

# We Do Our Part as Workers

## In the End, Nobody Will Sing Our Names

Norman Robles

**BEFORE YOU READ:** What is an unsung hero? Who are the unsung heroes in your life?

### What about Us?

Every five minutes, Abuela walks into the room where I am studying. She gives me updates on the news that has touched the world.

“Dicen que van a dar \$1,200 a cada persona,” she says. [They say they are going to give \$1,200 to each person.]

“It’s not for us,” I reply.

“No pueden correr a la gente,” Abuela replies.

“Yes, it’s correct,” I respond sadly. “They can’t run us away, but we still have to pay the rent.”

### We Keep Showing Up

“Y nosotros, que?” I ask myself. [What about us?]

We are always the afterthought. We proudly continue to do our part as the workers in the fields, the custodians, the store clerks, the construction workers, and the nurses. But in the end, we won’t receive praise for being the unsung heroes. We expose ourselves for a country that doesn’t acknowledge us.

Yes, there is something noble and miraculous about the way we show up for work – no matter how much the world is falling apart around us. But I wish in these moments that we were selfish. I wish we could simply stop and let everything fall apart.

In the end, nobody will sing our names. In the end, my people are still undocumented.

### AFTER YOU READ:

1. What is the main point the author is making in this article?
2. Write a story using dialogue. Use the author’s dialogue as a model.



Norman Robles is a recent HiSET graduate through the FRAN Family Literacy Program in Lafayette, LA. He was born into an immigrant family, and that dictated a lot of his life. He married an immigrant, so his perspective is based on that. He says, “This story is based on a friend’s experience. I just wanted to bring this story to light.”

### Support During the Pandemic

Undocumented immigrants did not receive the stimulus check, nor unemployment benefits during the pandemic. Click below and browse by state to find sources of support for immigrants during the pandemic:

<https://www.informedimmigrant.com/guides/coronavirus/>