

• CHARITY

• OSCAR

1-8-68

OSCAR

I'm alright, you understand. But I know that you suffer from claustrophobia and I realize you're very uncomfortable and I wouldn't want you to be stuck in here any longer than I have to be. Help -- Help -- Hel --

(CHARITY touches him -- HE jumps violently.)

CHARITY

My name is Charity Valentine. Hey, you're shaking.

OSCAR

All over.

CHARITY

Let me rub your wrists.
(She rubs them.)

OSCAR

... You know what I feel like doing now? What my impulse is? To take off my clothes.

CHARITY

Oh, well I don't think that would do much good.

OSCAR

(Snappy)

You'd think they'd have a telephone in here, wouldn't you? Never again. I'll never go in an elevator without a telephone. I'll always check for a telephone.

CHARITY

We really should change the subject. You wanna play actors and actresses?

OSCAR

(Yells down.)

Hey, come on ... We don't think it's funny anymore.

CHARITY

Try not to think of it. Play the game. Awright, what actress was in "Sabrina Fair"? You get three guesses. Ready? Julie Andrews --

OSCAR

I don't want to play. I really don't feel like playing. It's a stupid game for two people trapped in an elevator to play ... No offense.

CHARITY

I'm just trying to pass the time.

OSCAR

If I could just get out for a few minutes. Just a few minutes outside and I'd be alright. Then I'd come back inside.

CHARITY

The best thing to do is to keep talking. Then you won't think about it ... What's your name?

OSCAR

(Looks blank.)

CHARITY

Your name? What's your name? You know, like Frank, Harry, Sidney, Bruce. That's a name.

OSCAR

Oh ... Oscar. My name is Oscar ... Whoo, it's stuffy. ... Stuffy, stuffy, stuffy.

CHARITY

Now let's keep our clothes on, Oscar. What's your second name?

OSCAR

My what?

CHARITY

Your second name. Don't you have a second name?

OSCAR

No, I don't think so.

CHARITY

Sure you do. Like Oscar Minetti or Oscar Greenspan.

OSCAR

Greenspan -- No ... Lindquist. Oscar Lindquist ... Look how quickly I'm breathing. You notice how quickly I'm breathing? What is that? What is that quick breathing?

CHARITY

That's quick breathing. Don't think about it ... Where do you live?

OSCAR

...Who?

CHARITY

You! You! Where do you live?

OSCAR

In an elevator.

CHARITY
No, you don't, Oscar. You live in a house.

OSCAR
Oh. Yes. 411 East 74th Street. I gotta stop breathing so much. I'm gonna use up all the air.

CHARITY
We got plenty, Oscar. Now keep talking. How old are you? Where do you work?

OSCAR
Heh? Yeah. Yeah. I work at 38 years old ... and I was a Tax Accountant for Gallagher and Perlmutter on my last birthday ... Oh, boy, that's very quick breathing.

CHARITY
Keep talking. Oscar, what else?

OSCAR
It's not fair. You should breathe some of the air.
(HE gallantly scoops some toward CHARITY.)

CHARITY
Are you married, Oscar? Do you have a wife?

OSCAR
What?

CHARITY
Married? Married?
(Losing control)
For God's sakes, are you married??

OSCAR
No. No, I'm not married.

CHARITY
(Big smile)
Oh Oscar. You're gonna be alright.
(Music cue)

OSCAR
Don't leave me.

CHARITY
Oh -- I won't leave you. I'm gonna stay right here in the elevator with you. And you're gonna be alright, Oscar, because I'm gonna help you ...

OSCAR
How? What should I do?

