Biography:

Marguerite Doyle holds an M.A. in Creative Writing from Dublin City University, Ireland. Her work has been published in *Reliquiae Journal, The Galway Review, The New Welsh Reader,* and the Ireland Chair of Poetry Commemorative Anthology, *Hold Open the Door*. Marguerite lives in Dublin with her family near the sea.

**Twenty-First Century Heroes**

The Caped Crusader is dead: instead, P.P.E is the new accessory—

take *that*, Batman! Our kind of heroes have courage souls,

empathy, humanity: they work shifts, bring up kids

and pay bills. In this strange new world heroes are created

by accident, incident: they act on instinct, the coincidence

of tragedy and chance. The state of hero is powerful; a heavy

burden; an isolated place. Heroes know too, the slow drip,

drip of circumstance, of caring, suffering and illness;

the unexpected things that happen to us. Heroes loom large

on media; many more are invisible. All these heroes

are selfless: showing kindness, saving lives, giving life,

or they are just holding on for tomorrow. Heroes are everyday

people writing incredible stories. Their legacy is rich;

it is broad in scope, and they give to our world many gifts

and the condition of being human in the Twenty-First Century, hope.