

# THE CHALLENGE

**U**nlike the other elevators, whose control panel has many buttons, the express elevator panel only has six. The buttons give access to different levels:

- 6: "Penthouse".
- 5: Reception room of the Rulers.
- 4: Reception room of the Authorities.
- 3: Reception room of the Powers.
- 2: Reception room of the Forces of Evil.
- 1: Room of the Hidden Secrets.

As soon as the elevator stopped, in the reception room of the Rulers, Engineer Casi Puedo entered the elevator. He is a member of the Advisors at the service of the High Council, much like the philosopher and Odeim. His face looks drained, and his body language reveals unease. Behavior not typical of those with a "phlegmatic" temperament. In a tone full of anxiety and nervousness he said:

“Did you hear the rumor?”

The faces of the philosopher and Odeim reveal that they do not know what the engineer is talking about. Speaking of the emergency meeting, both demons suspect that this is something serious, but they have no idea what it could be.

"What rumor are you talking about?" Odeim asked.

Casi Puedo, visibly nervous, replied:

“The rumors, in the reception room of the Rulers, point to the CHALLENGE”,

“The CHALLENGE!”, exclaimed the surprised philosopher LT.

Showing a forced smile, he said...

“Yes indeed... the emergency meeting... has to do with the CHALLENGE”

The CHALLENGE (Note:1) is one of the most significant and sacred events of THE CONSORTIUM. An event that occurred after Lucero was expelled from heaven, long before God created human beings. According to most demons, the CHALLENGE confirms the superiority of Lucero whose main nickname is Lucifer, and his battle name is Satan.

In the realm of Darkness, Lucero accepts that there is a Creator God, but insists that He has no control over His creation. Many demons, confused in their own foolishness, accept that the results of the CHALLENGE confirm that God is not as powerful as He claims. Among the three demons in the elevator, only attorney Odeim knows the truth, but remained silent.

The truth is related with the famous trial responsible for his promotion to the position of Advisor to the High Council. The defendant in this trial...was the popular director of the CHRONICLES...named Dadlam.

The name Dadlam backwards means evil in Spanish.

As the elevator descends, the lawyer's mind travels through time as he remembers when he met Dadlam. This demon, before falling into disgrace, held the position of director of the CHRONICLES. This department has the responsibility to keep a historical record of Lucifer's triumphs in the world.

The lawyer was commissioned to defend Dadlam. The one who was once a haughty and arrogant demon, now looks messy and worn out. Most of the management of THE CONSORTIUM considers him crazy. The intriguing thing about this case is that Dadlam blindly supported Lucero's teachings. Everything changed when he

returned from the Garden of Wisdom, located in heaven, where the Throne of God is located.

Traveling to the «Garden of Wisdom» infected his mind. He discovered four truths that changed his perception of Lucero's teachings. The truth came to light and many demons became uncomfortable! The first three truths infuriated the management of THE CONSORTIUM, but the fourth truth cost Dadlam to be accused of being a traitor and a terrorist.

1. The God of Creation is ALMIGHTY.
2. God has a PLAN for his Creation.
3. The "great and terrible day" is coming.
4. God created man to meet the CHALLENGE.

This truth is related to humans and the requirements of the CHALLENGE (Note 2).

The automatic hydraulic brake system of the elevator went into action. The lawyer's thoughts were interrupted when the elevator stopped in the reception room of the Authorities. When the doors were opened, the spacious and elegant living room could be appreciated. Around the room, there are very comfortable armchairs, upholstered with crimson red fabrics and embroidered in gold.

Immediately Professor Creo Saber, better known by his nickname CS, entered the elevator. The creature with a thick appearance, short stature, and arched legs, looks very worried.

"Did you hear the rumors?", asked the professor.

Without wasting time, CS pressed the button, and immediately the security system is activated. The infrared rays began to work. The blanket of energy descended from the ceiling and covered all those inside. Detecting no blue light in any of them, the vertical transport system continued its descent.

“Of course, I heard the rumors!”, answered the engineer arrogantly.

“The rumors have to do with the CHALLENGE”, added the philosopher.

“Correction, they have to do with the requirements”, pointed out the professor with authority.

“The requirements?” asked the philosopher.

“I mean the requirements of the CHALLENGE”, emphasized the professor.

**M**ost of the members of THE CONSORTIUM know the “romantic” part of this transcendental event. The exact date is not known, but it happened long before God created humans. The event requires God to satisfy three requirements to prove to all the angels that He is truly ALMIGHTY.

As recorded in the CHRONICLES, Lucero challenged God, so that He would show that He is truly the ALMIGHTY God. The confrontation is related to three requirements that God must fully satisfy. The requirements are related to Power, Love and Justice of God.

The details of the requirements that God must satisfy:

**One:** His Power by means of something that has no Power.

**Two:** His Love by means of something that can reject His Love.

**Three:** His JUSTICE by means of something that is pleased with the INJUSTICE.

The evidence kept in the CHRONICLES states that God could not satisfy the three requirements. It is for this reason that Lucero was declared the winner of the confrontation. His apparent victory caused the division in the kingdom of Light. Because of this victory, a third of the angels abandoned God to follow Lucero. Every coin has two sides and Attorney Odeim knows it very well. The fourth truth,

discovered by Dadlam, reveals the divine purpose of creating the human being. God designed man in his image and likeness for a well-defined purpose!

According to the evidence collected in the Garden of Wisdom, God created the human being to meet the CHALLENGE. This truth is unknown to the philosopher, the engineer, and the professor.

The third stop of the elevator was in the reception room of the Powers. These entities, like the Authorities, need the Neu drug to have access to an artificial biological body. When the elevator doors opened, you could appreciate the spacious living room. Unlike the first two anterooms, where everything looked beautiful, in the third anteroom everything is horrible. As soon as the elevator opened its doors, the doctor Nose Nada, whose nickname is "No-No", rushed in. He looks extremely worried.

The gray hair on both sides of his head adds a certain air of prestige and distinction. His melancholy temperament makes him depressed and pessimistic. As soon as he entered the elevator, he placed his right eye on the retina biometric reader. This amazing machine analyzes the capillaries that are located at the back of the eyeball to identify the entity. Once the task is completed, the infrared beams came into action and finding no trace of blue light, it continued to descent.

"Have you heard of the horrible rumor!", said the doctor.

"I heard that the emergency meeting is related to the CHALLENGE", pointed out the engineer.

"Wrong!", No-No emphasized in an unfriendly tone.

"Wrong?", responded the engineer

"The meeting has nothing to do with the CHALLENGE", affirm doctor No-no.

Stunned by the comment, Attorney Odeim asked:

"What is the reason for the emergency meeting?"

No-No in a gloomy tone said:

“The «great and terrible day» is coming”.

**Notes:**

1. The CHALLENGE is an important part of the plot of the novel. This event has no biblical basis and although it is pure imagination, it helps me to explain two theological mysteries. The reason why:
  - a. One: A third part of the angels abandon God to follow Satan.
  - b. Two: God created human beings.
2. The fourth truth: God created humans to meet the requirements of the challenge. Through man, God shows:
  - a. His Power by means of something that has no Power.
  - b. His love by means of something that can reject His love.
  - c. His JUSTICE by means of something that is pleased with the INJUSTICE.