

it was just like in a movie, they said

by David Ackley

the one with Mel Gibson where
he's hanging all chained up and he
wraps his legs around the guy's neck
and kills him just like that
and somersaults free
but the straps were tight and they
had me pinned and the cloth
over my face was wet
and I was like
drowning...

take 2

or that one
the building shaking water
rising around you can't kick the window out
swimming up to the ceiling can't go higher
just your poor little nose holes
sticking out sucking last air
then: hand grabs yours pulls you
out into sunlight dripping like safe new-born

cut:

that doesn't work: try this:

the last sound a kind of helpless
disconsolate banging

* * *

*except we can't make it fit into the frame it
wants to be more all- around i don't know
like complete maybe like with surround-sound
and that old vibrator thing on the seats like
for The Tingler and some sort of smell-o-vision
for the rotten stink... see?
and maybe have the ceiling fall on them*

like this ?

No?

* * *

take 3

the thud or thump of bodies
which one was that
mouth full of ashes
all white from the dust or ash running
and choking
watching all this
on the box thinking
is that me ?

take 4

or the one with Dennis Quaid where
the big blizzard comes
and freezes everybody stiff
except -- Dennis his son

his son's new girl friend
and the president
and me, watching

take 5

should I turn up the heat?

