

AN AMERICAN HERO

Who is the American hero?

Is it the fireman who knows not what is ahead?

or the soldier who offers his life force, for the White, the blue, and the red?

Is it the doctor who walks into death and disease?

or is it the nurse who holds your hand, trying to give ease?

Is it the home attendant?

or the nurse's aide?

or the accountant?

for without him we would not be paid

Is it the maintenance man who cleans the viral path?

or the faceless store clerk who tries to serve without wrath?

Is it the billionaire philanthropist who shares his wealth?

or the Emergency Room staff who risk their health?

Is it the Senator, the Congressman, the Secretary of State?

all whose decisions hold a citizen's fate

Is it the subway conductor who gives us a ride?

or the elevator operator in whom we confide?

Is it the driver, the therapist?

the technician on whom we rely?

or is it the invisible pilot who allows us to fly?

Is it the phlebotomist

who secures our blood?

or the sanitation man who discards our crud?

Is it the security guard who insures we are unharmed?

or the police officers whom we heed and are always armed?

The researcher, the scholar, do they not count?

The teacher, the educator

to what do they amount?

and when our elders, our parents who bore us, gave us advice

the sacrifices they made

They paid a price

Should we include the minister and priest who help our spirits soar?

or can we forget our ancestors who opened the door?

The writers, the poets, the artists

and those who entertain

the truck driver who delivers our food

and goes unnamed

The journalists, the cameramen, the producers who tell story

and can one forget the gravedigger, the mortician -
Does he deserve glory?

Who is an American hero
in days when celebrity rules?
Who is an American hero
when a pence turns adults into beaming fools?

Wash your hands

Take a breath

A global pandemic is here

Put on your gloves

Wear a mask

Try to stay safe and release the fear

Stand up

Have gratitude

for all we have and have had in the past

It is a war zone

Invisible pathogens are on the attack

Keep your immune system strong

Filter the lies

There are those who do not have your back

Stand up

Take a breath

Each one of us

is being given a test

Who is the American hero?

Is it you?

What is your behest?

Who is the American hero?

Is it you?

What is your behest?

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