

INT. 22ND FLOOR LOBBY - DAY

MOLLY, 17, trendy clothes, slouches on a chair in a lobby outside the conference room. Headphones plug her ears. We can hear YELLING from inside the room over ROCK MUSIC.

She pulls out an Ipod from her pocket and turns up the volume. The ROCK MUSIC covers the shouting.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Two sets of people face each other across a conference table.

On one side sits ROSE, 41, hair pulled up on her head, and her lawyer, MILTON, 52, been around the block. On the other side, TOM, 43, graying, leans back in his chair next to DANE, 28, unsure of himself. Dane whispers into his ear.

DANE

They will get them, if we let them.

MILTON

If we can come to an agreement on this, then I think we can move forward.

Tom looks over at Dane.

TOM

No deal.

Rose gets up from her chair and shouts at Tom.

ROSE

ARRGH! Tom, this is ludicrous. You only care about them because I want them.

Tom leans forward in his chair.

TOM

I've spent more time with them this past week than you have in a year!

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Doors fly open and parents burst out accosting each other. They speed past Molly without a passing glance.

ROSE

Tom, I'm not getting into this again with you. I WANT THEM.

Rose punches the down button for the elevator. Tom paces back and forth.

TOM  
YOUR not getting them. You can have  
the car.

The door DINGS and splits apart.

Molly sighs, stands up, and trails after them. This is routine.

ROSE  
I could give a rip about the car!  
You picked that out anyway.

TOM  
Fine you don't want that, take the  
furniture. THAT'S something YOU  
picked out.

Molly slides in as the doors close.

INT. 19TH FLOOR LOBBY - DAY

JILL MEYERS, 24, veterinarian, taps her toe and glances over at LEROY, 30, stroking his prized Siamese cat MCGILLACUDDY.

LEROY  
Do you really think he will be  
okay?

JILL  
Yes, Leroy. He was fine last week.  
He's fine now. It's only a urinary  
tract infection.

LEROY  
I know, but he doesn't want to eat  
and he hasn't pee-peed in days.

The ELEVATOR1 doors swing open. Tom, Rose, and Molly stand inside, and Jill and Leroy join them.

JILL  
McGillacuddy's fine. Just keep  
giving him the medication. Don't  
worry so much, it's not worth it.

ROSE  
Yeah TOM, it's not worth it.

Tom's face tightens and he clenches his fist.

TOM  
ARRGHH!

He slams his fist into the elevator control panel.

The elevator lurches to a halt. Everyone looks at each other and Molly pull out her ear plugs.

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Milton and Dane stroll out of the conference room and over to the elevators. Milton presses the button and looks at his watch.

DANE  
Can you believe that? That was intense.

Milton nods.

DANE (CONT'D)  
Everyone should forced to sign a prenup nowadays. Hey, how's Polly and the kids?

Elevator2 dings and Dane and Milton slip on.

MILTON  
They're great. I'm truly blessed. The kids are beautiful. And smart. They're teaching me things now

INT. ELEVATOR1 - DAY

ROSE  
Nice work, Tom. You can't do anything right can you?

LEROY  
What just happened? Are we stuck? Is there enough air in here?

Leroy begins to breath rapidly. He slumps to the floor and pets his cat feverishly.

JILL  
It's all right Leroy. You're gonna be fine.

LEROY

What do you know? You're just a veterinarian.

Molly sneezes as the cat crawls around her legs.

ROSE

We're not in danger of falling are we?

TOM

Nice Rose.

LEROY

It still happens every year. Not as bad as when buildings had those old paternostors. But there's still about 20 deaths a year.

Molly's eyes widen.

JILL

Let's all try to remain calm.

Rose reaches into her purse and pulls out a cigarette. She flicks a lighter, but it won't light.

LEROY

Are you kidding me?

JILL

If we're gonna die I may as well have a cigarette.

Rose tries again. Nothing.

TOM

What's his deal?

LEROY

I AM CLAUSTROPHOBIC!

Leroy begins hyperventilating and Jill bends down to comfort him.

JILL

Do you smoke in the car with your kid too?

ROSE

You gonna tell me how to raise my kids?

Molly sneezes again and scratches her legs.

JILL  
Is she allergic to anything?

ROSE  
What?

JILL  
Your daughter. She's scratching all over and her eyes are red.

Jill turns to Molly.

JILL (CONT'D)  
My name is Jill Meyers. What's yours?

MOLLY  
Molly.

Jill picks up the cat and brings it toward Molly. She sneezes and struggles for breath.

JILL  
Nice to meet you Molly. I think you're allergic to cats.

MOLLY  
Huh, now the veterinarian's a doctor.

INT. ELEVATOR2 - DAY

Dane and Milton face each other in the descending elevator.

DANE  
I don't know how you do it.

MILTON  
What's that?

DANE  
Keeping the family thing going and all. Especially doing this everyday.

MILTON  
They're the only thing that keeps me going. There's so much going on that's negative and evil.  
(MORE)

MILTON (cont'd)  
You gotta hang onto the good things  
in this world.

DANE  
I have a hard time hanging onto  
anything good.

The elevator DINGS and the doors part.

Milton raises a hand and places it on Dane's shoulder.

MILTON  
Hang on for dear life. Don't let  
anything or anyone get them. They  
will get them, if we let them. But  
only if we let them.

Milton walks out through the illuminated doorway as Dane  
looks after him.

FADE OUT.

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