

Stuck

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Draft 2 - 15/03/19

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

MRS. FELLINI (49) is in the elevator. She presses the "9" floor button repeatedly. As the elevator door shuts, JOSH (21) manages to hold the door and squeezes himself into the elevator.

Mrs. Fellini rolls her eyes in exasperation.

Josh recognises Mrs. Fellini, however, tries to keep it cool and avoids eye contact with her.

They stand next to each other as the elevator doors shut. As the elevator goes up a few floors, they both gaze into space. All of a sudden, the elevator rattles.

They are stuck.

Mrs. Fellini takes a look at her wristwatch and heaves a sigh. She then pushes the alarm bell.

JOSH

Excuse me Madam, are you Mrs. Fellini?

MRS. FELLINI

Yes, that's me. Do we know each other?

Josh extends his hand. Mrs. Fellini just looks at it.

JOSH

Not yet. We're supposed to have a meeting in a couple of minutes.

MRS. FELLINI

Yeah, sorry. I'm gonna be late for that.

They chuckle.

JOSH

I'm Josh Sherburn. It's an honour to meet you, Mrs. Fellini.

MRS. FELLINI

Well, Josh. Looks like we'll be here for awhile. Why don't you just save us both time and sell me your idea now.

Josh's eyes lights up.

JOSH
(laughs)
An actual elevator pitch?

Mrs. Fellini is unamused.

MRS. FELLINI
Go ahead.

JOSH
You know, I recently was at the
library, doing my research for this...

JOSH
Then there was this guy that kept
whistling this tune over and over
again.

MRS. FELLINI
In the library?

JOSH
I know, right?!
And when I left for home, it got
bloody stuck in my head.

Josh starts whistling the tune.

He moves closer to Mrs. Fellini.

JOSH
It wasn't even a good song!

Mrs. Fellini's face just tenses in discomfort.

JOSH
That got me thinking... You know how
we often get stuck in life?

MRS. FELLINI
Get to the story.

JOSH
Right. Sorry. So... this man sits in
the Cafe. He is in the midst of
writing his novel. But he just ran out
of inspiration. He had this great idea
but now it doesn't seem as great
anymore. He needs a break. Wants to go
for a smoke. He tries to stand up and
pushes his chair backwards and hits

the chair behind him. He is stuck. He manoeuvres his left leg from under the table to give way for him to pick up his bag. He reaches for his bag but it is stuck under the leg of his chair.

Josh gazes into space -- the epiphany hits him.

JOSH

Then a moment of epiphany strikes him.

Background music (non-diegetic) gradually comes in. It gets louder and louder.

Slow track into Josh's expression as we...

CUT TO:

A MONTAGE:

1. Stuck in traffic
2. Shoe stuck in mud
3. Jam jar that is stuck and will not open
4. Blood transfusion - blood flows down a tube but gets stuck
5. Video game - stuck?

THESE ARE PLACEHOLDERS -- THE ACTUAL IMAGES ARE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION. WHATEVER IDEAS YOU HAVE, NOTE THEM DOWN.

Mrs. Fellini's voice suddenly emerges from this experimental bit...

MRS. FELLINI (V.O.)

I can't follow where this is going.

CUT TO:

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Josh stares blankly at Mrs. Fellini.

JOSH

I-- We-Well...

MRS. FELLINI

What is the point of this "Story" as you call it?

JOSH

That's the thing... I'm stuck.

The lift bell rings and the doors open.

CUT TO: BLACK

END.