

What the Hell?!

Episode 3: The Part Time Chef

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.

DINER

A bearded and displeased customer (30).

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL DINING ROOM - DAY

The wallpaper is peeling, and the floor tiles are cracked. Again. Lighting is harsh, and its source buzzes... Again. Each wall has a different door. They are labelled 'kitchen', 'stairway to heaven', 'corridors' and 'the risky lift'. DINER 1 (30), bearded, is sitting on a plastic chair, at a plastic table. Both are cracked. He has a dog-eared menu in his hands. The LIFT MECHANIC and his belt-mounted hammer and spanner, stands over him, the only visitor, here.

LIFT MECHANIC

Hello, Sir! May I take your order?

DINER

You serve cockroaches??

LIFT MECHANIC

Sure do. How do you like them? Rare or well done?

DINER

Neither, I was just curious. You also serve rat?

LIFT MECHANIC

We do serve rat, here. Let me show you our little speciality.

The MECHANIC leaves the room, for the kitchen, and the DINER breathes a sigh of relief. Screams are then heard from the chefs, out of sight.

The MECHANIC comes back holding a tray. On it, is a rat, with a cockroach in its mouth.

DINER

Mm-hm... Ever considered chicken?

LIFT MECHANIC

We're a more specialist restaurant, here. Chicken is a bit 'obvious'. How would you like some...

DINER

(cutting in)

No, I wouldn't.

LIFT MECHANIC

You don't know what I'm about to say..

DINER

I've read your menu, you freak.

LIFT MECHANIC
 Would you like some of our special
 food? It's not on the menu...

DINER
 I don't think s...

LIFT MECHANIC
 (cutting in)
 Stray owl! Filled with cockroaches,
 like a unique, homegrown, lift
 mechanic haggis! But crazier!

DINER
 Where did you get an owl?

LIFT MECHANIC
 It just died. Heart attack, we
 believe.

DINER
 I'm not sure I want to stay here,
 anymore.

LIFT MECHANIC
 Why not?

DINER
 Well... The food is disgusting, the
 light switch nearly killed me, and my
 friend nearly died in a lift.

LIFT MECHANIC
 He knew what he getting himself into.

DINER
 No, I'm going.

LIFT MECHANIC
 Look, look, look, stay, stay, stay...

DINER 1
 Give me one good reason to.

LIFT MECHANIC
 You've already paid...

DINER
 I'm expecting a refund.

LIFT MECHANIC
 A what?

DINER
 I want you to give my money back!!

LIFT MECHANIC
That's a real thing?? That is MENTAL.

DINER
Just give me my money!

LIFT MECHANIC
Look, I've never heard of a refund.
How do I know you're not some kind of
con artist?

DINER
You're the con artist!

THE LIFT MECHANIC steps back, with crazy eyes.

LIFT MECHANIC
....Oh.... You're good!

DINER
What??

LIFT MECHANIC
You're really good. You come in here,
play it cool and expect to get free
meals, as a special refund? Let me
give you a gift instead, then. It's
free, just how you like. You've earned
it!

DINER
No, please...

LIFT MECHANIC
I'm going to give you the best damn
fried maggots you've ever had! Extra
juicy!

DINER
Look, just keep the money. Ok?

LIFT MECHANIC
...Very impressive. REALLY impressive.

The MECHANIC grabs some crispy dead maggots from his pocket.
He puts them in the DINER'S face. He trembles.

DINER
(terrified)
Mmmm.... Smells good...

LIFT MECHANIC
That's right. Open wide.

The DINER shuts his eyes tight. A tear drop falls.

LIFT MECHANIC
Don't be shy...

Traumatized and powerless, the DINER opens his mouth a tiny bit. The MECHANIC then puts a dead maggot on his tongue. He cries more and more.

LIFT MECHANIC
Good, isn't it?

DINER
Mm..... hm....

The DINER tries to swallow the pest, but retches.

DINER
Lovely. How much will that cost?

LIFT MECHANIC
It's free!

DINER
Oh, good! I want to go!

LIFT MECHANIC
Want to sleep off your meal?

DINER
Yeah!

LIFT MECHANIC
Of course you do. If you ever want any more, you know where I am.

DINER
Excellent! Bye!

The DINER throws away his table and runs for his life, but quickly trips over his feet. The MECHANIC stands over him, once more.

DINER
Aaarghh!!! I think I've broken my ankle!!

LIFT MECHANIC
You know what you need? Maggots! Full of nutrients!

DINER
NOOOOOOO!!!!!!

FADE TO: