



LIBERTY'S TUNE

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Your tall ships dance upon the bay,
The rockets burst and the marches play
My torch is bright in the evening sky
It is the Fourth night of July
You drift before me on the tide,
Where your weary fathers once arrived
Who looked at me and saw their dreams
Of fortunes made and lives redeemed

And you sing your patriotic songs,
You sing "His truth goes marching on"
"Oh, say can you see," "Let Freedom ring,"
"My Country, 'tis of Thee" you sing

But I am not bound by your frontiers,
Nor troubled by your worldly fears
You've put your faith in gold and steel
But I recall how freedom feels

I see across generations, beyond every troubled sea
I froze with the rebels in Valley Forge, I wept with the Cherokee
I whisper in every hamlet, I plot behind every throne
And whoever fights to break their chains will never fight alone

Now my name is called throughout the land,
The weapons pass from hand to hand
Determined to be free once more
The people storm the palace doors

But in the ashes of the old regime,
I've watched the newest Cæsars scheme
While the ones who clearly heard my call
Are the first ones stood against the wall

But though I fade or am forsworn,
Tomorrow I will be reborn
In your children's children's hearts I rise
For I am the Fire that never dies

I see across generations, beyond every troubled sea
I fall in a Chinese square and dance on a Wall in Germany
I whisper in every hamlet, I plot behind every throne
And whoever fights to break their chains will never fight alone

I see across generations, beyond every troubled sea
I stand with the rebels of every age and page of history
I whisper in every hamlet, I plot behind every throne
And whoever fights to break their chains will never fight alone
Whoever fights to break their chains will never fight alone.

Toward the end of a dinner cruise I was once hired for, the captain steered us out by the Statue of Liberty, and cut the engines. We drifted in silence for awhile, watching the Statue against the night sky, illuminated by floodlights and with her torch gleaming in the dark. Later on I started wondering what she'd say if she could.