

# *Letter To A Full Time Revolutionary*

**Kevin Higgins**

Your latest outfit an arrangement in grey.  
You'd vanish into the wallpaper,  
but for the chopping movement  
your hand makes as you strike  
just the right note;  
wax ideological, now  
Venezuela, now  
the latest interest rate rise;  
put on a human voice to tell us  
about the old woman left  
to die in her own mess  
on the twenty first floor  
of a tower-block named after  
the bloke who started  
the Boer War.

I was once you.  
The agreed candidate,  
who emerged inevitably  
from a thinly carpeted room;  
mouth crammed  
with all the right slogans.  
You get by on a diet of  
abstract concepts:  
United Fronts  
with some Workers' Democracy  
on the side; nightly pray for  
a stock-market crash: dream  
of billionaires going out  
tenth-floor windows.  
Your exclusion proceedings  
will be precisely minuted  
by someone you recruit  
tonight. I was once you.

## HIGGINS | Poem / Letter To A Full Time Revolutionary

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Kevin Higgins was born in London in 1967 and grew up in Galway City, Ireland. Two volumes of his poetry have been published by salmonpoetry: *The Boy With No Face* (2005) and *Time Gentlemen, Please* (2008) which will be reviewed in *Democratija* 15. His work also features in the anthologies *Short Fuse*, *Breaking The Skin: New Irish Poetry*, *100 Poets Against The War* and *Irish Writers Against War*. He has reviewed poetry for *Metre*, *Books In Canada*, *Poetry Quarterly Review*, *Vallum*, and *Canadian Notes & Queries*.