

The Days of Bedroom Tax

By

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INT. FLAT STAIR WAY - 6PM

Day 1

FADE IN

Brown concrete stairway between landings with 2 kids sitting speaking.

JOHN, 10, school uniform, 3ft 6, hazel eyes, fair hair, dark glasses. Right wing (MS)

JACK, 11, football top, tracksuit bottoms, trainers, dark hair, brown eyes. Left wing. (MS)

JOHN

I just got home from school today
and my mum and dad were arguing.

JACK

Why?

JOHN

Whether we're gonna move out or
not. I asked what the whole
argument was all about but my Mum
said I'm too young to understand so
I asked my Dad and he said bedroom
tax. I asked him what that is and
he told me it's something a bastard
politician issues to a council
tenant because they hate the poor,
the weak and the vulnerable. So I
gathered my Mums right, I'm too
young to understand.

JACK

Actually I heard ma Mum and Dad
talking about that as well.

JOHN

What did they say?

JACK

Well ma Mums got piles of letters
saying shes hundreds of pounds. My
Dad says its just a modern poll tax
aiming towards hitting the poorest
people in society.

JOHN

Poll tax! Jings! I learnt about
that at school. People lost there

(MORE)

JOHN (cont'd)
homes. That must mean, and, I,
Jack we've been friends for years
how can we prevent this?

JACK
We canny do anything. But my Mum
and dad on the other hand are going
on a march at the weekend in
boycott.

JOHN
In fact I heard something about
that on the telly. My parents said
they'll be there as well.

JACK
A'right, fancy going for a burger
watching the march on Saturday.

JOHN
Sure! I'll meet you there
then. We'll refuse to loose each
other.

JACK
Best mates always.

FADE OUT

INT. LIVING ROOM - 3PM

Day 2

FADE IN

Your average semi-detached house with warm effect.

MARY, 41, wheelchair, on mobile telephone. Centre stage
(LS).

MARY
I dinny care if I'm in a fucking
wheel chair. I'm going on that
march whether you like it or
not. It's because of that bedroom
tax, I have to pay an extra 50 quid
a month for the so called spare
room subsidy. (Pause) It gets in
the way of me buying ma
messages. Ma 2 biggest luxuries,
bingo and ice cream, good day.

Mary presses button on her mobile to end call.

FADE OUT

EXT. OUTSIDE A POSH HOUSE - 12NOON

Day 3

FADE IN

It's raining heavily, someone id going round the doors getting signatures the old fashioned way. Centre stage (CTS)

KENNY, 36, blue raincoat, wellies, specs.

Kenny rings on the doorbell.

The door gets answered.

ANGELA, 22, blue dress with diamond sequins, shiny blues high heels, bright eyes, blonde hair. Centre stage (ECU)

KENNY

Could you spare a signing of your signature? (MS)

ANGELA

Depends! What's it for.

KENNY

It's to repeal the welfare reform.

ANGELA

Well, I'm for the welfare reform as it means people like me get loads of money and people like you get squat. Now will you please remove yourself from my property or I'll have security to move you.

Angela slams the door shut.

KENNY

Fucking snob. (ECU)

FADE OUT

INT. DINING ROOM - 8PM

Day 4

FADE IN

Big fancy dining room, all set and clean expensive pictures hanging. (LTS)

A couple sitting down to a cup of tea whilst chatting Centre stage (MS)

DAVE, 35, fancy clothes.

HELEN, 32, fancy clothes.

HELEN

Well thats the kids off to bed then.

DAVE

Helen?

HELEN

Yes dear?

DAVE

Did you manage to get any of our 4 other houses let out to anyone today?

HELEN

Only 1 of them. What makes you ask?

DAVE

I was at the bank today and it looks like we are down to our last million pounds.

Moments sliences as Helen tries to think of something to change the subject. She picks up the newspaper and mentions what it says.

HELEN

Dave, look tomorrow a march in the highstreet for bedroom tax, one of the girls came home from school today and mentioned it. Poor buggers.

Dave snatches the newspaper from Helen.

DAVE

Well you don't need to worry about poor buggers do you. You live in a mansion, you have a husband who owns a few houses, owns business, landlords 5 or 6 different apartments with common muck renting it out.

Dave walks away in anger (CTS)

Pause

HELEN

Hee-hee-hee. I love being married to him he's easy to wind up. Left wing (CU)

FADE OUT

INT. BURGER BAR - 1PM

Day 5

FADE IN

Noones in there but the people who work there, John and Jack. Centre stage (MS)

Outside there the march is going on with all the people who said they'll be there are there. (LTS)

JOHN

This is great, I've always anticipated for a riot for all the right reasons. My parents even gave me money. Right wing (MS)

JACK

I know they did, you bought me a burger. Left wing (MS)

JOHN

And I've got money left?

JACK

Well 1 thing is for sure no matter what the outcome of this bedroom tax we'll always be best friends.

FADE OUT