



Challenging ideas in mental health

Nobody's fools

The King

And there were tulips I seem to recall. Yes, we bought them for the room, crimson tulips. You were standing by the window as a train went past, so you didn't hear what I said properly. You turned around with that smile of yours. Rosemary for remembrance, but what is for forgetting?

Jonathan X

We've come to demand that you release us from the spell of Round hay Wing.

The King

What can I do?

3rd Lost Soul

Well, everyone says you have the power.

The King

Alas, would that it were so.

1st Lost Soul

What?

Magic Bullet Maker

He means chance would be a fine thing.

2nd Lost Soul

Oh, you mean you don't have the power?

The King

Oh sure I have power. Power is easy. I am the owner of a multinational industrial pharmaceutical empire. I have power, but power isn't enough you see.

Jonathan X

What do you mean?

The King

Look, I'm tired, I've made billions and where did it get me? I'm alone. I can spend a million every day on some new toy, holiday wherever I like. I could buy a country if I wanted but what on earth would I do with it. No, it seems to me that I've been searching for something that no longer exists.

3rd Lost Soul

That photograph?

The King

My Rosemary has gone forever. She loved me but I felt I had to prove myself to her. I had to make money and give her everything she wanted but she only wanted ... she only wanted...

2nd Lost Soul

Love?

The King

Yes, love. If only I knew then.

2nd Lost Soul

But it's not too late. No, it's never too late. Julian.

The King

Rosemary, it's you. My Rosemary and you've learned to play the violin.

2nd Lost Soul

Yes, oh Julian sweetheart. How could I ever leave you?

The King

Because I was stupid, foolish, greedy and bad tempered.

2nd Lost Soul

Yes, there was that. But now we're together we'll never be parted.

The King

I declare a national holiday.

1st Lost Soul

But you can't do that. Only the Queen can do that.

The King

Oh, I'll email her. She'll be alright about it.

1st Lost Soul

Oh.

The King

I intend to disband my empire right now.

Magic Bullet Maker

What?

The King

Yes, from now on my factories will only be used for the manufacture of wholesome goods.

Magic Bullet Maker

But you can't do that. What about me?

The King

I've been thinking. It seems to me I built this empire because I wanted to forget. Perhaps I wanted the world to forget. If everything was forgotten then perhaps I could be free. But now I know true freedom only comes when you can remember everything. Look I'll see you're alright. You can do the music.

Magic Bullet Maker

Ah ... cool.

The King

I'll take out a subscription to Greenpeace and send a million immediately to the Zapatistas. Oh I've been looking forward to this for a long time.

Jonathan X

Well, what about our freedom?

The King

Look, it served my purpose for people to think that I was in charge of everything, but the truth is I have no power at all. You're free already.

All

Oh.

Voice

But tomorrow, when we wake up we'll still be on Round hay Wing.

The King

No, you see, you have woken up already. Now no-one can make you go back.

Voice

We don't have to go back?

Angel

And they never did. They escaped into the spaces. And as dawn came up over East Leeds, Harehills gleamed like the New Jerusalem. And you could almost believe that God sees every sparrow fall after a quiet night on Round hay Wing.

1st Lost Soul

Yeah. We were down and we were out. We thought there was nothing to shout about.

2nd Lost Soul:

We were down in the mouth we had a long face and the treatment we got was such a disgrace.

3rd Lost Soul:

But we didn't give up and we didn't lie down because we knew better times were coming around.

Jonathan X

So we got out at last, now it's all in the past and we know these times are going to last.

The King

Because being mad is not all bad, when you realise it's the world that's sad.

Magic Bullet Maker

Nobody owns us, we're free at last. We're nobody's fools. We're our own fools.

All

We're nobody's fools. We're our own fools.