

## (don't) read all about it

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From one of my favourite contemporary poets, Steve Pottinger, with his permission:

<https://youtu.be/DISzhkW5bqQ>

(don't) read all about it!

In all the stories from the funeral there's one that they don't tell:  
but how was it stay early off the coast of the fishy news,  
instead they focus our attention on the pronouns people choose.  
They print photographs of food banks with the old conservative MPs & E,  
who are smiling for the camera and never ask them how it is  
what folk can work yet not afford to eat in this wealthiest of countries.  
And if we start to grumble about what lies out of our reach  
they're quick to point their lying finger at some poor sod on a beach  
who's just landed in a dinghy, say that they're the ones to blame.  
They've played down all the centuries, one that offers no solution,  
which provides us with a scapegoat when we need some kind of revolution.  
And yes, we're desperate and angry, and we sometimes take the bait  
they're dangling in front of us: The politics of hate  
can be attractive when you're powerless, when hope's in short supply,  
when costs go up and wages don't. When rent's sky-high,  
when the day-to-day is dismal and the future's a threat,  
with yags and baggy pants and outrage they launch their war is set  
and we're on each other's throats and against our own folk  
wanting on battlegrounds we didn't choose.  
We need to do so much better than this. Bring ourselves back from the brink.  
The world we want to live in is closer than we think.  
if we just look out for each other. Don't buy the lies they sell.  
The stories that we need to hear are the ones that they don't tell.

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There is more from [Steve on his website](#).