America the Beautiful Lyrics

Words by Katharine Lee Bates, Melody by Samuel Ward

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 of 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!
O beautiful for halcyon skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
   Above the enameled plain!
   America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
Till souls wax fair as earth and air
   And music-hearted sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
   Across the wilderness!
   America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
Till paths be wrought through wilds of thought
   By pilgrim foot and knee!

O beautiful for glory-tale
Of liberating strife,
When once or twice, for man’s avail,
   Men lavished precious life!
   America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
Till selfish gain no longer stain,
   The banner of the free!

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
Till nobler men keep once again
   Thy whiter jubilee!