

# LONESOME BETA HIGHWAY

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Reviews By Declan Culliton

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## Rob Lytle '*A Hypocrite Of Heart And Hope* - Self Release

The adage of never judging a book by its cover rang true with this album. The fairly nondescript and bland packaging certainly did not prepare me for the quality *Of a hypocrite of heart and hope* recorded by Rob Lytle after a 14 year musical career break.

A mix of ballads, country and well crafted pop songs, the album displays Lytle's wide ranging song writing talent. The laid back, country rock sound of *Come South* opens the album bringing the listener back to a mid 70's West Coast territory. Lytle repeats this style on *Little Loser* and *The Way We Used To Love*. In contrast *Drunk Girl* and *Trouble* are no frills classic country, the latter's arrangement influenced no doubt by late 60's Johnny Cash.

The quality of the musicianship on the album is top drawer. Thomm Jutz (Guitars), Mark Fain (Bass), Lynn Williams (Drums), Barry Walsh (Keyboards) and Terry Crisp (Pedal Steel Guitar) support Rob Lytle's strong vocals with backing vocals by Britt Savage and Peter Cronin.

Lytle possesses unquestionable talent as a songwriter. Concentrating on one particular genre, whether it is country or folk might result in much greater exposure.