

PLASTIC LADY

She walks through the crowd
Holds her head up high
Makes her way up to the stage
Just as the music dies
Microphone in hand
She strikes a well-planned pose
To let her fans appreciate
The face, the hair the clothes

CHORUS:

Plastic Lady
Singing plastic songs
To artificial people who like to sing along
Frightened Lady trying to belong
Afraid to show us what lies behind the song

She walks through the paces
Done it all before
Automatic pilot
There's no surprise in store
Everybody buys it
In a noncommittal way
There's no feeling in the room
Just people on display

Repeat CHORUS

BRIDGE

Come out - from behind your mask
Let us all see who you are
Or is that just too much to ask
Of a lady who's a star . . .

Instrumental and then repeat Chorus

Lyrics by Eileen Valentino

Music by Jeremy Roberts

© 1988

The Story Behind the Song...

In 1983, the owner of The Rose Tattoo in West Hollywood came into a club where I was working and said he'd like me to perform at his club. He invited me to be his guest on one of my nights off to see an entertainer, "who exemplifies what we prize at the Rose Tattoo."

I'd never been to the club before and the first thing I noticed was that, parked outside were more Rolls Royces and Bentleys than I'd ever seen in one place before. Inside was a very well-dressed crowd - each person more beautiful and glamorous than the next.

I watched a very accomplished singer but disliked her intensely because she was all Style and no Heart. I went home and wrote this lyric in one sitting.

But then. . .

A few years later, I found myself working across the country at the same hotel as the Plastic Lady. We performed in different parts of the hotel, but our dressings rooms were next door to each other. She was very, very nice. I liked her. It turned out we had slightly different schedules, which is why she showed up in the audience of my show one night. If I'd known she was there, I never would have sung *Plastic Lady*. But sing it I did. She came up to me after my show and couldn't stop raving about the song. Just loved it. And was *very* curious about who this singer was. Would I tell her the name? Uh, no, I wouldn't. She did not recognize herself at all in the song, which I found interesting.