

## Permanence (in a temporary sort of way)

C (Am F)

Getting lost in the Hokonui<sup>1</sup> Hills  
Standing on the top of those magnetic peaks  
While clouds billowed all around our feet  
Like white-sailed Spanish Galleons

*Chorus*

*It gives me permanence (in a temporary sort of way)  
I know that all things change everything will pass away  
But it gives me permanence when I look at it that way  
Keeps my feet here on the ground where I intend to stay*

River flows in a hazy twilight sunlit scene  
Twirling mayflies cling and twist in love's brief embrace  
While ever widening circles of those submarine predators  
Bring death and life merge as one

*Chorus*

People flow into our lives in time's own way  
Some may only stay just for one day  
But the truth they bring, the hope they share, the wisdom they pass on  
Holds us for a moment, opens up our way

*Chorus*

Life does not always give us pretty songs that rhyme  
Everything changes nothing stands the test of time  
But we all need to find a place where we can stand  
A permanent place for a temporary stay

*Chorus*

Simon Kerr © 28 October 2003 (5.30 min)

*Change is inevitable; those who can adapt positively to change will do better than those who resist or struggle with it. But we still need some sense of connection to permanence, even though it will be temporary. I find this experience of permanence in the hills where I grew up (they are always there, waiting patiently for those rare occasions I get back), in that amazing rock pool in the river on the back road to Mataura where a million mayflies take on a thousand trout every summer evening, and in the meeting of hearts and minds with those special lifelong friends I have.*

Note: The second verse was dropped on the album to make the song a little shorter.

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<sup>1</sup> Near Gore, Southland, New Zealand. (Im)famous for illicit whiskey during the prohibition years. But the stills were long gone by the time I climbed those peaks.