

BROKEN RESTRAINING ORDER

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FADE IN:

INT. MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING - EIGHTH FLOOR ELEVATOR - DAY

BETTY MARTIN, 20, average, brunette, modest attire, waits near the doors to the elevators.

Vinyl floors, blank wallpaper, trash receptacle. A bank of two elevators, each with lighted numbers above the doors. She pushes the 'down" button between them. Looks up at the numbers. They seem to hang with no change.

She pouts and leans on one foot.

A face pokes around the corner of a the elevator from an adjoining hallway. Then hides.

Betty's eyes widen in expectation.

The full face comes into her view: a pretty, oval face: sunglasses, brimmed hat, shirt blouse collar turned up.

LORI KIRKLAND, 30, steps around the corner to the elevator to punch the "down" button again. She wears pants to match her shirt and low heels. Small purse with strap.

Betty notices her well-groomed shoulder-length hair. Manicured hands. Slight blush makeup and lip gloss.

LORI

What's wrong with this thing? Been waiting long?

Betty puzzles a moment before she answers.

BETTY

Just got here. Must be a busy day.

Lori checks around her with apprehension.

BETTY

You expecting somebody?

LORI

Jeez. I sure hope not.

Relief and recognition comes over Betty.

BETTY

Oh I know you. Aren't you Lori Kirkland? From the hit series "Quest of Monarchs"?

Lori moves closer to Betty to whisper.

LORI
Please. Not so loud. I'm trying not
to be conspicuous.

BETTY
Oh. Sorry.

A small Crowd of Passersby gather for the elevators: an
Elderly Lady with a walker, her Female Attendant, doddering
Old Gentleman, Gentleman's Spouse.

BETTY
I guess you must get a lot of
unwanted attention sometimes.

LORI
Worse than that. You can't begin to
know my problems.

One elevator finally opens with CHIME. Arrow points down.

LORI
At last.

She hurries into the elevator car. Betty and the others
follow.

INT. ELEVATOR CAR

Just as the door is about to close, a large male hand stops
the doors from shutting.

Lori tenses in the rear of the elevator. Betty looks from the
hand to Lori. The others remains in place.

The doors open to reveal CEDRIC WILLIAMS, 35, medium height,
stocky, dark complexion, shadow beard. His eyes travel over
the passengers.

Lori GASPS behind Betty. She ducks down.

Cedric steps into the car toward Lori. The door begins to
close. He pushes Betty to one side.

BETTY
Hey. That's rude.

Lori rushes past them to get out. She stops the door.

Cedric grabs her.

LORI
Ow! That hurts!

The door closes. The car descends.

BETTY
Hey! Let her go! That's -

CEDRIC
(angry to Betty)
You stay out of this.

The Others cringe and GASP at the attack.

OLD GENTLEMAN
Somebody call the police!

The fumble for their cell phones. Cedric is too fast for them. He grips Lori in one hand and KNOCKS AWAY the phones with the other. Then CRUSHES them one by one with a shoe heel.

CEDRIC
Now nobody get any ideas.

Betty slides toward the button panel.

CLOSE ON BUTTON PANEL

The RED ALARM BUTTON.

BACK TO SCENE

Betty slips her hand toward it.

Again Cedric is too quick for her. He SLAPS Betty.

BETTY
Ow!

She hits the back wall.

CEDRIC
I said no ideas.

LORI
Don't hurt them. It's me you want.

Cedric softens toward Lori.

CEDRIC
At last, baby, you're beginning to come around.

He presses himself on to her. BREATHES into her face.

CEDRIC
You see. I'm not such a bad sort.

She twists her head away from him in his grasp.

LORI
No! No! When we get out of this,
you'll wish you'd never seen me!

CEDRIC
You mean that restraining order.
The court. The deputies.

She continues to resist.

CEDRIC
That's all bullshit and you know
it.

BETTY
Let her go!

CEDRIC
(to Betty)
Shut up, bitch!
(to Lori)
When we finish, you won't want that
restraining order, baby. 'Cause
we'll be in love.

The car begins to slow to a stop.

Lori's sunglasses come off in the tussle. She twists away
from him with her back to him.

CEDRIC
Now don't you want to know who I
am?

LORI
(grunts)
I know who you are. You're Cedric
Williams. Deadbeat. (beat) Ow!

He twists her arm.

CEDRIC
Wrong, baby. I'm your new lovin'
man. Your new flame. Your true
hearts desire.

The car comes to a stop.

CEDRIC

Now when the door opens, we're all
going to get off real normal like.
Or else Lori dear will be hurt
worse than she is now. (beat)
Everybody get it?

SERIES OF SHOTS

Lori and Betty's eyes meet.

Lori's eye move up and down quickly toward her purse.

Old Gentleman and Spouse shuffle toward the door.

Elderly Lady and Attendant do likewise.

Betty looks at Lori's purse. Then back to Lori.

Lori winks at Betty.

END SERIES

CEDRIC

I guess that means we're okay to
go.

The door opens.

Bright street light of day streams from the lobby into the
car.

Cedric squints in the glare.

Betty reaches for Lori's purse.

LORI'S PURSE

Betty's hand jams into it. Pulls out a pepper spray
cannister.

BACK TO SCENE

Elderly Lady and Attendant make a slow walk out. Cedric and
Lori wait behind them to clear.

Betty looks at the cannister.

PEPPER SPRAY CANNISTER

Betty unlocks the top to the spray button.

BACK TO SCENE

Old Gentleman and Spouse file out.

Cedric pushes Betty out.

EXT. LOBBY ELEVATOR BANK

Now outside the car, Batty turns with the pepper spray cannister just as Cedric pushes Lori.

BETTY
Now Lori! Duck! Duck!

Lori falls to the floor in Cedric's hands. He can't hold her.

CEDRIC
What the - ?

Betty SPEWS THE SPRAY onto Cedric.

He blinks and COUGHS. He turns white and stiffens. Then his face and neck REDDEN. His breathing becomes HARD. COUGHS. CHOKES. His grip on Lori fails. He falls to his knees.

COMMOTION in the lobby.

Lori crawls to safety. Stands near Betty.

A Security Guard rushes up.

SECURITY GUARD
What is this? Who is he?

LORI
I have a restraining order against this man. Take him away. I don't every want to see him again.

SECURITY GUARD
We'll have to take a statement.

LORI
Fine. I'll be happy to.

She turns to Betty.

LORI
Thanks. What's your name?

BETTY
Betty. Betty Felix. I'm a receptionist for a doctor in this building.

They step away from the COMMOTION.

LORI
You're a lifesaver. You know that
don't you?

BETTY
I'm glad I could help.

LORI
Would you like some dinner?

BETTY
Well, I -

LORI
How about Delmonico's? Nothing but
the best for my new friend Betty
Felix.

BETTY
Well. Alright. Sounds great.

LORI
I'll tell you all about the series -

FADE OUT.

THE END