

**America the Beautiful** by Katharine Lee Bates

*The lyrics of this song are in the public domain.*

<p>O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain, For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!</p>	<p>O beautiful for heroes prov'd In liberating strife, Who more than self their country lov'd, And mercy more than life.</p>
<p>America! America! God shed His grace on thee, And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!</p>	<p>America! America! May God thy gold refine Till all success be nobleness, And ev'ry gain divine.</p>
<p>O beautiful for pilgrim feet Whose stern impassion'd stress A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness</p>	<p>O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by human tears.</p>
<p>America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw, Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.</p>	<p>America! America! God shed His grace on thee, And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.</p>

Common Core Anchor Reading Standard 1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

- ❖ What is the message of this song?
  
- ❖ What parts of the song support that theme?
  
- ❖ Add another section to the song. Continue to support the theme.

**EXCEED:** After students analyze this text, they can write their own, using some of the same techniques to create a persuasive song.