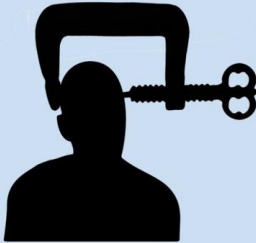


The Powers That Be

a play in two acts

Melville Lovatt



1st Prize Winner – The Sussex Playwrights Club Best Play Award.
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ACT I Scene 1

Lights up, slowly, on bedsit.

SC. sits a MAN, gagged, bound hand and foot to a wheelchair.

Silence.

Sound of muffled voices heard outside the door.

The MAN begins to groan, attempts to break free.

Enter MATT and GARY, both carrying small holdalls.

They both wear dark suits.

The MAN stops groaning, sits still.

Silence.

They stand over the MAN.

GARY: [To MATT.] 'Know what I think?
What I think we should do?
I think we should waste him.
Just blow him out.

MATT: Bit drastic.

GARY: Not really.

MATT: Can't we just...

GARY: What?

MATT: Sort of just rough him up, like?

GARY: [Considers.] Mmn.

[Pause.]

Rough him up?

MATT: Yeah. Sort of just...

GARY: Take his legs?

MATT: Or his arms.

GARY: Or his tongue.

MATT: Or his eyes.

GARY: Or his cock.

MATT: We could just take his fingers. Could leave it at that.