

16. Stuck

Topic: Strangers are stuck together in a stopped elevator.

Cast:

- BRIANNA: easily panicked, near the front of the elevator
- TANYA: trying desperately to keep Brianna calm, near the front of the elevator
- CLAY: a friend of Will and a funny guy
- WILL: friends with Clay, an average guy
- CHRISTOPHER: the voice of doom, dead center in the front of the elevator
- SEAN: has dry humor, is practical and logical
- JAKE: nonchalant, not easily upset, and a little clueless
- CORRIN: adventure lover
- GABE: average guy, very practical
- BRAD: not easily upset, just a normal guy

- 1 *(There is no setting, but all should be obviously tightly*
 2 *gathered as if on an elevator.)*
- 3 **BRIANNA:** *(Looking up and around. Gauging the atmosphere of*
 4 *the elevator)* Tanya, I think there's something wrong with
 5 this elevator.
- 6 **TANYA:** You always think that.
- 7 **CLAY:** Dude, I don't think this elevator is moving.
- 8 **WILL:** Of course it is. You get on an elevator and it takes
 9 you up or down. That's the plan.
- 10 **CHRISTOPHER:** *(Very dark, very low, very ominous)*
 11 Something is terribly, terribly wrong.
- 12 **SEAN:** Excuse me, does anyone else feel like this elevator
 13 is not moving?
- 14 **JAKE:** Sure it is. It's fine. Don't say that.
- 15 **BRAD:** I'm really gonna be late now.
- 16 **CHRISTOPHER:** *(Saying what everyone's thinking)* It's not
 17 moving. We're stuck. We're stuck here forever.
- 18 **TANYA:** Don't say that. It will be fine. It's probably only

- 1 stuck for a minute.
- 2 **GABE:** You don't know that.
- 3 **CORRIN:** This is cool.
- 4 **BRIANNA:** *(Getting upset and spooked)* It's not cool. I hate
 5 these things. This is very upsetting to me.
- 6 **TANYA;** *(Trying to calm her down)* Calm down, Brianna, just
 7 calm down.
- 8 **CHRISTOPHER:** I knew something like this was going to
 9 happen today. We're all going to die in here.
- 10 **SEAN:** *(Voice of reason)* Hey, isn't there a phone or
 11 something we can use to call for help?
- 12 **BRAD:** I don't have a cell phone. Do you have a cell phone?
 13 I knew I should have gotten a cell phone. It's for times
 14 just like this that everyone really should have a cell
 15 phone.
- 16 **SEAN:** I was talking about the elevator phone.
- 17 **CLAY:** What's an elevator phone?
- 18 **GABE:** Oh, yeah, that phone that you're supposed to use in
 19 case of an emergency.
- 20 **CORRIN:** This isn't an emergency. We're just stuck a little.
 21 It'll be fine.
- 22 **WILL:** How can you be stuck a little in an elevator?
- 23 **CHRISTOPHER:** *(Continuing in his gloomy predictions)* If we
 24 don't suffocate, then the cables will probably snap and
 25 the whole car will plummet to the ground and we'll all be
 26 crushed.
- 27 **GABE:** Have you thought about looking into a little therapy?
- 28 **BRIANNA:** *(The atmosphere is beginning to get edgy.)* I think
 29 I'm going to faint.
- 30 **TANYA:** You're not going to faint. Calm down. Everybody
 31 just calm down.
- 32 **JAKE:** Does anybody have anything to eat?
- 33 **CLAY:** What?
- 34 **JAKE:** I didn't eat breakfast.
- 35 **SEAN:** Soooo how's it coming with that elevator telephone?

1 TANYA: There isn't one.
 2 SEAN: There isn't one?
 3 TANYA: No, there's no phone.
 4 SEAN: I thought there was supposed to be a phone.
 5 TANYA: Maybe there is *supposed* to be a phone, but there
 6 isn't one here.
 7 WILL: Great.
 8 CHRISTOPHER: (*In anguish*) And the last thing I said to my
 9 mother was, "You're not nice to me." What kind of last
 10 words are they? The rest of her life she'll be haunted by
 11 her dead son saying, "You're not nice to me." I could
 12 have said "I love you." That would have been the best
 13 last words. Those are the best last words anyone can
 14 say, "I love you."
 15 CLAY: (*Trying to be silly*) Hey, Will, I love you.
 16 WILL: (*Not appreciating the attempt*) Cut it out. You're
 17 disgusting.
 18 BRAD: Would somebody do something?
 19 SEAN: (*Trying to be logical and practical*) Does anyone have
 20 any skills that would help us get out of here?
 21 JAKE: I can cook an omelet.
 22 GABE: Very helpful. Come on, guys, think.
 23 CHRISTOPHER: (*Monotonously, hands raised, saying last rites*
 24 *for all in the elevator*) Though I walk through the valley of
 25 the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil ...
 26 CLAY: Oh, I saw a movie where they climbed out through the
 27 ceiling. (*ALL look up and pause.*)
 28 GABE: Any other ideas?
 29 JAKE: Well, we could call for help on my cell phone.
 30 TANYA: You've got a cell phone?!
 31 JAKE: (*Holds it up.*) Sure, right here.
 32 SEAN: Somebody take that phone away from that kid so I
 33 can strangle him.
 34 GABE: Give me that phone you goofball.
 35 BRIANNA: Wait! Did you feel that?

1 CHRISTOPHER: This is it. God bless each of you.
 2 WILL: I think we're moving.
 3 BRIANNA: Up or down? (*A little panicked*) Up or down?!
 4 BRAD: Calm down, girl. Up. We're going up.
 5 TANYA: See? I told you it would be OK.
 6 CORRIN: Oh, shoot. It's moving all right.
 7 SEAN: I'm going to need a lot of therapy after this.
 8 CHRISTOPHER: (*Shocked*) You mean we're not going to die?
 9 CLAY: (*Just about had it with CHRISTOPHER*) If you don't shut
 10 up, I won't be able to guarantee that.
 11 CHRISTOPHER: You mean the elevator is not going to
 12 crash?
 13 WILL: It certainly looks that way. Look! The door's opening!
 14 BRAD: Oh, I guess I'm not going to be late after all.
 15 CORRIN: We were only in here like three minutes.
 16 GABE: (*Points to CHRISTOPHER*) With this guy, it seemed
 17 *much* longer.
 18 BRIANNA: It's going to be all right. It's all going to be fine.
 19 Everybody, we're OK!
 20 CHRISTOPHER: I gotta call my mother. (*Runs out.*)
 21 JAKE: I hope that snack shop is still open (*Exits.*)
 22 TANYA: Come on, Brianna, you need a nice, warm cup of
 23 hot chocolate. (*BRIANNA and TANYA exit.*)
 24 CORRIN: Shoot, I was hoping we'd be on the news and all.
 25 (*CORRIN, CLAY, and WILL exit.*)
 26 BRAD: Nice, uh, being stuck with you. (*Exits.*)
 27 GABE: What a group. (*Exits.*)
 28 SEAN: It's days like today that make it a waste of energy to
 29 get out of bed.