



Hubert

BEN GIJSEMANS

Hubert is a middle-aged man who lives in a tiny flat in Brussels and spends his plentiful free time visiting galleries, standing in front of his favourite pictures as if before a shrine. In between, he talks to almost no one. He has lost the habit of small talk, if he ever had it in the first place. His lonely downstairs neighbour's attempt to seduce Hubert scares him off. He prefers the girl he can see from his window, who lives in the apartment opposite. Her great virtue, of course, is that she is silent, unreachable. Their worlds will never collide, and for all his pining, for Hubert this is perhaps a relief.

Ben Gijsemans (b.1989) studied audiovisual arts and comics in Ghent and Brussels. The first chapter of his debut Hubert was his thesis. It was very well received at home and abroad. Gijsemans' drawings are incredibly detailed, and more often than not depict loners who feel out of place among other people.

Visit www.flandersliterature.be for information about translation grants.

“One of those lovely books in which almost nothing happens and you couldn't care less”

The Guardian

“Gijsemans can shout if he wants to, but he's more than happy to whisper”.

The Herald Scotland



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