

Oh, Say, Can You Sing?

Oh, say, can you sing from the start to
the end,
What so proudly you stand for when or-
chestras play it;
When the whole congregation, in voices
that blend,
Strike up the grand tune and then torture
and slay it?
How valiant they shout when they're
first starting out;
But "the dawn's early light" finds them
floundering about.
'Tis "The Star-Spangled Banner" they're
trying to sing,
But they don't know the words of the
blessed old thing.

Hark, "The twilight's last gleaming" has
some of them stopped,
But the valiant survivors press forward
serenely
To "the ramparts we watched," when some
others are dropped,
And the loss of the leaders is manifest
keenly.
Then "the rocket's red glare" gives the
bravest a scare,
And there're few left to face the "bombs
bursting in air";
'Tis a thin line of heroes that manage
to save
The last of the verse, and "the home
of the brave."

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p. 39

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