



Prize Winner----Jack Langford Memorial Award

Prize Winner----Derek Lomas Memorial Award

In Melville Lovatt's award winning comedy / drama, *Small Mercies*, people's lives hang well and truly in the balance. Shop owner Donald and wife Andrea are desperate people with a failing business. They decide to pay an arsonist to set fire to the shop so they can claim on the insurance and start a new life.

Little do they know that two late customers have inadvertently been locked inside!

As the two couples, each with their own very different problems, touch each others' lives with unexpected results, the dark comedy, pathos and fragility of existence shines through in this ultimately uplifting play.

Author's Note:

Small Mercies developed as a continuation of my one act play, *The Lamp* and includes much of *The Lamp*'s text whilst focusing mainly on the furniture shop owner, Donald and his family.

About the author

Melville Lovatt is an award winning playwright and monologue writer whose work has been widely performed in smaller theatres throughout London.

A number of his plays have won awards:

- ❖ *The Powers That Be* won The Sussex Playwrights Club 1st Prize for best full length play.
- ❖ *Small Mercies*, a full length play, won The Jack Langford Memorial Award and The Derek Lomas Memorial Award.
- ❖ Two one act plays, *The Grave* and *The Kiss* were shortlisted for The Diane Raffle Award.
- ❖ *Egg And Spoon* and *Making Adjustments* from his monologue collection, *Standing Alone*, won the 2018 NODA London Festival Performance Competition.

He is currently President of Harrow Writers Circle and lives in Hatch End, North West London.

Category: A drama in 2 Acts

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