

A NATION BLESSED WITH HEROES

© B.Black

mm - 96; f D A Bm G A

As you tra - - vel in A - - me - ri - - ca Thru her ci - - ties and her
May - be once a year the chil - dren come Bear - ing flags in ti - - ny

D F#m Bm G D G Em7

towns From ___ Key West up to I - - da - ho Or from Maine to Pu - - get
hands To ___ sing "God Bless A - - mer - - i - ca" And to lis - - ten to the

A D A Bm G A

Sound You will find in pla - ces big or small Where ___ e'er your path - way
bands To ___ hear an old man read a speech He can't fin - ish for the

D F#m Bm7 G D G Em

leads A ___ park with a proud me - - mo - - ri - al Full of names that no one
tears Al - ways some - thing a - bout a sac - - ri - fice And the call a young man

A Bm F#m G A

reads Just a lone - - ly slab of gra - - nite Or a sta - tue aged and
hears There are vet' - rans in their u - ni - forms Pla - cing flo - wers near a

D Bm F#m G Em

green Of a pa - tri - - ot who gave his life In de - fense of Free - dom's
stone And a Gold Star Mo - - ther reads a prayer Thru a ras - - py mi - cro -

A11 A7 D A Bm G

dream _____ One who made the ul - - ti - mate sac - ri - fice In some
- phone _____ And the chil - - dren watch with ___ puz - zled eyes As the

Em A D G D

bat - - tle long a - - go But his name we don't re - - mem - - ber And the
high school boy plays taps And they won - der why their ma - mas cry And their

G Em A A G D

bat - tle we don't know _____ We're a na - - tion blessed with he - roes But how
dads take off their caps _____

chorus, after all verses

G A D G Bm D

quick - - ly we for - get The rea - - son why we ho - - nor them And

C Em A Bm G D

why we're in their debt They have of - - fered up their lives for us To

G A Bm C A D

keep us safe and free A na - - tion blessed with he - - roes Is our

G A11 A7 thru D D after last verse D

land of li _____ ber - - ty! _____ (May - be) ty _____

AS YOU TRAVEL IN AMERICA / THRU HER CITIES AND HER TOWNS
FROM KEY WEST UP TO IDAHO / FROM MAINE TO PUGET SOUND
YOU'LL FIND IN PLACES BIG OR SMALL/ WHERE E'ER YOUR PATHWAY LEADS
A PARK WITH A PROUD MEMORIAL/ FULL OF NAMES THAT NO ONE READS

JUST A LONELY SLAB OF GRANITE/ OR A STATUE AGED AND GREEN
OF A PATRIOT WHO GAVE HIS LIFE / IN DEFENSE OF FREEDOM'S DREAM
AND WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE / IN SOME BATTLE LONG AGO
BUT HIS NAME WE DON'T REMEMBER / AND THE BATTLE WE DON'T KNOW

WE'RE A NATION BLESSED WITH HEROES / BUT HOW QUICKLY WE FORGET
THE REASON WHY WE HONOR THEM / AND WHY WE'RE IN THEIR DEBT
THEY HAVE OFFERED UP THEIR LIVES FOR US / TO KEEP US SAFE AND FREE
A NATION BLESSED WITH HEROES / IS OUR LAND OF LIBERTY!

MAYBE ONCE A YEAR THE CHILDREN COME / BEARING FLAGS IN TINY HANDS
TO SING "GOD BLESS AMERICA" / AND TO LISTEN TO THE BANDS
TO HEAR AN OLD MAN READ A SPEECH / HE CAN'T FINISH FOR THE TEARS
ALWAYS SOMETHING ABOUT A SACRIFICE / AND THE CALL A YOUNG MAN HEARS

THERE ARE VETERANS IN THEIR UNIFORMS / PLACING FLOWERS NEAR A STONE
WHILE A GOLD STAR MOTHER READS A PRAYER / THRU A RASPY MICROPHONE
AND THE CHILDREN WATCH WITH PUZZLED EYES / AS THE HIGH SCHOOL BOY PLAYS TAPS
AND THEY WONDER WHY THEIR MAMAS CRY / AND THEIR DADS TAKE OFF THEIR CAPS

WE SUFFERED ONE SEPTEMBER DAY / AT THE HANDS OF AN ENEMY
BUT WE KNOW THE JOB OUR HEROES DID / IN NEW YORK AND IN D C
AND OUT IN PENNSYLVANIA / ABOVE A FIELD THAT HAS NO NAME
DIED THOSE WHO HEARD A CALL FOR HELP / AND ANSWERED WHEN IT CAME

BUT THEY'RE HEROES TOO, OUR FRIENDS NEXT DOOR / WHO SERVE SO SELFLESSLY:
THE TEACHER, THE COP, THE FIREMAN / THE NURSE, THE E M T
THE VOLUNTEER WHO OFFERS HELP / TO A HURT VOICE ON THE PHONE
THE PRIEST WHO HOLDS AN OLD MAN'S HAND / SO HE WILL NOT DIE ALONE

WE HAVE WATCHED ANOTHER DESERT WAR / WE WERE THERE BESIDE MARINES
WE HAVE LISTENED TO THE TALKING HEADS / TELL US WHAT THE FIGHTING MEANS
WE SIT THERE EATING SANDWICHES / WHILE OUR YOUNG MEN GO THRU HELL
THE REAL "REALITY TV" / WE CAN'T GRASP IT ALL THAT WELL:

THAT A HERO'S NOT JUST A STATUE / IN SOME CORNER OF THE PARK
IT'S A NEIGHBOR'S SON IN CAMOUFLAGE / DODGING BULLETS IN THE DARK
IT'S YOUR SISTER'S KID THEY'LL BE HONORING / WHEN THEY NAME THE NEW TOWN HALL
EVERY FALLEN HERO BREAKS YOUR HEART / BUT YOU'LL MISS HIM MOST OF ALL!

"AMVETS" VERSE

IN FLANDERS FIELDS AND NORMANDY / IWO JIMA, MIDWAY, PEARL
OUR HEROES CARRIED HIGH THE TORCH / TO LIGHT A DARKENED WORLD
TO WIN A PEACE THEY HOPED WOULD LAST / BUT ALAS, THEY HOPED IN VAIN:
AND WHEN WAR CAME TO KOREA / THEY WERE CALLED ON ONCE AGAIN

AND THEN THERE CAME THE SIXTIES / WHEN THE DAYS OF TRUST WERE GONE
WHILE THE HIPPIES DANCED AT WOODSTOCK / MEN WERE MISSING IN THE SANH
THEN BACK FROM NAM OUR BRAVEST CAME / WITH HORROR IN THEIR EYES
TO THE FLOWER CHILDREN'S "WELCOME HOME" / OF CURSES, HATE, AND LIES

"COVID 19" VERSE

BUT NOW IT'S 2020 / AND WE'RE IN ANOTHER WAR
AGAINST A VICIOUS ENEMY / FROM A HOSTILE ASIAN SHORE
WE HAVE MASKS UPON OUR FACES / AND CONFUSION IN OUR HEARTS
WE HOPE TO GOD TO WAKE UP SOON / WHEN REALITY RESTARTS

BUT WE HAVE HEROES IN THIS BATTLE / WHOSE COURAGE WILL NOT FAIL
FROM RESEARCHERS IN THE BIO LABS / TO THE FOLKS DELIVERING MAIL
THE NURSES IN THEIR SCRUBS AND MASKS / FIRST RESPONDERS TRIED AND TRUE
THE PANTRY FOLKS WHO HAND OUT FOOD / ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS TOO

YES, WE'RE A NATION BLESSED WITH HEROES
TO HELP US STRUGGLE WITH OUR PAIN
THE VIRUS WILL BE OVERCOME
BUT THEIR EXAMPLE WILL REMAIN

LOVE ONE ANOTHER OUR SAVIOR SAID
AND GOOD CITIZENS SHOW THE WAY
WE'RE A NATION BLESSED WITH HEROES
AND TOGETHER LET US PRAY:
WE THANK YOU, GOD, FOR HEROES
LET US HONOR THEM EVERY DAY!