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"10 FLOORS TOO HIGH"

FADE IN:

INT. HIGH RISE BUILDING LOBBY - DAY

A crowd of PEOPLE wait in front of the one elevator working in the lobby in a high-rise building.

Some small groups chatter amongst themselves while they wait. Others pat their feet, look around the lobby, etc. and wait.

LINDON JONES, quite antsy, repeatedly looks back and forth at his watch and the floor level numbers that brighten as the elevator descends. He stands right in front of the doors, ready.

The elevator stops on the ground floor. CAROL ROCKCHESTER, prissy, waltzes to the door and zips past Lindon when the elevator doors open. He frowns as he steps in behind her.

Many other people cram into the elevator, beyond the exceeded capacity.

INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

They are crammed in like sardines and press numerous buttons to stop on the different floors.

The elevator stops on the second floor. Some people exit and a slight jolt inside causes Lindon to step on Carol's shoe. He looks at her.

LINDON

Excuse me.

She frowns at him and turns her head. He continues to look at his watch.

LINDON (CONT'D)

(to self)

Four minutes left. Why can't Mr. Rockchester make my lunch breaks longer?

Carol, Lindon, Extras

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Carol's eyebrows rise at his comment. The elevator continues on the incline. Another jolt occurs and tosses Carol into Lindon's hand as he's looking at his watch. He snatches his hand back for pain and glares straight into Carol's eyes. She immediately backs away with a smirk of embarrassment.

CAROL

We're even.

Lindon looks shocked.

The elevator stops again and the last few people exit the elevator except Lindon and Carol.

Lindon looks back at his watch as he backs into one corner of the elevator. Carol carefully backs into another corner.

LINDON

(to self)

Yes. If make it—less than one and a half minutes...the paycheck will still come in to cover my ride.

He motions his hands like he's driving. Carol looks at him as if he's crazy. The elevator stops on a floor. Carol and Lindon both look at each other to see who is going to exit, but neither move.

CAROL

Too many people pushing buttons.

Lindon nods at her response. She moves away from the corner a bit.

LINDON

Dang. Ten extra seconds gone!

The elevator does another strong jolt while Lindon looks at his watch and tosses him full force into Carol. She is flabbergasted and pushes him off of her.

CAROL

I've had guys try and get close, but you are just ridiculous.

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LINDON

In your dreams. I got one minute and five seconds to get inside the doors of Rockchester LLC. And you're not worth my time.

Carol's eyes widen in shock. She turns to the panel on the wall and pulls out a lever. The elevator stops cold.

CAROL

Every man finds me desirable and we're not leaving this elevator until you do!

LINDON

You must be out of your mind. I have a job to save! Mine!

He attempts to push past her to get to the lever near the door. She steps right in front of it and won't budge.

LINDON (CONT'D)

You've got five seconds to move before my considerate gentleman stature transforms.

Carol stands in position with a smirk on her face.

CAROL

You have to learn how to control yourself and be considerate of others, especially me. Once you realize that, then you can go do what you typical humans do.

LINDON

What are you, a Martian?

CAROL

Just realize you don't care-

LINDON

No, not right now I don't.

He abruptly moves her to the side to put the lever back in place. She sighs really loud and pounds on his arm repeatedly.

Carol, Lindon, Extras

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CAROL

No?! Not a soul has gotten away with saying that word to me...My parents, the president of the United States when I admired a trophy of his...No one!

LINDON

Move your hands while it's safe. If I get the hatchet because of you, I will lose all I have within me!

CAROL

You can go and get another, what do you call it...job.

He gasps for air then lets out a gigantic cough.

LINDON

No! You're one of them!

He turns around with an uncontrollable cough now. He reaches for the switch and it pulls completely out the wall. He and Carol both look with surprise. Carol jumps on him and pounds his back after checking a finger nail.

CAROL

Stop!

LINDON

No! Settle down.

CAROL

Stop!

Lindon flips her over and gets her in a lock position on the ground.

LINDON

I said no. Settle down first.

CAROL

Stop.

She makes another attempt to punch him. He stops her hand in mid stream and gets in her face.

Carol, Lindon, Extras

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LINDON

No. Settle down. Settle down. Calm now.

She looks away from him for a while as she releases her resistance. She slowly turns again to him in an unusual attracted way.

CAROL

Say no-again. It sounds sexy when you say it. And about your job...Daddy-or as you say, Mr. Rockchester, won't know I think that word no is a tease now when I talk to him about your tardiness.