Neal Peart called Hit Parader to talk about the story behind Nobody's Hero, and how he hates the idea that North American society makes heroes out of the strangest people—performers and athletes, not doctors, scientists, policemen or firemen. Peart philosophized, "What is a hero? Somebody who does something extraordinary—that's why I wrote 'saving the drowning child'—they're a hero. Acts of heroism are when the airplane pilot brings in the airplane or someone..."
NOLLBY’S HERO

NEAL PEART
GEDDY LEE
ALEX LIFESON

As recorded by RUSH

I knew he was different in his sexuality.
I went to his parties as the straight minority—
it never seemed a threat to my masculinity.
He only introduced me to a wider reality.

As the years went by, we drifted apart.
When I heard that he was gone
I felt a shadow cross my heart
But he’s nobody’s—

Hero— saves a drowning child,
cures a wasting disease.
Hero— lands the crippled airplane,
solves great mysteries.

Hero— not the handsome actor
who plays a hero’s role.
Hero— not the glamor girl
who'd love to sell her soul...
if anybody’s buying nobody’s hero.

I didn’t know the girl

but I knew her family
All their lives were shattered
in a nightmare of brutality.
They try to carry on,
try to bear the agony,
try to hold some faith
in the goodness of humanity.

As the years went by we drifted apart.
When I heard that she was gone
I felt a shadow cross my heart.
But she’s nobody’s

Hero— the voice of reason
against the howling mob.
Hero— the pride of purpose
in the unrewarding job.

Hero— not the champion player
who plays the perfect game,
not the glamor boy
who loves to sell his name.
Everybody’s buying nobody’s hero.

As the years went by, we drifted apart.
When I heard that you were gone
I felt a shadow cross my heart.

 Hero.

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