

## CHORUS OF CAPTAINS. AMANDA GORMAN.

Today we honor our three captains  
For their actions and impact in  
A time of uncertainty and need.

They've taken the lead,  
Exceeding all expectations and limitations,  
Uplifting their communities and neighbors  
As leaders, healers, and educators.

James has felt the wounds of warfare,  
But this warrior still shares  
His home with at-risk kids.

During Covid, he's even lent a hand  
Live-streaming football for family and fans.  
Trimaine is an educator who works nonstop,  
Providing his community with hotspots,  
Laptops, and tech workshops  
So his students have all the tools  
They need to succeed in life and in school.

Suzie is the ICU nurse manager at a Tampa Hospital.  
Her chronicles prove that even in tragedy, hope is possible.  
She lost her grandmothers to the pandemic,

And fights to save other lives in the ICU battle zone,  
Defining the frontline heroes risking their lives for our own.

Let us walk with these warriors,  
Charge on with these champions,  
And carry forth the call of our captains!  
We celebrate them by acting with courage and compassion,  
By doing what is right and just.  
For while we honor them today  
It is they who every day honor us.”