

Patriotic Poem

Why I Love Her

by John Wayne



“ America, America, God shed His grace on thee..”
You ask me why I love her? Well, give me time and I’ ll explain.
Have you seen a Kansas sunset or an Arizona rain?
Have you drifted on a bayou down Louisiana way?
Have you watched the cold fog drifting over San Francisco Bay?

Have you heard a bobwhite calling in the Carolina pines
Or heard the bellow of a diesel at the Appalachia mines?
Does the call of the Niagara trill you when you hear her water roar?
Do you look with awe and wonder at her Massachusetts shore...
Where men, who braved a hard new world,
First stepped on Plymouth’ s rock?
And do you think of them when you stroll along a New York’ s dock?

Have you seen a snowflake drifting in the Rockies...way up high?
Have you seen the sun come blazing down from a bright Nevada’ s sky?
Do you hail to the Columbia as she rushes to the sea...
Or bow you head at Gettysburg...at out struggle to be free?

Have you seen the mighty Titans?...
Have you watched an eagle soar?
Have you seen the Mississippi roll along the Missouri’ s shore?
Have you felt a chill at Michigan, when on a winter’ s day,
Her waters rage along the shore in thunderous display?
Does the word “ Aloha ” ..make you warm?
Do you share in disbelief
When you see the surf come roaring in at Waimea Reef?

From Alaska’ s cold to the Everglades...
From the Rio Grande to Maine...
My heart cries out...my pulse runs fast at the might of her domain
You ask me why I love her? ... I’ ve a million reasons why.
My beautiful America...beneath God’ s wide, wide sky.

“ And crown they good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.”