

# EXTRACT

# exiting

a short play

By

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**Cast**

MARK

STEPHEN

**Setting**

Lift.

**Time**

Early Friday evening.

**exiting**

Lift. Evening.

**STEPHEN IS IN THE LIFT. WE HEAR A BELL RING.**

THE LIFT STOPS, DOORS OPEN. **MARK** ENTERS. HE PUSHES A BUTTON. BEAT. THE DOORS CLOSE. BEAT.

STEPHEN: Did you hear?

BEAT.

MARK: Sorry.

STEPHEN: Did you hear?

MARK: What?

STEPHEN: Two people are being exited from this office.

BEAT.

MARK: That so.

STEPHEN: Two.

MARK: That so.

**STEPHEN NODS.**

STEPHEN: Don't you want to know who?

MARK: Not really.

STEPHEN: Not a little bit curious?

MARK: Not really.

BEAT.

STEPHEN: The first one is Morris.

MARK: Don't know him.

STEPHEN: Marketing.

BEAT.

MARK: And the other?

STEPHEN: Thought you weren't interested.

MARK: You've tempted me.

STEPHEN: Windshuttle.

BEAT.

MARK: Windshuttle?

STEPHEN: Finance. Don't know him.

BEAT.

MARK: Who told you this?

STEPHEN: Just heard.

MARK: Where?

STEPHEN: Around.

MARK: But where exactly?

STEPHEN: Various people.

MARK: But which people?

STEPHEN: Various.

BEAT. **MARK** SUDDENLY PUSHES THE EMERGENCY BUTTON – A BELL RINGS LOUDLY. THE LIFT GRINDS TO A HALT.

STEPHEN: (PANICKED) What are you doing?

MARK: We need to chat.

STEPHEN: I'm -

MARK: Just for a while.

STEPHEN: Claustrophobic. I don't like -

MARK: Won't take long.

STEPHEN: Lifts.

MARK: Just a minute or two.

STEPHEN: Can we just –

MARK: I'm Windshuttle.

BEAT.

STEPHEN: Oh. *The* Windshuttle?

MARK: Finance. Who just found out they are being exited.

STEPHEN: (BEAT, HOLDING OUT HIS HAND) Nice to meet you.

MARK: (IGNORING THE HAND) Now are you going to tell me?

STEPHEN: Can we start the lift again first?

MARK: No.

STEPHEN: The bell is ringing. I'm not sure the bell is meant to be ringing.

MARK: It's not.

STEPHEN: Well if you stop pushing the button –

MARK: I'll let the button go when you tell me.

STEPHEN: Like I said –

MARK: Yes?

STEPHEN: Around.

MARK: Yes?

STEPHEN: Various ...

MARK: Still pushing.

STEPHEN: Please.

MARK: Bell ringing.

STEPHEN: We might ...

MARK: Not good.