

The Days of Bedroom Tax

By

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Final Draft

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INT. FLAT STAIR WAY - 6PM

Day 1

FADE IN

Brown concrete stairway between landings with 2 kids sitting speaking. (MS) Centre Stage

JOHN, 10, school uniform, 3ft 6, hazel eyes, fair hair, dark glasses.

JACK, 11, football top, tracksuit bottoms, trainers, dark hair, brown eyes.

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)

(CONTINUED)

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-detatched house with warm effect. (MS) Centre stage

MARY, 41, wheelchair, on mobile telephone.

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.

(CONTINUED)

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.(OTS)

KENNY, 36, blue raincoat, wellies, specs.(MS) Centre stage

Kenny rings on the doorbell.

The door gets answered.

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

KENNY

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

ANGELA

Depends! What's it for. (MS)

KENNY

It's to repeal the welfare reform. (ECU)

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.(CU)

Angela slams the door shut. (M)

KENNY

Fucking snob. (KS)

FADE OUT

INT. DINING ROOM - 8PM

Day 4

FADE IN

(CONTINUED)

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

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

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 bak 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. (MS)

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. (MS)

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.(MS) Centre Stage

Dave walks away in anger. (CTS) Right wing

Pause

HELEN

Hee-hee-hee. I love being married  
to him he's easy to wind up. (MS) Centre Stage

FADE OUT

INT. BURGER BAR - 1PM

Day 5

FADE IN

Noones in there but the people who work there, John and  
Jack. Front Stage

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

JOHN

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

JACK

I know they did, you bought me a  
burger. (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