

THEY RULE BY FEAR - AND FEAST ON DESPAIR!

£2.99

SCOTT

VS

DEMONS



DAVIDSON
GRANT
SMITH

Artlink

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Artlink

PRESENTS

SCOTT vs DEMONS

Scott vs Demons is a work of art, a creative comment on life which seeks to draw attention to an issue which is impacting on vulnerable people who are often 'invisible' within the wider public. We view this comic as a satirical artwork, designed to draw attention to this issue and hopefully contribute towards effecting positive social change. We hope you enjoy it and perhaps gain a better understanding that in order to ensure a healthy community, vulnerable people with chronic ill health and disabilities need to live in a society that respects and supports their human rights.

Alison Stirling, Artlink

This comic is dedicated to David Hart (former chair of Artlink). A great man who has strived and fought for the rights of disabled people.

Inspiration: **Scott Davidson**

Script: **Alan Grant**

Art: **Robin Smith**

Available to download from

<http://artlinkedinburgh.bigcartel.com/>

price £1.50

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For contact details see back cover.

CREATIVE

SCOTT
LAND

ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL





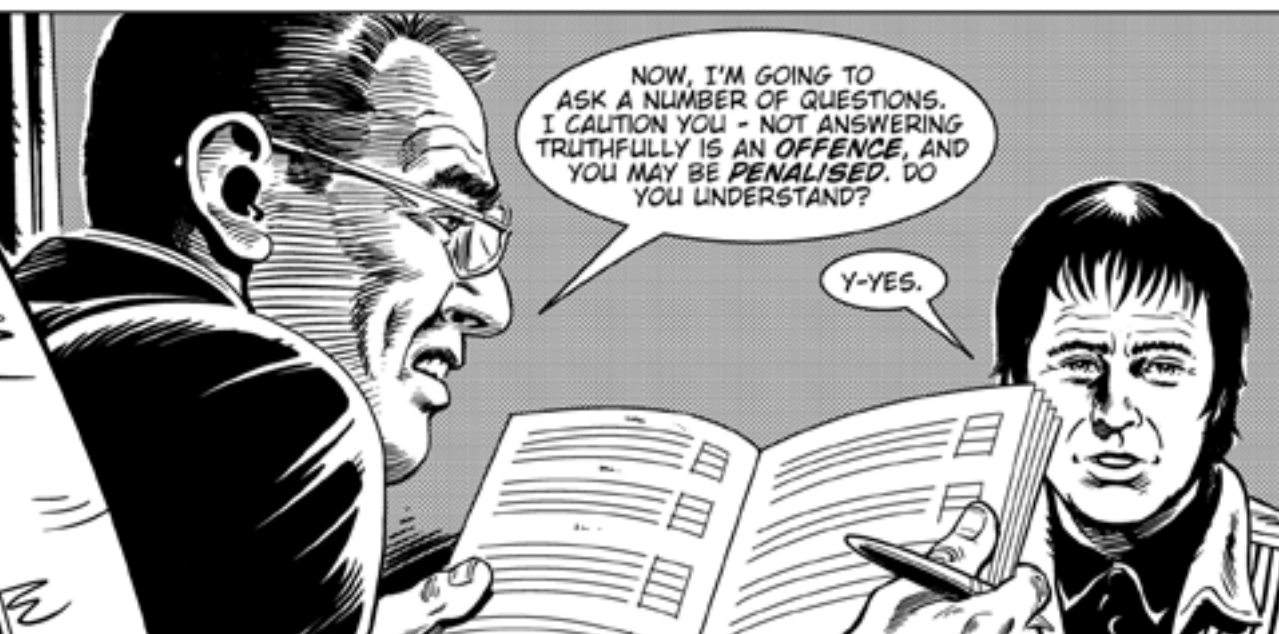
YOU DON'T WANT TO BE LATE FOR YOUR P.I.P. ASSESSMENT!



P.I.P. - MY PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENT ASSESSMENT. THE GOVERNMENT SAYS DISABILITY CLAIMANTS ARE COSTING THE COUNTRY TOO MUCH, SO THEY'RE TRYING TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY PAYABLE TO PEOPLE LIKE ME --

IT'S HORRIBLE, MUM! IT LOOKS LIKE A FACTORY FOR CRUSHING PEOPLE'S DREAMS!

YOU JUST BE TRUE TO YOURSELF, SCOTT, AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE!



MUM'S TAUGHT ME ALWAYS TO BE HONEST, SO WHY WOULD HE THINK I WOULD LIE?

THE FIRST QUESTIONS ARE ON FOOD PREPARATION.

QUESTION 1(A): CAN YOU PREPARE AND COOK A SIMPLE MEAL UNAIDED?



1(E): DO YOU
NEED SUPERVISION
OR ASSISTANCE TO
PREPARE OR COOK
A SIMPLE MEAL?

1(F): YOU
CANNOT PREPARE
OR COOK FOOD?



I CAN
MAKE BEANS
ON TOAST.

THAT
DOESN'T COUNT
AS A MEAL, THOUGH.
DOES IT?



THAT'S NOT
FOR ME TO
DECIDE.

BUT --

I AM ONLY
FOLLOWING PROCEDURE.
EVERYONE IS ASKED THE
SAME QUESTIONS.



THE
SECOND SECTION
CONCERNS TAKING
NUTRITION.

1CA): CAN
YOU...

I HAVE TO FIGHT HARD TO STAY FOCUSED.
I MEAN WHO WANTS TO SPEND THEIR
AFTERNOON ANSWERING STUPID
QUESTIONS LIKE THIS?



IT GETS EMBARRASSING WHEN HE ASKS ME QUESTIONS ON DRESSING AND UNDRESSING, AND MEETING MY TOILET NEEDS. BY THE TIME HE GETS TO COMMUNICATING, AND READING AND UNDERSTANDING SIGNS, SYMBOLS AND WORDS, I'M READY TO CALL IT QUITS.

BUT POWELL ISN'T FINISHED YET --

NOW WE COME TO ENGAGING WITH OTHER PEOPLE FACE TO FACE. QUESTION 9(A): CAN YOU ENGAGE WITH OTHER PEOPLE UNAIDED?

9(B): DO YOU NEED PROMPTING TO BE ABLE TO ENGAGE WITH OTHER PEOPLE?

9(C): DO YOU NEED SOCIAL SUPPORT TO BE ABLE TO ENGAGE WITH OTHER PEOPLE?

EXCUSE ME, MR. POWELL --

SCOTT IS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM. HE HAS LEARNING DIFFICULTIES. HE FINDS IT VERY HARD TO ENGAGE WITH PEOPLE HE DOESN'T KNOW.

YES, YES. THAT'S ALL VERY WELL - BUT HE STILL HAS TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS I ASK. NOW CAN WE MOVE ON TO BUDGETING DECISIONS, PLANNING AND FOLLOWING JOURNEYS, AND MOVING AROUND?

I'M SORRY MR. POWELL, BUT YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO MUM. I'M ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM, I HAVE LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AND I FIND IT HARD TO TALK TO PEOPLE --

MR. DAVIDSON, PLEASE STOP INTERRUPTING ME --

BUT IT'S TRUE!

I DON'T CARE! IT'S MY JOB TO ASK THESE QUESTIONS - AND YOU HAVE TO ANSWER THEM! DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?

Y-YES, BUT--



THEN
JUST ANSWER
THE QUESTIONS,
DAMN YOU!

THAT'S WHEN I
SEE IT - A DEMON
COMING OUT OF
POWELL'S BODY!

IN AN INSTANT
IT'S GONE AGAIN.

THE NEXT
QUESTIONS
ARE ON MAKING
JOURNEYS...



I'M SORRY
- BUT I THINK
WE'RE DONE
HERE.

SIT BACK
DOWN, MR. DAVIDSON,
OR YOU'LL REGRET
IT!



DO YOU
HEAR ME? MARK
MY WORDS, YOU'LL
BE SORRY!





I KNOW WHAT
I SAW.



Edinburgh News
**SCOTT SAVES
MUM AND CITY
FROM ANCIENT
TERROR!**
THREE
ATTACKS

SO I CHECK OUT
'DEMONS' ON
THE INTERNET--



THERE ARE ONLY TWO MAIN WAYS
TO DEFEAT THEM. YOU CAN USE
BLACK MAGIC--

NO THANKS!
I DON'T WANT TO
GET INVOLVED
WITH MAGIC!



OR YOU CAN USE
HOLY WATER--

I DON'T
REALLY BELIEVE
IN RELIGION, BUT I
SUPPOSE THAT MAKES
SENSE. THOUGH
WHERE WOULD
I GET IT?







I DON'T LIKE TRAVELLING ALONE - TOO MANY PEOPLE THAT I DON'T KNOW --

MUM'S AT WORK, SO I'VE LEFT HER A NOTE TELLING HER WHERE I'M GOING.



SO I COUNT IN MY HEAD TO STOP ME WORRYING --



I'VE ALMOST REACHED 6,000 BY THE TIME WE GET TO EDINBURGH --



MY FIRST STOP IS THE DEPARTMENT STORE --



GOOD JOB I HAD ENOUGH IN MY WALLET TO PAY FOR WHAT I WANT!

THE ASSESSMENT BUILDING
FEELS EVEN WORSE THAN IT
DID BEFORE. IT'S ALL I CAN DO
TO STOP MY LEGS SHAKING--



I FEEL LIKE TURNING
ROUND AND GOING HOME
AGAIN. BUT MUM'S WORDS
ECHO IN MY HEAD. "ALWAYS
BE TRUE TO YOURSELF"



SO I THROW BACK
MY SHOULDERS
AND TAKE A
DEEP BREATH --

I'M AFRAID
MR. POWELL IS IN
A BOARD MEETING ON
THE FIFTH FLOOR. YOU'LL
HAVE TO WAIT.



I WAIT TILL SHE'S
DISTRACTED--






-- LIKE TO REMIND
YOU ALL THAT WE HAVE
TARGETS TO MEET. OUR BONUSES
DEPEND ON US MEETING
THOSE TARGETS --



KRAAASH!



WHAT'S
THE MEANING
OF THIS?


YOU'VE
NO RIGHT
TO BE HERE!
GET OUT!



YOU! I
KNOW YOU'RE
POSSESSED BY
A DEMON!

THIS IS
ABSD--

DON'T TRY
TO DENY IT.
I SAW IT!



YOU ARE
VERRRY ASSTUTE,
MORTALL... FOR
ALL THE GOOD
IT WILL DO
YOUUUU!

WHY? WHY
DO YOU SET OUT TO
HURT PEOPLE LIKE ME - PEOPLE
WHO ARE **DISABLED**. PEOPLE WHO ARE
TOO WEAK AND **POWERLESS**
TO FIGHT BACK?

YOU
ANSWER YOUR
OWN QUESTION. IT IS
BECAUSE YOU **ARE** WEAK
THAT WE CAN FEED ON
YOUR PAIN AND
DESPAIR!

I'LL TELL
PEOPLE ABOUT YOU
- THE POLICE THE
NEWSPAPERS!

NO-ONE
WILL EVER
BELIEVE YOU,
FFOOO!

NOW GO -
BEFORE I HAVE
TO HURRT
YOU!

NOT IF
I CAN HURT YOU
FIRST!

AAAAARRRRGGGGHHH!







YOU'RE
COMINGG BACK
TO HELL WITH USSS,
MORTALL!

WE'LL
RRRIP OUT YOUR
GUTSSS!





WE'LL
CRUSSSH YOUR
BONESSS!



GOT IT!



AAAAARRRRHHH!

YOU
CANNOT WIN,
FFFOO!!!

WE HAVE
ALREADY
POSSSESSED
SOME OF YOUR TOP
POLITICIANS!

AAAGGGHHH!

YOU
CANNOT
BEAT US!!!
WE WILL
WINN!









ORDER,
ORDER!

THE MINISTER
FOR HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SECURITY WILL
NOW ADDRESS THE
HONOURABLE
MEMBERS.



CONTRARY TO WHAT
OTHERS MIGHT TELL YOU, OUR
AUSTERITY PROGRAMME IS WORKING.
WE ARE STARTING TO SEE SIGNIFICANT
SAVINGS IN THE COST OF PROVIDING
HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SECURITY.



BUT THOSE SAVINGS
ARE NOT ENOUGH! THERE IS
STILL MORE FAT TO BE TRIMMED
FROM THE SYSTEM. WE NEED MORE
AUSTERITY - AND THIS GOVERNMENT
WILL ENSURE THAT WE
GET IT!



HEAR
HEAR! WE'LL
SAID, SIR!

HEAR
HEAR!

There are a number of organisations in your community who will offer advice about ESA, PIP and other disability issues. Examples are:

Online advice & support

Fightback4Justice is a Non Profit Community Interest Group offering expert welfare benefit advice, help with advocacy & forms for PIP/ ESA. **fightback4justice.co.uk**

Turn2us is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services. **turn2us.org.uk**

Local Advice and Support

Citizens Advice Bureau. You can search for your local CAB office (by postcode) or call the CAB free advice line on 0808 800 9060 **citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland**

Campaigning Organisations

Disabled People Against Cuts (DPAC) believes that disabled people should have full human rights and equality. It is for everyone who refuses to stay silent about the injustices delivered by wealthy politicians on ordinary people and their lives.

DPAC Facebook group - **facebook.com/groups/DPAC2011**

DPAC Facebook page - **facebook.com/disabledpeopleagainstcuts**

Twitter - **[@Dis_PPL_Protest](https://twitter.com/Dis_PPL_Protest)**

Edinburgh Coalition Against Poverty are active in opposing the unfair disability assessments and supporting people who endure them. Contact **ecap@lists.riseup.net** or visit drop in every Tuesday 12-3pm at Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh (ACE), 17 West Montgomery Place, Edinburgh, EH7 5HA. Information on dealing with assessments at **edinburghagainstpoverity.org.uk**

Westgap, Glasgow is an anti-poverty community group run by and for people in Glasgow who have first hand experience of living in poverty. Westgap runs a free, independent and confidential advice service focused on welfare rights while also providing support with a wide range of other issues.

Information at **info@westgap.co.uk**

Autistic UK is an Autistic People's Organisation – an organisation run by autistic people, offering information, support and informal advice to those with a neurological difference.

info@autisticuk.org

The UK-wide reality which informs Scott vs Demons

“The long-ago planned demolition of the British welfare state began in earnest in 2010, with the election of David Cameron as the new British Prime Minister. The subsequent relentless political attacks against the welfare dependent sick and disabled population was a very successful smoke screen; used to justify claims that austerity measures were needed to urgently reduce the Social Security budget, which was later demonstrated to be totally untrue.

To begin the demolition of the welfare state, dangerous assessments were introduced as government propaganda successfully demonised chronically ill and disabled people who were financially dependent upon state financial support. Conducted by unaccountable foreign corporate giants when using bogus assessments, together with benefit decisions taken by under qualified administrators, would guarantee that many hundreds of thousands would suffer from this ideological attack against the welfare of the most vulnerable people in society.

Aided by press and media coercion, intimidation and public condemnation have successfully reduced what was once public sympathy for chronically ill people, to a suspicion that all claimants of disability benefits are fraudulent.” Mo Stewart, Independent Researcher and Author

Artlink

**SUPPORTS THE RIGHT
TO PARTICIPATE
IN CULTURAL LIFE REGARDLESS
OF DISABILITY**

**PROMOTES DIVERSITY
BY DRAWING ON LIVED EXPERIENCES
TO INFORM ARTS RESPONSES WHICH ARE
RELEVANT & ENDURING**

**CHALLENGES
EVERYDAY INEQUALITIES
BY ENCOURAGING
CREATIVE THINKING TO OFFER
POSITIVE SOLUTIONS**

**ENCOURAGES INDIVIDUALS
& ORGANISATIONS FROM
DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS TO WORK
TOGETHER**

**LEARNS THROUGH
OPEN DIALOGUE;
CHALLENGING OUR OWN
PRACTICE IN PURSUIT OF
OUR IDEALS**

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