

Bittersweet History

Words and Music by: Cameron Moten

Lyrics:

**It's a Bittersweet History,
I want to know how they'll remember me**

The divide:

The Royal Spanish Kingdom in prosperity
Building the empire with every land it would touch

The other side:

Native peoples pushed out to walk in poverty
Helped to build defenses, while themselves not having much

The Spanish royals sent explorers, 'cross the sea
Sailed for God and gold and glory, called the land St. Augustine

The Castillo De San Marcos, and Fort Matanzas too,
Were the two stone Forts protecting the Spanish crew

Boom When England attacked the Fort was ready
Standing strong against the siege kept the whole crew steady

The Builders of the Forts: African, Spanish, Native
Put in all the work but only made the Royals Famous

**It's a Bittersweet History,
I want to know how they'll remember me
There's plenty of conflict in the struggle
But there's beauty in the peace
How will the people hear your story?
Can you secure your legacy?**

Indian Removal 1830 Trail of tears,
Pushed the natives off their land sent to wander 'round for years

Seminoles locked up, under the guise of peace
Wild Cat led an escape, his legacy wouldn't cease

1840s Explorers are heading West
A nation coast to coast; their destiny? Manifest.

1860's Civil War it's brother against brother

First divided then united freed the slaves then we recovered

Fast forward 1880s and now business is boomin'
Henry Flagler in St. Augustine's the main man of the game

Making deals with John D. Rockefeller, so cold he could drop a fella'
Big money made the Railroads locking in his fame

Global Fights:
WWII Men every color and creed
Stand beside our flag and defend it till they bleed

Civil rights:
Blacks fight along side whites like they were brothers
But when they get home don't have the same rights as others

Breaking Chains:
Dr. King had a Dream lays it out for the people
"One day, I pray we will all be treated equal"

Making Change:
People from all backgrounds go marching in the streets
With hopes to bring equality to St. Augustine

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In this bittersweet history**

*When all that's left is memory, Stories written on the walls
Were you the villain in our history when the sound of freedom
called?
Are you the hero or the enemy does your story bring you fame?
Fate smiles on us differently some with plenty some with pain*

*The past may not be pretty
But we're climbing toward the light
If we don't forget the lessons
We can make our future bright
So in every single moment
And every single day
Let your actions write your story
Let your actions lead the way*

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