Lift in a 1 Star Hotel

by

It's a secret... for now...

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1. The Lift

FADE IN:

INT: LIFT

A lift in a 1 star hotel. It is rather tacky, and graffiti is everywhere. The lift is filled full of people, and everyone is feeling cramped, uncomfortable and irritable. The lift is about to go down, but the LIFT MECHANIC squeezes in at the last moment.

LIFT MECHANIC, an immature 20 year old, who is tall and slightly overweight. He has an inappropriately care-free attitude, and has crazy eyes and a mental smile. He always carries his welding equipment with him.

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

There is an awkward and nervous silence in the lift.

    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.

OLD MAN, a 70 year old man who is extremely serious. He is fat and bald, and in poor health.

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...

(CONTINUED)
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...

LIFT MECHANIC jumps up and down.

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!

LIFT MECHANIC jumps some more.

ANGRY TEENAGER, an 18 year old man who hates authority. He has dyed spiky hair and wears only denim.

ANGRY TEENAGER
What the fuck are you doing?! Can you please, just shut the fuck up!?... Actually, no keep fucking jumping, I would rather die right now, than put up with another few seconds of your shit!!

LIFT MECHANIC
Good.

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, a sweet, neurotic and respectful 80 year old woman with grey hair and a walking stick.
Continued: (2)

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 right now.

Worried Old Lady
I see. Well thanks for the information.

Lift Mechanic
No problem. But yeah, it's certain death. I should have stopped jumping 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!

Angry Teenager punches Lift Mechanic in the face.

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

Angry Teenager
AAAAAAAAAAAAARGH!!!!!!!!!!!!

Angry Teenager punches Lift Mechanic over and over.

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

DEPRESSED MAN, a very unhappy 50 year old who hates his life.

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?!

PSYCHOPATHIC MAN, a well built 30 year old covered in tattoos.

PSYCHOPATHIC MAN
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!

(Continued)
CONTINUED: (4)

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

LIFT MECHANIC opens a door at the top of the lift and gets out his welding equipment.

LIFT MECHANIC
Welding stuff together really is tricky, when everything is moving so fast.

The lift stops moving, and the doors open safely to the ground floor.

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 fucking cables are flying all over the place!

DEPRESSED MAN
Sir, I think we're...

LIFT MECHANIC
Are you trying to get us all killed?!... Oh Shit! I've dropped my welding 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!

(CONTINUED)
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!

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....

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (6)

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

LIFT MECHANIC
Oh, you!

ANGRY TEENAGER slaps LIFT MECHANIC then runs away.

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

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

THE END