

What the hell?!

Episode 1: The Lift Mechanic

by

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CHARACTERS

OLD MAN 70, fat and bald with greying skin. He has a serious, grumpy personality.

ANGRY TEENAGER 18, with dyed spiky hair, and in denim. 'Fuck authority' is written on his clothes.

OLD LADY 80, sweet looking, with grey hair and a walking stick.

DEPRESSED MAN 50 and tall. He wears a t-shirt with the phrase 'I hate life' on it.

LIFT MECHANIC 20, tall and a little overweight. He has crazy eyes and a mental smile. He carries a spanner and a hammer on his belt, his jeans and his t-shirt are worn.

OTHER PASSENGERS These are in the lift, taking up it's little space.

FADE IN:

INT: Lift

A medium sized lift. Its doors are open. It is rather tacky inside, and graffiti is everywhere.

An OLD MAN (70), is forced against the wall, by the many patrons. He looks extremely serious, possibly all the time. He is fat and bald, and his greying skin suggests poor health.

An ANGRY TEENAGER (18) is beside him. He has dyed spiky hair and wears only denim. On this denim is the phrase 'fuck authority'.

ANGRY TEENAGER

This is shit.

A WORRIED OLD LADY (80), faces the previous two. She is a sweet looking individual, with grey hair and a walking stick.

WORRIED OLD LADY

(agreeing)

Isn't it?

The tall, DEPRESSED MAN (50), is squashed in the middle. His T-shirt says 'I hate life' on it.

DEPRESSED MAN

It could be worse.

Many other passengers take up space. Consequently, everyone has trouble breathing. Irritated sighs are common.

The lift pings, and is about to go down. The LIFT MECHANIC (20) squeezes in at the last moment. He is tall and slightly overweight. He has crazy eyes and a mental smile. He carries a spanner and a hammer with him on his belt, his jeans and t-shirt are worn. He gets pushed to the back, by the stronger will of those at the front; everyone here, already wants to leave. The doors shut, and the transporter starts to move.

LIFT MECHANIC

Wow, got in the last second! No one likes waiting, do they?

There is an awkward and nervous silence.

LIFT MECHANIC

Still, there's always the graffiti to read, I've written a lot of it, myself. I once wrote 'hats are like cheese', just to fuck with people. Funny, isn't it?

More silence.

LIFT MECHANIC

I bet you're all wondering what it means, aren't you?.. Well it means nothing, and that's what's so hilarious.

The OLD MAN coughs awkwardly.

LIFT MECHANIC

That was a weird laugh. I once heard someone laugh by slapping me in the face and running away. It was funny because I wasn't joking, I just pointed out the fact that he looked like a twat, and then I spat...

OLD MAN

(interrupting)

Oh, can you please shut up! No one cares about your stupid stories or the demented things you get up to! We all just want to get out of this Hell hole!

LIFT MECHANIC

This isn't a Hell hole! A Hell hole would be a place where everyone dies in agony. I mean, a lift is a POTENTIAL Hell hole. Dying in a lift is very possible. Especially if the lift is vastly overcrowded and some maniac jumped up and down like this... Everyone breathe in, for me please, I need some more room...

The passengers obey his orders, in a state of bewilderment and stupor. The LIFT MECHANIC jumps up and down. Clearly infuriated, the riders resume semi-normal breathing, to stop him.

LIFT MECHANIC

I mean, when you consider the fact that I don't even repair these stupid fucking lifts, I just lay around eating burgers all day, there is indeed a potential Hell hole right here! Fuck it, maybe you're right!

The LIFT MECHANIC tries to jump some more, and never stops his efforts. He can just about manage standing on tiptoes.

ANGRY TEENAGER

What the fuck are you doing?! Can you please, just shut the fuck up!?!...

Actually, no jump some more, I would rather die right now, than put up with another few seconds of your shit!!

LIFT MECHANIC

Good.

The ANGRY TEENAGER looks bewildered, again. The LM looks around, awkwardly.

LIFT MECHANIC

Oh, that is SO funny! Look at that! Some joker has added another zero to the maximum weight this lift can take! This lift can only take 100 kilograms, but it looks like it can take a ton! How's that for a coincidence?! Maybe we will die!

WORRIED OLD LADY

How much weight do you think this lift is carrying right now, if you don't mind me asking?

LIFT MECHANIC

Actually, I don't think that sort of thing would be appropriate to talk about in this situation.

WORRIED OLD LADY

Oh. I'm so sorry.

LIFT MECHANIC

No, only fucking with you. I'm guessing this lift is carrying around 800 kilograms.

WORRIED OLD LADY

I see. Well thanks for the information.

LIFT MECHANIC

No problem. But yeah, it's certain death. I should have stopped trying to jump ages ago, but I have OCD, you see. I just need to jump a couple more times and I'll be done.

ANGRY TEENAGER

AAAAARGH!

The ANGRY TEENAGER punches LIFT MECHANIC in the face.

LIFT MECHANIC

Your laugh is stupid, too! Still thinking about my graffiti?

ANGRY TEENAGER
 AAAAAAAAAAAAAARGH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The ANGRY TEENAGER punches the LIFT MECHANIC over and over, mainly in his mouth. Blood flies into EVERYONE'S faces.

LIFT MECHANIC
 (trying not to swallow
 his blood)
 Ok! Ok! I know I'm funny, I get it!

The sound of one of the lift cables creaking and about to break stuns everyone into silence.

WORRIED OLD LADY
 What was that?!

The LIFT MECHANIC spits his blood onto the floor, and onto some people's shoes.

LIFT MECHANIC
 Jesus Christ, doesn't anyone pay
 attention!? We're all going to die in.
 ..

DEPRESSED MAN
 A Hell hole?

LIFT MECHANIC
 Yes, exactly!

DEPRESSED MAN
 This isn't a Hell hole, my LIFE is
 Hell. I'm glad everything is going to
 be over.

LIFT MECHANIC
 Right! A stoic and admirable attitude,
 for once! Why don't we all just chill
 out and accept the fact we're all
 going to die because of my stupidity
 and negligence?!

ANGRY TEENAGER
 (sarastically)
 You're a hero! The world needs more
 people like you!

LIFT MECHANIC
 Right! Exactly!

DEPRESSED MAN
 There's one problem...

LIFT MECHANIC
 Go on...

DEPRESSED MAN

Well dying quickly isn't really Hell.
Dying slowly is.

LIFT MECHANIC

Oh my God, you're right! That won't do
my OCD any good. I must have some
order and consistency in my life. Any
ideas on how to slow this lift a
little?

OLD MAN

No one cares about your fucking OCD!
Fix the cable, you imbecile!

LIFT MECHANIC

Jesus Christ, the things I have to do.
.. Alright then...

After climbing on top of the others, the LIFT MECHANIC opens a
door at the top of the lift. He then disappears from the other
PASSENGER'S sight.

LIFT MECHANIC

Hammering stuff together really is
tricky, when everything is moving so
fast.

The lift stops moving, and the doors open safely to the ground
floor. Due to a mixture of confusion, shock and outrage, no
one leaves.

LIFT MECHANIC

(oblivious to the fact
that everything is now
fine)

Oh my God, I've never been in so much
danger before!

DEPRESSED MAN

(to LIFT MECHANIC)

Hello, Sir...

LIFT MECHANIC

(exaggerating)

Quiet! I need to concentrate! These
cables are flying all over the place!

DEPRESSED MAN

Sir, I think we're...

LIFT MECHANIC

Are you trying to get us all killed?!.
..

The LIFT MECHANIC drops his hammer onto the OLD LADY'S face.

WORRIED OLD LADY

Aaargh!

LIFT MECHANIC

Oh Shit! I've dropped my special equipment! I'll have to hold these cables together, with my own strength! Everybody brace yourselves, these cables can go at any second!

OLD MAN

You fucking idiot! The lift has stopped! We're all ok, now! Well YOU'RE not, you're going to jail, you fool!

LIFT MECHANIC

What?! I'm saving all of your lives! I think I can hold these cables for the rest of the ride! Hold on!!!!..... And we're saved!

WORRIED OLD LADY

You're a hero!

LIFT MECHANIC

Oh, you! It was really nothing!

OLD MAN

You're a lunatic! If you hadn't jumped up and down, and if you looked after the lift in the first place, none of this shit would have happened!

LIFT MECHANIC

I bet you appreciate your life a lot more now though, don't you?

DEPRESSED MAN

No.

ANGRY TEENAGER

Oh, fuck you, mechanic guy! This is the worst hotel in the world!

The LIFT MECHANIC starts to climb down. He then squeezes in with everyone else.

LIFT MECHANIC

Are you saying this hotel is bad?

OLD MAN

Yes! This hotel is really bad! And you're sick!

LIFT MECHANIC
Would you say I was bad as well?

OLD MAN
Yes, very!

LIFT MECHANIC
And am I phat?

OLD MAN
You are a bit fat, yes, but I don't
know what your point...

LIFT MECHANIC
(interrupting)
Wow, I'm bad, sick and phat. Well good
day to you Sir, I hope you have
enjoyed your stay as much as I think
you have! Bye, everyone! Don't forget
to tell everyone about how much of a
hero I am!

OLD MAN
Something like that....

WORRIED OLD LADY
You'll always be in my heart...

LIFT MECHANIC
Oh, you!

The ANGRY TEENAGER slaps LIFT MECHANIC then escapes.

LIFT MECHANIC
Wow, it's funny how history repeats
itself...

The OLD MAN punches LIFT MECHANIC in the face and knocks him
out.

FADE TO: