

Tough (The Mettle in the Man)

by Jim Swanson and Mark Trullinger

Verse One

G
My pack is at the door,
C *G*
I cradle my M4.
Am *F9* *C* *D*
I got to catch my first flight to that hostile foreign shore.
G *C* *G*
I'll hold you in my dreams, then I'll be back for more.
Am *F9* *D*
This you can know and understand.
C *D*
It's not the hardware in my hand,
C *D* *G*
It's the mettle in the man.

Chorus

G *C* *G*
Tough as they come; I'm tough as they come.
Am *C* *D*
I don't back down, and I do not run.
G
I need your love,
C *G*
Like the earth needs the sun.
Am *C*
Because of you,
Am *C*
Because of you,
Em *G*
I'm tough as they come.

Verse Two

G
Tour number three is toast,
C *G*
My limbs all blown to hell.
Am *F9* *C* *D*
I'll never get a leg up, or give a hand out as well.
G *C* *G*
But when I can't turn off the lamp, I'll unplug the cord.
Am *F9* *C* *D*
I will let my loved ones hug me, and I'll praise the good Lord.
C *D*
You see, it's not the steel I call my hand,
C *D* *G*
It's the mettle in the man.

Chorus

G *C* *G*
Tough as they come; I'm tough as they come.
Am *C* *D*
I don't back down, and I do not run.
G
I need your love,

C G
 Like the earth needs the sun.
 Am C
 Because of you,
 Am C
 It's only you,
 Em G
 I'm tough as they come.

Bridge

D C G D C G
 Be strong. Keep your nerve. Unchain your courage.
 D C G Am
 Lock down that fear. God is near,
 Bm C D D7
 Step by step, every hour, all the way.

Verse Three

G
 Life is an unfair fight ,
 C G
 Each day a tug-o-war.
 Am F9 C D
 It's always the fourth quarter, and you're down in the score.
 G C G
 But don't ever give up, hey--don't you ever quit:
 Am F9 C D
 Faith, friends, family, freedom, fellowman--
 C D G
 Move forward and help them as you can.

Bridge

D C G D C G
 Be strong. Keep your nerve. Unchain your courage.
 D C G Am
 Lock down that fear. God is near,
 Bm C D D7
 Step by step, every hour, all the way.

Verse Four

G C G
 Son, I can see that you're on empty; you're runnin' for the rocks.
 Am F9 C D
 Well, I got my P.H.D. from the School of Hard Knocks.
 G C G
 Don't ever give up, and don't you ever quit:
 Am F9 D
 God has a plan for everything it's true-
 C D G
 Go on, let him work his plan through you.
 And remember,
 C D
 It's not the metal in your hands,
 C D G
 It's the mettle in the man.

Chorus

G C G
 Tough as they come; I'm tough as they come.

Am *C* *D*
I don't back down, and I do not run.

G
I need your love,
 C

Like the World needs the Son.

Am C
Because of you,

Am C
It's only you,
Am C

Because of you,
Em

I'm tough as they come.

