

4th of July Poetry

Show the Flag

Edgar Guest



Show the flag and let it wave
As a symbol of the brave;
Let it float upon the breeze
As a sign for each who sees
That beneath it, where it rides,
Loyalty to-day abides.

Show the flag and signify
That it wasn't born to die;
Let its colors speak for you
That you still are standing true,
True in sight of God and man
To the work that flag began.

America the Beautiful

By Katharine Lee Bates

O beautiful for spacious
skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain
majesties Above the fruited
plain! America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!



O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!



O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country
loved, And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

The Flag

By Arthur Macy

Here comes The Flag!

Hail it!

Who dares to drag

Or trail it?

Give it hurrahs, -

Three for the stars,

Three for the bars.

Uncover your head to it!

The soldiers who tread to it

Shout at the sight of it,

The justice and right of it,

The unsullied white of it,

The blue and red of it,

And tyranny's dread of it!



Here comes The Flag!

Cheer it!

Valley and crag

Shall hear it.



Fathers shall bless it,
Children caress it.
All shall maintain it.
No one shall stain it,
Cheers for the sailors that fought on the wave for it,
Cheers for the soldiers that always were brave for it,
Tears for the men that went down to the grave for it!
Here comes The Flag!

THE PATRIOT

By John Le Gay Brereton



The patriot from his walls of brass
Is singing loudly as I pass;
With fearless heart and open eyes,
He shouts the ancient battle cries;
And, where I pause to hear him sing,
A silent crowd is listening.

My country, God bestows by thee
The glory of the world to be
The glory thou alone canst give
To last amid things fugitive.

My country, an ideal form
I see thee splendid in the storm,
Directress of the power divine
That makes the expectant future thine.

My country, all the world shall bow
Before thy peace-conceiving brow,

And all the peoples humbly stand
Submissive to thy blessing hand.

My country, yea, the foes who raise



A tyrant flag shall learn to praise
Thy steadfast love that dares to fight
The horde of Satan for the right.

My country, loveliest, strongest, best,
Thou hast a mission to the rest,

And greater wealth and love shall be
The guerdon of thy ministry.

In every land I hear him sing;
In every land I see him fling
His country's flag against the skies
And gaze aloft with dazzled eyes;
And then his loud applause rings round
His walls of brass with brazen sound;
And deep below his cheering loud
I mark the murmur of the crowd.

THE FLAG OF OUR UNION

By George Pope Morris

"A song for our banner?"--The watchword recall
Which gave the Republic her station:
"United we stand--divided we fall!"--
made and preserves us a nation!
The union of lakes--the union of lands--
The union of States none can sever--
The union of hearts--the union of hands--



It

And the Flag of the Union for ever

And ever!

The Flag of our Union forever!

What God in his mercy and wisdom designed,
And armed with his weapons of thunder,
Not all the earth's despots and factions combined
Have the power to conquer or sunder!

The union of lakes--the union of lands--

The union of states none can sever--

The union of hearts--the union of hands--

And the Flag of the Union for ever

And ever!

The Flag of our Union forever!



Oh, keep that flag flying!--The pride of the van!

To all other nations display it!

The ladies for union are all to a--MAN!

But not to the man who'd betray it.

Then the union of lakes--the union of lands--
- The union of states none can sever--

The union of hearts--the union of hands--

And the Flag of the Union for ever

And ever!

The Flag of our Union forever!