writings

kevjn kelly \& parker hu october 2008

Kevjn Kelly lies...

## Death and Money

Like, the piece
of rat meat
in-between
the far back right
molar of a black and grey
dog, with a lazy eye,
whose body
was just mashed
on the dark
pavement
by the tire
of a mercedes benz, driven
by and old man and woman, whose golden heart pacers
(guaranteed for life)
decided to crap out, in the middle
of a phone conversation
with their greedy lawyer
about the 17 mexican men
cleaning the dirt
in-between
their toes, while getting
paid five cents
an hour, for 7 years,
to catch a rat, in which
was thrown to the old
couple's black and grey dog.

6 people in an ascending elevator headed towards the top floor of a topless building.

41 year old man, Jet black hair, thick glasses, kept mostly to himself, wal-mart tattered shoes, late for work by 3 minutes because of the kids who egged his tan colored house, in turn was recently fired, whose mother was dying.
$171 / 2$ year old girl, blonde hair, pink braces, when talking on her iphone said the word 'like' every other word, giggled uncontrollably, wore clothes so tight around her body that it hurt her to breathe, but would turn any man's attention to her firm breasts in hopes of a quick fuck.

82 year old albino nun with Alzheimer's, whose hands shook uncontrollably every time she did the rosary, whose teeth chattered in the 41 year old man's ears asking if he knew where Nicilino Desento was? (Nick Desento, being the first and only person Nona had ever made love with, now who's clothes had finally touched his bare bones after decaying under 6 feet of ground for over 41 years after dying in a car accident, in which his last words were "If I die, it doesn't mean I gave up")

23 year old mother, a little heavy, of puerto rican descent, breast feeding her crying and shrieking twins, while her husband's body was recently shredded apart in a foreign country by a sacrificed martyr who strapped 14 sticks of dynamite to his chest, but who is now enjoying the rewards of martyrdom, by fucking 72 virgins in heaven.

52 year old Magician who wore his cape everywhere he went with the greatest pride and dignity of any professional job, with honor, dark brown slick backed hair, black tar shining in his rotting teeth, Wrist watch was 10 minutes fast, smokers cough, yelling at this

5 year old toddler that was sucking his thumb, to stop sucking that fucking thumb and to grow up because life is not a joke, a riddle or a poem.

## Untitled (excerpt from a novel)

"It was then, I realized
that the person working at McDonalds was an angel."

Linda Strife
was a woman
who kept
her deceased husband's
name in the phone book until the day of her death.

The last thought that ran through the mind of one of the terrorist hijackers in 9/11
"I'm going to heaven."

## June 11 ${ }^{\text {th }} 1976$

Thirty two years ago, I remember reading in my old town's shoreline newspaper of a man who lived in limbo.

The story told of how this man claimed the coast guard kept trying to sink his boat, for trying to be alive in a place where he shouldn't.

One interviewer spoke of seeing this man come into town to hang dead fish from the lamps that illuminate the street.

When asked why the man would do such a thing, he replied, "In the way death shows people that he brings beings from one context into another, I, as well."

At the end of the article they said this man ended up striking an axe to the bottom of his boat, to be enveloped into a different context of nothingness.

Thirty two years have passed since that man has been remembered. Thirty two years since the particles of dust sleeping on that article have been awoken. Thirty two years since a specific day that repeats itself every year has been thought of. Thirty two years since the dead fish swam in the air of heaven as opposed to the living fish swimming in the water of hell.

The good ol' american boy
Johnny Haynes, who was now the Mayor of the 5th largest city, yawned in his air conditioned king's suite, as the polar ice caps melted.

The other day
I put in my
grandmother's hearing
aid, to see
if I could hear
my dead
grandfather
crying for her...

Inside an apartment, one of one hundred
and fifty three in a building
in Brooklyn, Tito Lopez
sat on a couch, with a creaking fan
blowing dirty air,
to watch
a box that informed him of the weather.

While outside, the trees, dissected by four intersecting streets, moved frantically.

The true silent witnesses of the world.

Telephone Poles keep the best secrets.

## The people that work at rest stops

I once knew a barber who kept a clipping from every one of his customer's hair.
He put in my ear all the commandments of a barber's dogma, and told me there was something holy about running your own fingers through a stranger's hair.

He said, "No matta what kinda hair!
Hair full a dye! Hair stiff from gel!
Fake bair ta bide that fact that someone
is dying and even the hair of da dead, so they too could look presentable at their funeral! They come in, they go out! I fix them up, I do!
They come to me with their problems
and I give them solutions! I fix
them up so they are acceptable!
For as long as I remember he kept speaking, but my lunch break was up, so I had to head back to work. Before I left he slipped in my hand his business card, and on it, it said, "Who will save my hair when I pass?"

I looked over
to a conversation, that didn't involve me, twenty feet away.

While a lady
with a chipped
tooth, looked
on at me from
the 41 st window
of her new apartment.
Knocking on the door
of the chipped tooth's
apartment, was the brother
of a man who flung
his body 41 flights down
from that window, because
of a lover who slept with the man's
brother. The man, before
he flew, punched his lover in the face chipping her tooth.

I looked over
to a conversation,
that didn't involve
me, twenty feet
away.
While a lady
with a chipped
tooth, looked
on at me from
the 41st window
of her new apartment.

## Ice cream man

An old priest told me
it was impossible
to predict the future.
A mentally retarded child runs naked from a shack, to unfold a plastic lunchbox, full of nine screaming pennies, hoping his tongue may touch an ice cream. While another child, hair made of gold, walks with confidence, to grab five ice creams, so she may watch all five melt on the ground under her toes.

It's not hard to predict the future when the truth is so blatant, I say, slipping the words into the priest's ears.

Gay lovers elope
in the middle of sun dried fields, with clenched fingers
peeling the skin off
ripe fruits,
while twirling in a universe
of strict conservative morals.

## Replacing a Dead Dog

To think of a screaming
black dog, shrieking at its owner, hoping to communicate, a common idea that each will never understand.

## dancing at sullys

i shüt i shah $\backslash i$ shah shah when $i$
man that jam jam that man
i love
i love to go
and move under hazy moonlight with some other arms flailing with that beatmoving-moving with a little gold over the side.
today everything is sweaty
he stands on the cobblestones talking to his old faculty members and friends but i am only absorbing the dampness of his white alumni tee, watching a tear of sweat crawl miserably down his cheek. you know why everything is sweltering today? a tropical storm is pushing up from the south, discharging its fury and anger up to the northeast. our polite, passing conversations told us so. those were the drops of self-circulating melancholia that he wanted to shed, but since his social sense knew better, he opted for perspiration instead. at least, that's how i saw it.
i think he wishes so much to revisit the past, he'd loose five thousand eminent tropical storms to return to it. you can't repeat to your youth! i want to scream at him. you can't defy gravity and evaporate. but if he had a fever, i'd tell him the opposite; sweat it out, sweat the sickness out. maybe that's better advice, the healing method that has withstood the ages.

## the cheesecake factory

ceilings as high as faux heavens
glassy and dimlitgolden like vegas evening.
he is pawing over polished laminated menu, she is small in elegant booth seat, looking for money.

OH FOR DAYS TO SUN SET THE NIGHT ONE ONE ONE ORION. AND EACH CHILD'S SPARKLINGEYES. OH FOR DAYS TO SUNSET THE NIGHT ONE ONE ONE ORION AND EACH CHILD'S SPARKLING EYES.

UPSET TO FIND ONE'S LAYMAN'S HEART DISPATCHED TO THE FARTHEST CORNERS OF COMPLEXITY. ONE MAY HAVE TO ASK, HOW LONG WILL IT BE UNTIL WE HAVE REMEDY? WHAT CAN EVER BE DONE, SHITTING KNUCKLES AND LABRADOR LATIMUS DORSI AS THE PATCH OF VICTIM SPITTLE DISPLAYED. SPIT ON US SPIT ON US AGAIN! WHEN RETURNING TO THE TRAIN OF THOUGHT WE CAN REMEMBER THAT OUR TRANSPORTATION NO LONGER RELIES ON COAL, BUT ON ELECTRICITY + SPEED. NO WONDER, THEN, THAT OUR MOUTHS CANNOT CATCH UP WITH OUR BRAINS, THAT OUR BRAINS CANNOT KEEP UP WITH OUR EYES, AND THAT OUR EYES CANNOT EVEN REMOTELY DISPLAY "EMOTION".

WHILE THE REST OF US WERE WAITING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO LAY EVERYONE'S PERSONAL MATTERS TO REST, HE WAS THINKING OF HOW TO RECONCILE THE EVER-PRESENT AGITATION OF DEATH TO A PLACE WHERE IT WOULD BE JUST SLIGHTLY LESS ANNOYING THAN A PACK OF BLOODTHIRSTY MOSQUITOES. CONSTANT AND BUZZING NEAR THE EAR CANAL.
the other day
i went to
the doctor
an indian woman-
blue dress white
polka dots-
she said my
SPLEEN
was huge. .
so she then said,
don't let anyone
hit you there-
YOU COULD DIE!
...i THINK.
(and she
held up her hand
like a policeman
saying "stop")
i couldn't help
but laugh
but only nervously
because she told me
that they were
going to take my blood.
ha ha .. ha ha.
inside my head i am composing a song and sending it straight to you.
i hope you can hear it because i put in a string sectionthe smallest violin in the world.

## good babits of dental care

brushing teeth is a wonderful ritualistic cleansing. something about running one's tongue over a smooth enamel surface forms a sense of accomplishment from deep within. not merely from the gums and teeth, but from all that comes from the immaculate condition of the mouth.
yet, all nuances of the orifice must be attended to. the tongue must be thoroughly scraped. scraped until the blanket of bacteria has been expelled, until it feels a little of burning. and then there is the business of the back molars, where wisdom teeth were once existent. now there is a space that taunts the toothbrush, a place hard to reach, yet so important. one must scrub! scrub those spots diligently, lest you rob yourself of the complete pristine condition.
sometimes during the flossing process, the gums bleed, though the cut from the wax string is so minute that it can hardly be felt. reach to the farthest back teethno individual ought to be spared, for cleaning should indeed come to all. teeth, i mean. now nearing the end of this consecrated time, finally perform your ablutions with mouth rinse. some articles speculate that alcohol-based mouthwash may be, in fact, worse for the sterilization of the mouth. reach for the non-alcoholic alternative, which will do the trick-and without the sting!
be sure to swoosh and circulate the liquid inside your mouth for a most effective outcome. this is the time when all the parts of your mouth are in communion together. do not underestimate the importance of all steps of the ritual. revere the sacred quality of the brushing of teeth, scrubbing of the tongue, examination of the floss, and unification of the mouth rinse. you can find no fresher breath than the one that has seen time and care each and every day-before and after each meal.
i felt the chill breeze of the morning breathed in the air of the sun setting-west coast sand bullrushes rushes rushing past; my eyes, they; oh and i breathed, in, the trembling of the bicycle seat when we biked in the early evening near the waters, foster city, california. the lack of touch is what i Felt, and considered the emptiness of the moment when we visited his elementary school. what filled him with nostalgia was my loneliness and so i wanted to rush us home, home to the only Us, home to a man sailing for the US. i thought
i thought i could see the sky thought i could feel my heart wonting for a sorrow, but it felt of nothing, and so i was sad.
minutes, min min, clock and; hands heal fine
you know why cursive comes out of print? to easier belay yet neatness of the spheres, competing for the sparkling trophies of indecisiveness
once on a test, it was similar in this way except the muscles cramped and contracted and leaked lactic acid all over the floor until it became a replacement for milk but people only said so because lactic sounds like lactose intolerant and no one likes white prejudice.
after the first period another slower era began. the poet-head exploded with the notion of punctuation and possibly hyphenation. another dot, ohyespushit on the map leads to treasure like guerrilla calls in the LED city
all caps and dematt at spat of that which remnants further than the ice caps delineating what is useful and trendily accurate, so the radar sets in and everyone is licking everyone else's skinny jeans. please. just say stop.

## ONIONS ARE SO GREAT

when they are pronounced out loud, and correctly. they are so romantic.NEXT.
things i can't read and can't touch
beat up love at restaurant jim bathroom kitty faucet (yg)
escape from facility superheros
LIRR utrecht 3, 5, 6, F
2 am, online ( 4 convos) b-day
Rue + Jon break up (bc parents)
on bus, photographs, we get closer.

## my friend the russian

well i encourage this tall Russian to dance with me and this is what happened afterward. we take a walk-it's maybe three thirty in the morning, and he can't speak any English. but he does point to himself and say 'Igor'
he tries to teach me words like 'rain' and 'swan' (because it was raining, and there were swans on the pond). i wondered how he might be feeling without his translator, a forty or thirty something year old in a foreign country with a foreign girl, at a foreign conference at a foreign social gathering. but for the past 6 days he still walked this path around campus every night before retiring to bed. he liked to look at the swans, he said. and he just liked the peace and quiet. i learn this all through broken English, of course, and from pointing at things. i wondered if he walked every night in Russia as well, and if there were swans in the water there.
the next day the gold has worn off and so has his sans-translator. before we all leave the week-long seminar he approaches me with the woman who can speak English and i tell him it was nice to meet him. i don't remember how he replied but it looked like his translator was a bigger barrier than the entire country of America versus the Russian language.

## collaborative poem with $\boldsymbol{k c}$

kyle chayka and parker bu
i had a feeling like i have one foot vicariously in one country, and the other firmly planted halfway across the world. Meanwhile, there's this girl sitting across from me, who I remember from that one year, she wrote as if she were me, as if she could possibly understand what it meant to be tied down in two places.

I mentally categorized some things:
Art faggery and the real world,
Orientals and the western sphere
Girls named Jessica and some other names
Staggered words falsely latent with meaning
Then I cataloged some other words:
Chairs and tables - tables and chairs
Combinations of colors - sciences
Books and shelves - pavement
Art - eyeglasses
Stars - cupboards
I measured their distance from me and their weight from when I thought them. looking across the table, the words felt HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD

I rested them in my hands and thought about how the distance between my hands and hers was tied down on two different ends of the table Instead of thinking, I juggled words and tried to throw them away from me, watching them bounce back mercilessly
less than no distance at all.

Words with meaning
Words without meaning
Words were exploding everywhere around me and then quite suddenly

Were nothing at all
They split into their letters, two i's
Interspersed with e's that looked like ears
An O that took the shape of our table, An E like a down-turned mouth Laughing Z's

The letters were anxious to leave so they fled out the door Out of my mouth and out the door in dull meaningless streams AeIomnhjlwtagnwetasadnstrade Waitingwesatandstared Waiting, we sat and stared.

## QUENCH \& QUELL <br> JODI RELL <br> SWELL <br> SWONDERFUL

pressing harder into the surface of which you write gives you the feeling of PURPOSE.
but if you break the tip of your pencil
everyone around you will tell you
to calm . T F . down.


