

a Listen to the song and fill the gaps with the missing adjectives (one of them is a comparative and one is a superlative).

b Read the lyrics with the glossary. Match the **highlighted** words to their definitions.

- 1 _____ very bad weather with heavy rain, etc.
- 2 _____ air that is moving fast
- 3 _____ the loud noise that you hear during a storm
- 4 _____ a bright flash of light that appears in the sky during a storm
- 5 _____ a large amount of water (from a river, the sea, or heavy rain)

Holding out for a hero

Where have all the ¹g _____ men gone
and where are all the Gods?
Where's the streetwise Hercules
to fight the rising odds?
Isn't there a ²w _____ knight upon a fiery steed?
³L _____ at night I toss and I turn and I dream of what I need.

I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the end of the night.
He's got to be ⁴s _____ and he's got to be ⁵f _____
and he's got to be ⁶f _____ from the fight.

I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the morning light.
He's got to be ⁷s _____ and it's got to be ⁸s _____
And he's got to be ⁹l _____ than life
(⁹)L _____ than life.

Somewhere after midnight
In my ¹⁰w _____ fantasy
Somewhere just beyond my reach
There's someone reaching back for me.
Racing on the **thunder** and rising with the heat
It's gonna take a Superman to sweep me off my feet.

I need a hero, etc.

Up where the mountains meet the heavens above
Out where the **lightning** splits the sea
I could swear there is someone somewhere watching me.
Through the **wind** and the chill and the rain
and the **storm** and the **flood**
I can feel his approach like a fire in the blood.

I need a hero, etc.



Glossary

- streetwise = a person who can look after himself
- rising odds = the opposition, people who are against us
- fiery steed = a wild horse
- toss and turn = move, in bed
- I'm holding out for = I'm waiting for
- beyond my reach = too far away for me to touch
- reaching back for me = trying to take my hand
- it's gonna take a Superman = he'll have to be a Superman
- to sweep me off my feet = for me to fall in love with him
- chill = cold
- his approach = he's coming nearer

Song facts

Holding out for a hero was written for Bonnie Tyler in 1982 by Jim Steinman and Dean Pitchford. Steinman also wrote all of Meat Loaf's hits as well as *Total eclipse of the heart* for Tyler. A version by Jennifer Saunders was the theme song to the 2004 film *Shrek 2*.