

# **AMERICA, OUR DREAM**

(introductory reading for song of the same name)

by Alison M. Young-Herron

**Who are we... We who call ourselves Americans?**

**We are as infinitely diverse as our Divine Maker intended His children to be.**

**We are the sons and daughters of European industrialists, of African slaves,  
of Russian Jews, of Hispanic laborers, and of East Asian merchants.**

**We are the sons and daughters of scholars, poets, musicians, inventors,  
soldiers, farmers, cooks, seamstresses, craftsmen, and teachers  
of every color and every ancestral heritage our Mother Earth contains.**

**But ultimately, we are all the sons and daughters of colonists and patriots  
who called themselves revolutionaries...**

**because they were willing to fight and die  
for their dream of freedom and independence.**

**This is our heritage;**

**Whether by birthright or by citizenship alone, it is the same.**

**It is what unites us.**

**It is what gives us the right and privilege to dream.**

**This land we call America was shaped and molded by multitudes of people,  
just like you and I, who dreamed.**

**And that dream was a hope for a better life; a chance to learn and grow,  
to work and play, to raise a family, and to worship Almighty God.**

**So let us not forget to dream.**

**Let us not forget, that in spite of the many formidable problems that our  
country must face in today's so-called "modern" society,**

**We have the freedom and the power to unite our efforts  
and make our dreams a reality...  
just as those who have gone before us.**

**Who are we? We who call ourselves Americans?**

**We are a people bound together by a great heritage of hope;**

**Destined to make of this land, America - Our Dream.**