

We Americans

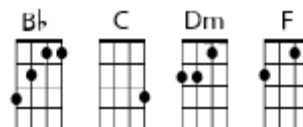
Avett Brothers

Two beats
per chord

C F
 I grew up with reverence for the red white and blue
 Bb C F F
 Spoke of God and liberty reciting the pledge of allegiance
 C F
 Learned love of country from my own family
 Bb C F F
 Some shivered and prayed approaching the beaches of Normandy
 C F
 The flag waves high and that's how it should be
 Bb C F F
 So many lives given and taken in the name of freedom
 C F
 But the story's complicated and hard to read
 Bb C F F C C
 Pages of the book obscured or torn out completely

F/ C/ F F/ C/ Bb F/ C/ Bb
 I am a son of Uncle Sam and I struggle to understand the good and evil
 F/ C/ F F/ C/ Bb F/ C/ Bb Bb
 But I'm doing the best I can in a place built on stolen land with stolen people

F C
 Blood in the soil with the cotton and tobacco
 C F
 Blood in the soil with the cotton and tobacco
 Bb C Bb Bb
 Blood in the soil with the cotton and tobacco whoa



C F
 A misnamed people and a kidnapped race
 Bb C F F
 Laws may change but we can't erase the scars of the nation
 C F
 Of children devalued and disavowed
 Bb C F F
 Displaced by greed and the arrogance of manifest destiny
 C F
 Short-sighted to say it was a long time ago
 Bb C F F
 Not even two life times have passed since the days of Lincoln
 C F
 The sins of Andrew Jackson, the shame of Jim Crow
 Bb C F F C C
 And time moves slow when the tragedies are beyond description

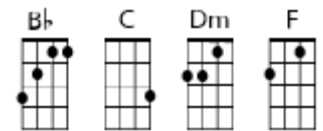
<Chorus>

Dm/ C/ F/ Bb Bb	Dm/ C/ F/ Bb Bb
We are more than the sum of our parts	all these broken bones and broken hearts
Dm/ C/ F/ Bb Bb	Dm/ C/ F/ Bb Bb
God will you keep us wherever we go	can you forgive us for where we've been?

C C
 We Americans
 F C
 Blood on the table with the coffee and the sugar
 C F
 Blood on the table with the coffee and the sugar
 Bb C Bb Bb
 Blood on the table with the coffee and the sugar Mmmmm

In the bridge the Dm-C-F progressions are measures of 3/4, not triplets.

C F Bb C
 I've been to every state and seen shore to shore, the still open wounds of the Civil War
 C F
 Watched blind hatred bounce back and forth
 Bb C F F
 Seen vile prejudice both in the south and the north
 C F
 And accountability is hard to impose
 Bb C F F
 On ghosts of ancestors haunting the halls of our conscience
 C F
 But the path of grace and goodwill is still here
 Bb C F F C C
 For those of us who may be considered among the living
 F/ C/ F F/ C/ Bb F/ C/ Bb
 I am a son of God and man and I may never understand the good and evil
 F/ C/ F F/ C/ Bb F/ C/ Bb Bb
 But I dearly love this land because of and in spite of We The People



<Repeat Bridge>

C C Bb Bb C C
 We Americans Hmm We Americans

F C
 Love in our hearts with the pain and the memory
 C F
 Love in our hearts with the pain and the memory
 Bb F C C
 Love in our hearts with the pain and the memory Lo - o - o - -ve

Repeat 4 times.

The final time replace the last line with the line that follows.

Bb C F
 Love in our hearts with the pain and the memory