

What the Hell?!

Episode 4: Hotel Radio

by

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CHARACTERS

LIFT MECHANIC

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

OLD WOMAN

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

DINER

A bearded and displeased customer (30).

FADE IN:

INT. THE LIFT MECHANIC'S STUDIO - DAY

The LIFT MECHANIC is sitting alone on a stool. On his belt, are his trusty hammer and spanner. In front of him, is a computer, phone, microphone and mixing desk. Everything is cracked. The lights buzz.

LIFT MECHANIC

Hello! This is the Dire Hotel radio station, coming from the hotel where hopefully, you won't catch fire. I'm proud to announce that a whole five people are staying here, and we have one listener! If you have anything to say, feel free to give me a call...

The MECHANIC'S phone rings. He answers it. On the other end, is the OLD WOMAN he saw in the lift, not long ago. However, he doesn't realise.

OLD WOMAN

I'm in bed, and cockroaches are all over me!

LIFT MECHANIC

Ooh, lucky you! Remember all food found in the rooms are completely free of charge!

OLD WOMAN

They're crawling into my mouth!

LIFT MECHANIC

... And remember insect suicide and its social effects are NOT the responsibility of this establishment. Also, as we all know, riders of the lift travel at their own risk, or their extreme hedonistic enjoyment. Don't worry, it has been fixed to the point of functionality, but NOT safety! Just to keep things interesting, of course!

OLD WOMAN

They seem to be talking into my ear, but I don't know what they want!

LIFT MECHANIC

Are they climbing into your ear?

OLD WOMAN

Yes!

LIFT MECHANIC
Then they want your brains!

OLD WOMAN
What should I do?

LIFT MECHANIC
Just roll over onto them.

Loud crunching sounds are heard.

LIFT MECHANIC
Ew. I think I'm going to hang up this
call. I do apologise. You'll be fine.

The MECHANIC hangs up. The phone rings, seconds later.

OLD WOMAN
There's blood everyw...

The MECHANIC hangs up, ASAP.

LIFT MECHANIC
Fuck off!.... I'm sorry, audience, but
the only thing I can do, is make your
situation more bearable. So, how about
a funny story?... So we're standing in
a lift, right, and the cables started
to creak, and everyone's like 'oh my
God, we're all going to die', and I'm
like 'that's no good', and everyone's
like 'do something then!', but the
funny thing was I didn't have to, and
everything was fine! Lol! What a funny
story!

The phone rings, again. It gets answered.

OLD WOMAN
I know! I was there!

LIFT MECHANIC
Ohhhh... I know that voice! You're the
person who didn't try to sue, right??

OLD WOMAN
That's me!

LIFT MECHANIC
Ok, I'll let you talk. But you're not
going to spam this station with the
sound of insecticide?

OLD WOMAN
I'll try not to...

LIFT MECHANIC
Ok, go ahead...

OLD WOMAN
I just want to get out of here!

LIFT MECHANIC
Ok, here's what you have to do...

OLD WOMAN
What??

LIFT MECHANIC
You have to shout out 'I'm not going to sue!'

OLD WOMAN
I'm not going to sue!!!

LIFT MECHANIC
And 'I'm not going to ask for a refund!'

OLD WOMAN
I'm not going to ask for a refund!

LIFT MECHANIC
Excellent. Now get out some paper. Do you have any paper?

OLD WOMAN
I have some old receipts in my pocket.

LIFT MECHANIC
They'll do. And do you have a pen?

OLD WOMAN
A biro...

LIFT MECHANIC
And does it work?

OLD WOMAN
I think so...

LIFT MECHANIC
Really? Ok, I want you to put everything you just said into writing, then sign it. Ok?

OLD WOMAN
Ok...

LIFT MECHANIC
Well done.

The MECHANIC hangs up. The phone rings, yet again, and is answered.

LIFT MECHANIC

H...

OLD WOMAN

AAAAAARGGGHHH!!!!

LIFT MECHANIC

Look, they're just cockroaches, ok?
Have you tried just opening the door,
and leaving the room?

There is a pause.

OLD WOMAN

Ahhh....

LIFT MECHANIC

There you go.

OLD WOMAN

.... It seems so obvious, now.

LIFT MECHANIC

Doesn't it just?

OLD WOMAN

I'm so sorry for wasting your time.

LIFT MECHANIC

That's ok. Feeling peckish?

OLD WOMAN

A little...

LIFT MECHANIC

Then help yourself to a bowl full of
weevil eyeballs! They're on the house!

OLD WOMAN

You are so kind...

LIFT MECHANIC

I know. Bye!

OLD WOMAN

OH, SHI...

The MECHANIC hangs up. The phone rings once more.

LIFT MECHANIC

What now??

DINER
I'M SUING YOU!!!

LIFT MECHANIC
What? Why??

DINER
Assault!

LIFT MECHANIC
Assault?

DINER
You forced me too eat maggots!

LIFT MECHANIC
That's not how I remember it...

DINER
How do you remember it, then?

LIFT MECHANIC
Oh, just fuck off.

DINER
WHAT?!

LIFT MECHANIC
Bye!

The MECHANIC ends the call.

FADE TO: