The Flagmaker, 1775

Jason Robert Brown

With the guns flaring And drums pounding There's no hope of getting rest With the lights glaring And calls sounding And the clenching in your chest When the man's in battle And the baby's rattle Only makes you more depressed The wise woman does what she knows If it's fighting she fights If it's sewing she sews When the tension inside Overflows and goes to far One more star, one more stripe To escape your lonely bed One more star, one more stripe Join the blue, the white and red One more star, one more stripe As you pray your child's not dead With the roof leaking And walls wetter And the night as black as pitch With the wind shrieking And his last letter Says his fighting in a ditch Then the candle flickers And the river bickers What else can you do but stitch One more star, one more stripe Til you feel the rising sun One more star, one more stripe Til this foolishness is done One more star, one more stripe We'll be waiting when we've won Grab a needle, grab a thimble If it's all that keeps you sane Think of freedom as a symbol Think of justice as a game Think of life with independence Think of muskets and brigades Think of taking the oppressors Think of banners and parades When the gate creaks And the paint cracks And the cat cries And the night falls Raise a flag Raise a flag Raise a flag til you're free One more star, one more stripe Til this bloodshed's finally through One more star, one more stripe Til they come back home to you One more star, one more stripe When there's nothing you can do If they take all the things

That define what you were, And are One more star