

ELEVATOR CONVERSATIONS

By

PABLO E. VIZCARRONDO III

PABLO VIZCARRONDO
436 Spruce street
Apt. 602
Scranton, PA 18503
inveighisrael@outlook.com
551-208-1162

INT. BUILDING - DAY

ELIANA GREENE, late 20's with blonde hair and dressed in lavish clothing, waits in front of an elevator. She has a black suitcase in hand.

Eliana glances at her wristwatch and then takes a deep breath.

OMAR, late 30's, dark-skinned and bald and wearing a suit, appears beside Eliana. He's reading the morning paper.

Eliana notices him.

ELIANA
Anything good in there?

Omar locks eyes with Eliana.

OMAR
Oh, you know. Mortgage rates are at their lowest, everybody is entitled to health care, and taxes are going down. The usual.

Eliana laughs.

ELIANA
You're a winner.

OMAR
I'm sure you are, too.

Eliana puts her hand out.

ELIANA
Eliana Stevens.

Omar returns the handshake.

OMAR
Omar.

ELIANA
Does Omar have a last name?

OMAR
I do, but I keep that too myself. I don't want anyone to look at me differently. I'm not prideful at all. I just work here.

Eliana nods. *It's evident she's pondering Omar's statement.*

The elevator doors open. It's empty. Eliana and Omar enter in. The doors close.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Eliana presses "8."

ELIANA
Which floor?

Omar observes "8" is pushed.

OMAR
That sounds good to me.

Silence fills the elevator as it sets in motion. Omar furtively observes Eliana's body. *It's evident he likes what he sees.*

Eliana is watching Omar from the corner of her eye. She then gives him a full look, and he is now reading the paper. He looks at Eliana and smiles.

Suddenly, the elevator stops. The lit-up "8" shuts off.

ELIANA
(panicking)
No! No! No!

Eliana continues pressing "8," but nothing happens at all. She does the same to the "open" button and gets the same response.

Eliana falls to her knees and cries aloud.

OMAR
Don't worry. I'm sure the doors will open up, just give it a little while.

Eliana screams at Omar:

ELIANA
I don't have a little while!

OMAR
Relax, lady! I'm stuck in here, too. Don't you think I wanna get out?

Eliana cries all the more.

(CONTINUED)

ELIANA

It's not about getting out. I have the job interview of my life. I'm gonna miss it...

Omar thinks for a moment.

OMAR

I... um... I have a gift in helping people prepare for an interview. Why don't you let me help you get prepared? This way you'll be ready once the doors open.

Eliana gives Omar a sour look.

INT. OUTSIDE ELEVATOR - DAY

There is no one in sight.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME TIME

Omar and Eliana are both sitting on the floor across from each other. Omar is wearing a smile.

OMAR

So, why should I hire you instead of anyone else?

Eliana looks swamped.

ELIANA

I'll be the best thing that ever happened to this company. I've spent day and night, for years, planning for this job. When other people were at the bar, I was preparing for this day. I even have copies of every bad investment the company has ever made.

Eliana pulls out a bunch of paperwork from her briefcase.

ELIANA (CONT'D)

Here it is.

Omar opens his hand to Eliana. She hands him the documents. Omar reviews them. His eyes become big as does his smile.

Beat.

(CONTINUED)

Just then, Omar frowns. He scratches his head while setting his eyes on Eliana.

OMAR
(informative)
Have you ever heard of trying to hard?

Eliana slams her hands against the floor while shouting:

ELIANA
Damn it! I knew it.

Eliana puts her hands over her face, as if crying.

Omar smiles big. As Eliana slowly slides her hands down her face, Omar becomes serious.

OMAR
OK. Let's try to take this from another standpoint.

INT. OUTSIDE ELEVATOR - DAY

The lobby remains empty.

INT. ELEVATOR - SAME TIME

OMAR (CONT'D)
Are you sure you can handle this job?

Eliana has her hands over her face. She removes her hands to reveal her sarcastic smile.

ELIANA
Oh, yes. I can handle the job. I'll be here early every single day. I won't move an inch until you say so because I know there is know better employer besides you. This is also one of the best jobs in the entire state of New Jersey.

OMAR
That's a little better. Make it about the employer and not about you.

(CONTINUED)

ELIANA

It would be a lot better, (loud) if
I could get out of here!

Eliana pops up and starts banging on the door.

ELIANA (CONT'D)

Open the doors! Please!

Omar pops up, too. He then notices a mini-door camouflaged
withing the wall of the elevator.

OMAR

Wait a minute!

Omar opens the door. He discovers a phone.

Beat.

He pulls the phone out and grins at Eliana.

She wears a look of disgust on her face.

Omar puts the phone to his ear.

OMAR (CONT'D)

(Beat)

Hello. Operator. I'm stuck in the
elevator with a beautiful young
lady. Not that I really want to
leave her presence, but we both
have things to do.

Eliana rolls her eyes.

OMAR (CONT'D)

Thank you very much. Bye.

Omar hangs up the phone.

ELIANA

What's going on?

Omar closes the mini-door. Suddenly, the elevator doors
open.

OMAR

It's funny. Sometimes you don't
notice things right in front of
your face.

(CONTINUED)

ELIANA

It was a nice ride. Have a good one.

Eliana speeds out of the elevator. Omar get out after her but goes in the opposite direction.

INT. OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Eliana takes the final sip of water out of a plastic cup. She tosses the cup in a nearby garbage. Eliana then power-walks to the desk of the RECEPTIONIST, whose name is JACKIE, late 20's with black bushy hair. Her desk-plate reads: "JACKIE"

JACKIE

Good morning.

ELIANA

Good morning. I'm looking for Mr. Salli.

JACKIE

Is he expecting you?

ELIANA

Yes. I was supposed to be here a while ago. Please help me.

Jackie points behind here while stating:

JACKIE

Take a left behind me. Go through the glass doors and his desk is on the left.

ELIANA

Thank you.

Eliana zooms past Jackie.

INT. SALLI'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Eliana enters through the two glass doors. To the left, she observes a large desk. The chair is turned around. Eliana marches forward while stating:

ELIANA

Mr. Salli, I am so sorry. This is not like me at all.

(CONTINUED)

The chair turns around. Omar is sitting in it with a smile on his face.

Eliana cannot believe it. She takes a seat in front of him.

OMAR

This interview should not be hard at all.

ELIANA

I guess not.

The end.