

POWERLESS

John Samson

When Deon Scott and Simon Tshabalala get stuck in a lift one Friday evening during a power cut in post apartheid South Africa, they are forced to face their demons of a traumatic time not only for the country, but in their own lives. Deon is a well off white businessman while Simon is a black security guard. Despite their different backgrounds, upbringings and current status, they were both touched by the violence that gripped the country as it fumbled towards democracy. As they begin to break down the social barriers and talk about their lives, Deon realises the effect his actions had on Simon's and other people's lives.

About the author

Having had friends and others comment favourably on his writing but not being able to find an agent, John looked to self-publish. *Cold Fiction* was the outcome. Having discovered TSL Pub, he is in the process of moving his self-published novels to us. *Shaka are Dead* was his first novel published by TSL. *Powerless* was his first written novel and is the second to be published. Also published are *Reading Lady Chatterley in Africa*, and a *A Donkey Called Oddsock*.

John also writes under the name [RJ Whitfield](#).

John's writing draws on his South African upbringing, exploring themes around reconciliation between different groups of people and circumstances. He enjoys travelling to unusual destinations.

He has been writing since about 2005 and has been an active member of the Harrow Writers' Circle since 2006.

Apart from writing, his other main love is music charts.

Review

Some of the best writing I've ever read. Especially the dream chapter. Northwood, Middlesex resident

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