excellent. You have rededicated yourself to the principles of Scouting. But one more thing is important – your future. As an Eagle Scout, you become a guide to other Scouts. You become an example in your community. Remember that your actions are now a little more conspicuous and people will expect more of you. To falter in your responsibility would reflect not only on you, but also on your fellow Eagles and all of Scouting. The torch you carry is not only yours, but it is also ours.”

### **Presentation of the Eagle Award**

Scoutmaster

SCOUTMASTER: “We are finally at that point you have been waiting for. Having confirmed all readiness for the reception of this award, it is now time to formally present this high badge of accomplishment.”

“By the authority vested in me by the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America, it is my privilege and pleasure to pronounce you an Eagle Scout. May the Promise you have made always remain with you.”

“I have here the Eagle Scout certificate and a personal letter of commendation from the Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America and an endorsement from the Scout Executive of the Baltimore Area Council.”

“I also have the badge of the Eagle Scout. I ask your *(mother/father)* to pin the rank of Eagle Scout on your uniform.”

*(Mother or Father pins on the Eagle Badge.)*

“In honor of unnumbered acts of self sacrifice, support, and helpfulness which have led to this night, I ask you now to present your *(mother/father)* with this Eagle pin.”

*(Scout pins the Eagle pin on mother or father. Scout exchanges handshake or hug with his mother and/or father.)*

SCOUTMASTER: “I present to you America’s newest Eagle Scout, *(Scout’s Name)*.”

### **Eagle Response**

New Eagle Scout

*(Thank mother and father for support and encouragement, Scout leaders for their example and instruction, your church and Pastor for spiritual nurture and support, all who helped in your Eagle project, and your Eagle Advisor.)*

### **Congratulatory Remarks**

Father, Mother, Honored Guests

FATHER/MOTHER: “*(comments)*.”

*(Honored Guests’ comments)*

### **Closing Ceremony**

SCOUTMASTER: “Our Senior Patrol Leader will now recess the Colors and adjourn the Court of Honor.”

### **Recess the Colors and Dismissal**

Senior Patrol Leader

SPL: “Color Guard, recess the colors. ... Scouts, salute! ... Ready, two. ... Honor Guard, please escort the Eagle Scout and his family from the Court of Honor.”

*(The Honor Guard escorts the Eagle Scout and family to the back, to greet guests as they exit.)*

SPL: *(When the Eagle Scout and family are in place to greet guests.)*

“I hereby declare this Eagle Court of Honor closed. Please greet the new Eagle Scout.”