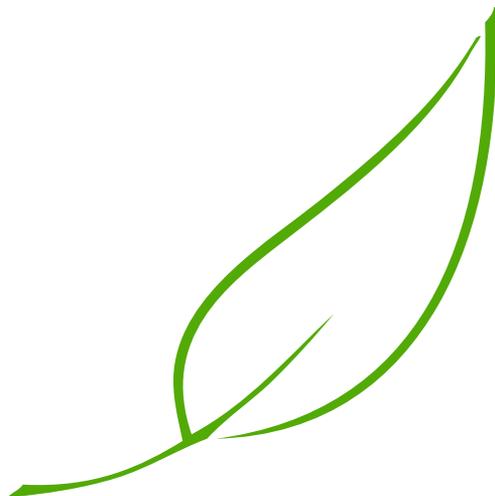


THE SAVING GRACE

by Ken Bradbury



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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Betrand Mayfield - Headmaster of the Whitton School, West
Oxfordshire, England

Reingold - a teacher at the school

James - a student

(the scene is the office of Bertrand Mayfield)

MAYFIELD: Mr. Reingold? Is there a problem?

REINGOLD: If I could have a moment of your time, sir.

MAYFIELD: What is it?

REINGOLD: The Peterson boy, sir. I've quite run out of options. I'm sorry to bother you with this again, but ...

MAYFIELD: Is he out there?

REINGOLD: I cannot abide having him in my classroom another day, sir.

MAYFIELD: He's hard, isn't he? He was brought to us a filthy pile of rags, Reingold. Deserted by his mother ... We are the last stop, Sir. There are no other options for the boy. If he cannot succeed at Whitton then there's nothing but the workhouse for him. You know that, Sir.

REINGOLD: Sir, I am as compassionate as the next man, but ... well, I simply cannot abide him any longer.

MAYFIELD: Bring him in. Bring him to me.

REINGOLD: James! James, come in here.

JAMES:*(enters, defiant and smiling)*

MAYFIELD: What has he done, Mr. Reingold?

REINGOLD: James has been a continuing source of annoyance, sir, since the day he entered my classroom. And today ... today, Mr. Mayfield he attacked young Wilson on the playground.

MAYFIELD: Fights are commonplace, Sir.



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