

Dr Waters

By

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An Original Screenplay

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FADE IN:

DR WATERS (V.O.)

What is power?... Power... is what I would call authority... one's word or a group of people's words is God's word... Power can be good or bad... If one makes a decision, and it is good, then that is good power. However, people don't always make good decisions. Hitler was in power, and he didn't do much good did he?... Power is obtained through many avenues. Luck... inheritance... hard work... the will to do good, the list goes on. I obtained my power through all four of these avenues. My name is Dr Waters, and this is my story.

INT. EMERGENCY RESUSCITATION ROOM - NIGHT

PATIENT, mid-twenties, bolts up in bed and takes a deep breath, her eyes open wide. She breathes deeply as she looks around at the emergency team, shocked.

DR WATERS, late twenties, is standing over her with a syringe and needle, which he passes to NURSE GRANGE, late forties, with an emotionless look on his face.

DR WATERS (V.O.)

Another overdose... accidental. If she'd arrived any later I doubt she would have made it... It's a hard world out there... but not as hard as mine.

INT. DR WATERS CHILDHOOD BEDROOM - NIGHT

The YOUNG DR WATERS, about ten, is reading a children's science book.

DR WATERS (V.O.)

I always loved reading... loved science... everyone loves people. They are the only thing we have in this barren world. And my world was barren as a child. I wanted to change things. I wanted to live in a good world. I was sensitive to the evil of this world and so I

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DR WATERS (V.O.) (cont'd)
aspired to do great things. Good
things.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dr Waters' FATHER and MOTHER, both early forties/late thirties are having an argument.

The young Dr Waters watches from the door.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
My father was a Doctor... a good
one. And I had always dreamed of
being like him... He was a man... a
good man...

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

A teenage Dr Waters is studying.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
And so naturally... I followed in
his footsteps... Medicine was
difficult... extremely difficult...
but it was my path... like it was
my fathers path... and any other
man or woman or child's path in
this world... People... were my
only weakness... Their welfare was
almost as important as mine... and
so I went to medical school.

INT. LECTURE THEATRE - DAY

A slightly older Dr Waters is sitting through a lecture.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
Medical school was more enjoyable
than I expected it to be. There was
a lot of work to do... too much...
and every day I got closer to being
the man responsible for the lives
of others... and it was impossible
to remember everything. I knew one
day, I would stand over a
patient... dying... not knowing
what to do... but... I was becoming
the man I had set out to be... a
good man... a respectable,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DR WATERS (V.O.) (cont'd)
honourable man... and I was
young... and good-looking... and
University was full of people
reaching for their dreams...
becoming scientists, politicians,
writers, all of those careers we
dreamt of as children... were
finally becoming a reality.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - DAY

Dr Waters applies the pads to PATIENT 2's, elderly man,
chest. The patient remains unconscious.

Dr Waters looks at the flatline on the monitor and calls
time of death.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
And then I qualified.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dr Waters is drinking gin from a bottle in front of the
television.

He looks at it drunkenly, emotionless, for a good while.

He switches it off and looks at the ceiling.

He takes another swig.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
I started drinking... heavily... I
was overworked... lonely... and
worst of all... I had forgotten
what it was like to care...

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NIGHT

Patient 3, male, 20's, who is pinching his nose with his
head leaned back, is sitting opposite Dr Waters.

DR WATERS
What can I do for you?

PATIENT 3
(he's holding his nose)
My nose is broken.

(CONTINUED)

DR WATERS

I see.

Dr Waters gets up from his chair and walks over to Patient 3, who stops holding his nose. He looks closely at the nose around all sides, and then with one swift movement, grabs it, and puts it back into place.

PATIENT 3

Arrrrggghhh!

Dr Waters gives a condescending smile.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Dr Waters and MR REDWOOD, late twenties, both dressed for the formal occasion are entertaining LADY 1 & 2, mid twenties, pretty. All are laughing happily.

DR WATERS (V.O.)

It wasn't all bad though... I was rich... powerful... and desirable.

Lady 1 turns her attention to Dr Waters.

LADY 1

So Mr Redwood tells me you're a Doctor.

Dr Waters stops laughing.

DR WATERS (V.O.)

I met Daniel Redwood at university. We've been best friends ever since. He was a successful lawyer, specialising in corporate law. He was wealthier than I was... and I was wealthy.

DR WATERS

Yes. I suppose I am.

Dr Waters laughs. The rest follow suit.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dr Waters is making love to Lady 1.

She screams with pleasure.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - DAY

PATIENT 4, male, thirties, is rushed into the room.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
My suspicion was that he was
poisoned... with what... I don't
know.

DR WATERS
Keep him ventilated... that's
great.

Dr Waters takes the mans pulse.

DR WATERS
(alarmed)
He's lost his pulse. Get the pads.

Nurse Grange hands them to him, then switches the machine on
and charges.

NURSE 1 & 2, young, remove the man's shirt.

NURSE GRANGE
Charging... Clear!

Dr Waters applies a shock to the chest.

The man doesn't respond.

NURSE GRANGE
Charging... clear!

Dr Waters applies another shock.

The man doesn't respond.

Dr Waters hands the pads back to Nurse Grange and calls time
of death.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dr Waters is watching a blank television, drinking.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Dr Waters is lying in bed, hands behind his head, staring at
the ceiling, looking distant.

(CONTINUED)

DR WATERS (V.O.)

I remember that morning as if it were yesterday... The morning I realised I had lost everything I once was... Everything I once had.

The PHONE RINGS. Dr Waters answers.

DR WATERS

Hello?

Dr Waters listens. Then puts the phone down and continues to look up at the ceiling.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Dr Waters swings and hits the ball perfectly.

MR REDWOOD

Nice shot.

DR WATERS

Thanks Daniel. You're up.

Mr Redwood grabs a ball from his bag and places it on the same pin Dr Waters used. He gets into position next to the ball and practices his swing a few times. As he does this, he says...

MR REDWOOD

Nice day today.

DR WATERS

Yes... Splendid day.

There's a pause.

MR REDWOOD

Everything O.K. Michael?

DR WATERS

Why wouldn't it be?

MR REDWOOD

I don't know. You just seem... distant.

long pause.

DR WATERS

I guess I haven't been feeling myself lately.

(CONTINUED)

Mr Redwood swings and hits.

DR WATERS

Not bad... Perhaps a bit too heavy
on the right side.

Dr Waters hurriedly gets his club bag and wheels it after him as he heads for the ball, hundreds of yards away.

Mr Redwood follows the ball, club a metre or so from the ground.

He follows suit.

FADE TO BLACK

DR WATERS (V.O.)

The depression hit suddenly... like
ice cold water on a summers day...
I couldn't keep up with life...
even the simplest things required
more effort than I could spare...
November the third... 2010... is
when I really noticed what had
happened to me.

INT. EMERGENCY ROOM - NIGHT

PATIENT 5, woman, thirties, is lying on the table,
motionless.

Dr Waters looks at her, an emotionless expression on his
face.

NURSE GRANGE

Dr Waters?

Dr Waters starts to cry.

NURSE GRANGE

Dr Waters.

And then he sobs.

He sits down on the floor of the emergency room and bawls.

The nursing staff look at him in amazement and shock.

EXT. OUTSIDE ROYAL COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE - DAY

Dr Waters smokes a cigarette nervously.

INT. MEDICAL COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

Dr Waters is sitting at a table, along with the general medical council. COUNCIL HEAD, woman, fifties, speaks.

COUNCIL HEAD

Dr Michael Waters... The council has reached their decision... You are hereby suspended from practice for a minimum of six months and until you are fit to return to work... if you would like to appeal, you can do so in the formal fashion.

The council head bangs the hammer.

EXT. LONDON ROAD - DAY

A taxi pulls up and Dr Waters enters.

INT. TAXI - DAY

TAXI DRIVER

Where are you headed mate?

Dr Waters remains silent for a while, thinking.

DR WATERS

I don't exactly know.

The TAXI DRIVER, sixties, looks at the Dr in the rear view mirror, perplexed.

TAXI DRIVER

Well you have to be going somewhere mate.

DR WATERS

Here's fine.

TAXI DRIVER

Here?

EXT. LONDON ROAD - DAY

Dr Waters exits the cab.

The taxi driver shakes his head and drives off.

Dr Waters heads down the road, which is desolate.

He walks for a while.

A group of gangsters walking the opposite way, are discussing something. They walk around him.

One of them, GANGSTER 1, nudges the others, and says something.

The gangsters change direction, following Dr Waters.

Dr Waters is robbed.

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

DR GRIFFITHS, late forties, male, looks at Dr Waters, sitting opposite him, concerned.

DR GRIFFITHS
How are you feeling today Michael?

Dr Waters holds his head in his hands.

DR WATERS
Terrible.

pause.

DR WATERS
Do you know why you're feeling
terrible Michael?

Dr Waters sighs... then sobs.

Dr Griffiths hands him a tissue.

Dr Waters dabs his eyes, looks up at the Psychologist, and says...

DR WATERS
I have no idea.

The Psychologist nods in acknowledgement, frowning.

(CONTINUED)

DR GRIFFITHS
How long have you been feeling like
this Michael?

Dr Waters sobs.

DR WATERS
I don't know.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Dr Waters looks up at the ceiling with his hands behind his head.

Something occurs to him. He rushes out of bed.

INT. AEROPLANE - DAY

Dr Waters looks out of the window at the world below, then takes a sip of his drink, alcoholic.

He looks down at his book, and reads.

Watch this for a while, until screaming can be heard.

WOMAN (V.O.)
(shreeks)
Oh my god. He's not breathing. He's
not breathing.

Dr Waters continues to read.

The air hostess makes her way down the aisle to the front of the cabin and grabs the intercom.

AIR HOSTESS
Ladies and Gentleman. We have an
emergency. If there's a Doctor on
board, please make your way to the
front of the plane.

Dr Waters continues to read.

DR WATERS (V.O.)
Deep vein thrombosis was my
guess... I don't know why I just
sat there... It was the most
pathetic thing I had ever done...
It's a funny thing... to care... We
put it upon ourselves to care for
many reasons... but that day, I

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DR WATERS (V.O.) (cont'd)
completely went against everything
that I had learnt as a Doctor...
everything I had learnt as a human
being. That day... I really didn't
care... or at least... I pretended
not to.

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY

Dr Waters is reading a book in a lounge beside the pool.

MELLISSA, late twenties, beautiful, takes the lounge next
to his.

Dr Waters stops reading, but continues to look at his book,
pretending to read.

Mellissa applies sun tan lotion to her body.

She looks at the Doctor, then continues to apply lotion.

She finishes applying lotion, then gazes at the Doctor at
intervals.

Dr Waters puts down his book and returns her gaze.

DR WATERS
Do you always stare at strangers?

MELLISSA
Only the one's I like.

Mellissa smiles seductively.

Then holds out her hand, palm down.

MELLISSA
Mellissa.

Dr Waters shakes her fingers gently.

DR WATERS
Michael.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Dr Waters finishes making love to Mellissa, and rolls onto
his back.

The pair stare up at the ceiling, breathing quickly.

(CONTINUED)

MELLISSA

So what do you do... Michael?

DR WATERS

I... was a Doctor.

MELLISSA

Was? What happened.

Dr Waters remains silent for a while, then says...

DR WATERS

I suppose... I quit.

INT. DR GRIFFITHS OFFICE - DAY

DR GRIFFITHS

How was your holiday Michael?

DR WATERS

Fantastic! I met someone... lot's
of sun.

The Psychologist nods in acknowledgement and smiles.

DR GRIFFITHS

Are you seeing her again?

DR WATERS

She gave me her number.

The Psychologist smiles again, before a serious expression
crosses his face.

DR GRIFFITHS

Michael... have you given any more
thought to what happened... at the
hospital.

DR WATERS

I think about it every second... of
every day.

DR GRIFFITHS

I see. And?

DR WATERS

Well... I don't know... I can't
really explain what happened to
me... Or what I was feeling... All
I know is that it felt horrible...
and I never want to feel like that
again.

(CONTINUED)

DR GRIFFITHS
Try explaining it Michael.

DR WATERS
I cant. I...

DR GRIFFITHS
Try.

DR WATERS
It felt as though... as though...

Dr Waters starts to cry.

DR WATERS
It felt as though I didn't care.

The Psychologist looks saddened.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Mr Redwood putts the ball from ten yards.

He clenches his fist and pulls his arm in to his body.

Dr Waters looks on, a glum look on his face.

Mr Redwood frowns.

MR REDWOOD
Come on Michael. What's wrong with
you.

DR WATERS
I lost my job.

MR REDWOOD
What? How?

INT. GOLF CLUB BAR - DAY

BAR LADY, mid-twenties, places two beers on the bar.

MR REDWOOD
So what happened?

DR WATERS
I broke down.

(CONTINUED)

MR REDWOOD
Why?

DR WATERS
I don't know.

MR REDWOOD
Overworked?

DR WATERS
Possibly.

MR REDWOOD
Have you got a Psychologist? I know
a great Psychologist.

DR WATERS
Already seen him twice.

MR REDWOOD
Does he help?

Dr Waters shrugs.

DR WATERS
The greatest medicine for this type
of thing is time...

Mr Redwood nods in agreement.

MR REDWOOD
How was your holiday?

DR WATERS
I met someone.

MR REDWOOD
What's she like?

DR WATERS
Perfect.

MR REDWOOD
Are you seeing her again?

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dr Waters is watching T.V. A romantic scene begins on the
set. Dr Waters heads over to the telephone.

He dials and holds the receiver to his ear.

(CONTINUED)

PHONE
ring ring... hello?

DR WATERS
Mellissa... hi. Remember me? It's
Michael.

PHONE
Michael! Hi!

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dr Waters and Mellissa are staring up at the ceiling.

DR WATERS
So... does this make us a couple?

MELLISSA
I think so.

DR WATERS
You're amazing.

MELLISSA
And so are you... Dr Waters.

The pair stare up at the ceiling for a while longer.

DR WATERS
What now?

MELLISSA
It depends what you mean?

The pair laugh and look at each other lovingly.

MELLISSA
Take me to the countryside.

INT. CAR - DAY

Dr Waters drives whilst Mellissa looks out of the open
window at the countryside.

She gazes at him and he gazes back and they laugh lovingly.

Mellissa looks back out of the window.

CAR ENGINE is heard from a car coming the wrong way down the
road.

SCREECHING is heard as the brakes are hit, followed by a CRASH as the two cars collide.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Dr Waters is unconscious.

DR WATERS (V.O.)

I had thought my life could not get any worse... I had almost lost hope... and then she walked right into it and everything that had consumed me had diminished... I had been cured... but then... almost as soon as she arrived... she was taken away from me... It was right then, lying in that hospital bed that I made the decision... to change who I was... to change everything I had been... I had been weak... I had been weak with the burden of the ill-health of others... and now I was going to change everything.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

SUPER: 6 months later

Dr Waters is looking across the interview table at the interviewer, who is looking very concerned.

INTERVIEWER

That's terrible.

DR WATERS

I know.

INTERVIEWER

Are you aware that this job involves a lot of pressure.

DR WATERS

Of course.

The interviewer thinks, looking at Dr Waters with consideration. He holds out his hand.

INTERVIEWER

You've got the job.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. RESUS ROOM - NIGHT

Dr Waters continually applies the pads to a patients chest.

DR WATERS (V.O.)

It's a funny thing to care... We care so much that when we don't care enough we forget to care about ourselves... All it takes is to realise that simple fact... and you never doubt yourself again.

The patient recovers.

FADE TO BLACK