

# America the Beautiful

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 love  
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!

Oh 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 pilgrims foot and knee!**

**Oh beautiful for glory-tale  
Of liberating strife,  
When once and twice for man's avail  
Men lavished precious life!  
America! America!  
God shed His grace on thee,  
Till selfish gain no longer strain  
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!**

by Katherine Lee Bates; (1859-1929) Inspired by a trip to Pikes Peak in 1893, Katherine Lee Bates wrote the poem *America the Beautiful*. Her poem first appeared in print on July 4, 1895 in *The Congregationalist*, a weekly journal. Ms. Bates revised the lyrics in 1904 and again in 1913.