

Sparks

by
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Log line: A broken couple is stuck in an elevator on New Years
Eve.

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The ding of an elevator can be heard.

FADE IN:

INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX- NIGHT

ELEVATOR

The elevator opens. A woman, 32, storms in. A man, 33, drags behind her.

She smacks the button for floor number 8-- crossing her arms and looking down in disappointment.

He looks down-- clearly uncomfortable.

The doors shut, and the elevator proceeds in going up.

She leans against the wall-- in the same position as before.

He looks straight ahead. As the elevator begins to go up, it comes to an abrupt stop-- forcing him to lose his balance. However, he does catch himself.

She also catches herself, looking around.

THE WOMAN

You gotta be kidding me...

He tries to open the elevator doors but fails.

She rubs the inner corners of her eyes and sighs.

THE WOMAN (CONT'D)

(under breath)

Of course.

He looks down again-- patting his pockets-- looking for his phone.

She slides down the wall and sits in a crouched position.

He pulls out his phone and dials the number for his landlord-- he does not look at her.

THE MAN

I'm calling Jerry.

She continues to sit.

He has the phone to his ear-- awaiting for JERRY to answer-- he is looking down.

THE MAN (CONT'D)

He's not answering.

Blankly, she looks off.

THE WOMAN

It's New Year's Eve. Why the hell would he?

He hangs up his phone and then looks at his watch.

THE MAN

I'll try him again in 10.

She continues to sit there-- not looking at him.

THE MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Maybe you should try him too...

THE WOMAN

If he doesn't answer for you, what makes you think he's gonna answer for me?

He is looking down again.

THE MAN

Just a suggestion...

She shakes her head in annoyance-- then looks at him with hesitation.

He is now facing the opposite direction-- continuing to look at the floor.

THE WOMAN

(2 second pause)

Can I ask you something?

Still looking down, he nods.

Close up of his face.

THE MAN

(hesitant-timid)

Sure...

She looks down.

THE WOMAN
 (2 second pause)
 Was it me... Or was it always someone
 else?

His eyes squint-- he is confused.

THE WOMAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 During sex...

She continues to look down.

THE WOMAN (CONT'D)
 (2 second pause)
 Were you ever actually there?
 (turns to her right--
 hesitant)
 Was it ever real?

She eye line matches to him: he still looks down.

Slowly, she looks down in sadness.

THE MAN (O.S.)
 (hesitant)
 Your eyes...

She slowly looks up at him-- thrown off.

He still faces the other way.

THE MAN (CONT'D)
 (2 second pause-- hard for
 him to speak)
 Your smile...
 (crouches down-- still does
 not face her)
 That first time...
 (2 second pause)
 They glowed through you...

She stares off-- has a blank face.

THE MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 We were listening to that song...

He's in the same position as before.

THE MAN (CONT'D)
 Eating ice cream, drinking wine...
 (2 second pause-- thinking)
 You remember?

She continues to stare off.

Awaiting for a response, he puts his head down. He then stands up-- still not looking at her.

She stays silent-- in the same position.

He opens the safety box that is under the elevator buttons, fiddling with the wires.

She rests her head against the wall-- still does not look at him.

THE WOMAN
(2 second pause)
Who else knows?

THE MAN
No one.

THE WOMAN
Aren't you going to tell your parents?

THE MAN
(2 second pause)
I don't know...

She quietly exhales.

He puts his head down.

THE MAN (CONT'D)
(hesitant, 2 second pause)
I never wanted you to find out like that...

He eye line matches to her-- she looks straight ahead.

After a moment, he goes back to the box-- suddenly getting the elevator to open.

She looks up at the doors.

He stands up straight and faces the doors-- turning his head ever so slightly.

THE MAN (CONT'D)
Just give me 5 minutes to gather some things...

She looks down again.

THE WOMAN
(2 second pause-- hesitant)
"Sparks."

Slowly, she looks up at him.

He slowly turns to her with confusion.

THE WOMAN (CONT'D)

(2 second pause)

That song... it was called "Sparks."

He looks down for a few seconds and then nods.

THE MAN

(2 second pause)

Right.

He looks at her with sincerity.

She looks back.

After a few seconds, he breathes easily, then leaves the elevator.

She puts her head back against the wall again-- shutting her eyes.

"Sparks" by Coldplay plays.

FADE OUT.

THE END