

PEOPLE IN A CAN

Written by

Nuno Sá Pessoa

INT. ELEVATOR TUNNEL - NIGHT

BIRD'S EYE SHOT OF THE ELEVATOR DESCENDING

The elevator stops.

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Four people are standing inside the elevator.

CHATERINE is a 26-year-old caucasian woman.

RICHARD is a 45-year-old black man.

LUTZ is a 92-year-old caucasian man.

DANIEL is a 32-year-old Jewish gay man.

They all look casual as they stand and avoid eye contact.

Suddenly the elevator stops.

CATHERINE

Oh my God

RICHARD

What the hell?

Daniel is the one nearest to the elevator's buttons and tries to press them, the elevator doesn't respond.

DANIEL

Ok...

Lutz looks nervous.

Daniel presses the emergency button and waits for someone to answer. They get no answer.

CATHERINE

Fuck!

Lutz starts feeling bad and almost falls, Daniel grabs on to him and helps him sit down.

DANIEL

Calm down sir, it's going to be  
alright

Richard kicks the door really hard and yells really hard.

(CONTINUED)

RICHARD  
Open this fucking door!

CATHERINE  
Stop it, retard!

RICHARD  
Shut up!

Richard kicks the doors even harder.

Catherine yells at him.

DANIEL  
Hey!

RICHARD  
What?

DANIEL  
Be careful, man!

RICHARD  
Of what?

DANIEL  
Just relax, they must be working on  
it!

RICHARD  
They're not working on shit!

Catherine yells at Richard.

CATHERINE  
Asshole!

DANIEL  
Yo! You two! There's an old man  
here who's not feeling well

Daniel speaks to Lutz who responds in a Germanic accent.

DANIEL  
What is your name, sir?

LUTZ  
Lutz

Lutz reaches out to his pocket and gets his pills.

Daniel speaks to Catherine.

(CONTINUED)

DANIEL  
Do you have some water?

CATHERINE  
Yes

Catherine takes a bottle of water from her purse and hands the bottle over to Daniel.

Lutz takes a pill and Daniel gives him some water.

DANIEL  
Everything is going to be ok, Lutz.

Richard starts pressing the alarm ring continuously, creating an annoying noise.

CATHERINE  
Jesus! Will you stop it?

RICHARD  
I suffer from panic attacks you fucking bitch!

CATHERINE  
Who are you calling a bitch you nigger piece of shit?!

Richard advances towards Catherine as if he's ready to hit her, Daniel gets up and gets in the middle of the two.

DANIEL  
Stop it! You two just stop it!

RICHARD  
Did you hear what this bitch called me, nigga?!

CATHERINE  
Stop calling me a bitch you chauvinist asshole

DANIEL  
Listen up! We all want to get out of this elevator and there's an old man who needs to get help

CATHERINE  
And what's your plan, Einstein?

RICHARD  
Yeah

(CONTINUED)

DANIEL

I don't know, but maybe one of us  
can get out through the top of the  
elevator and get help

Daniel looks at Richard.

DANIEL

You're by far the tallest one, care  
to try?

RICHARD

Sure

Richard stand on the side of the elevator and learns that he  
can easily reach the top of the elevator, he touches the  
wooden ceiling.

RICHARD

It's not that hard

Richard punches the ceiling.

DANIEL

Here, use my knife

Daniel hand's Richard a knife.

Richard starts sticking the knife through the wooden the  
ceiling.

CATHERINE

Is this really a good idea?

DANIEL

It's the best we got

Richard is able to make a hole on the ceiling.

DANIEL

Yes!

RICHARD

Fuck yeah

Richard drops the knife on to the floor.

Richard goes through the hole on the ceiling.

DANIEL

How is it?

Ricard jumps and manages to go out of the elevator tunnel.

(CONTINUED)

RICHARD  
Farewell you Trump supporting  
mother fuckers!

CATHERINE  
What?!

DANIEL  
Hey!

RICHARD  
Fuck you!

Richard leaves with no intention of getting them help.

CATHERINE  
I knew it! We've just wasted time  
with this nigger you dumb fairy!

DANIEL  
Hey! Watch it! You're really  
stupid, did you know that?

CATHERINE  
Fuck off

Lutz starts feeling really bad and he hyperventilates.

Daniel gets down on his knees and holds on to Lutz.

CATHERINE  
Oh God, Jesus Christ...

DANIEL  
Just breath slowly, Lutz

Daniel opens Lutz shirt.

Daniel is shocked as he sees a nazi swastika on Lutz' chest  
with a number underneath it, Daniel almost falls back with  
the shock.

DANIEL  
What the fuck is that?!

Lutz wants to respond but he can't as he's hyperventilating.

DANIEL  
You were a nazi officer, weren't  
you?!

(CONTINUED)

CATHERINE

Help him!

DANIEL

Fuck you!

Daniel speaks to Lutz.

DANIEL

What is your real name?

Lutz doesn't answer.

DANIEL

That's the number of the  
concentration camp you worked at  
you son of a bitch!

Daniel holds Lutz by his shirt.

DANIEL

My grandparents died in a  
concentration at the hands of  
people like you!

Daniel holds on to Lutz neck and starts to choke him while  
crying at the same time.

CATHERINE

Stop it, you maniac!

Catherine tries to pull Daniel away from Lutz, but is unable  
to as Daniel slaps her.

Catherine falls on the floor, sees the knife next to her and  
holds it.

Lutz is able to utter some words.

LUTZ

Judenschwein, Judenscheisse!

Lutz grabs a gun from his belt, but Daniel quickly kicks it  
from his hand and holds on to him.

DANIEL

Die, mother fucker!

Daniel chokes Lutz really hard until he dies.

Catherine gets up with the knife on her hand.

Catherine stabs the knife on Daniel's neck.

(CONTINUED)

Daniel gets up and tries to walk towards Catherine, but instead, just falls on the floor.

Catherine falls to the floor and starts crying.

We hear the voice of a MAN through the elevator's emergency system.

MAN  
Hello, is anybody there?

CATHERINE  
Leave us alone!

MAN  
Is everything ok, ma'am?

CATHERINE  
Fuck you!

MAN  
Ma'am, calm down, help is on the way

Catherine can't stop crying she crawls towards Lutz' gun and grabs it, she puts the gun in her mouth.

We hear a loud shot and the picture goes black.

INT. ELEVATOR TUNNEL - NIGHT

ASCENDING BIRD'S EYE SHOT OF THE ELEVATOR'S INSIDE, THE CAMERA GOES THROUGH THE HOLE ON THE ELEVATOR'S CEILING AND KEEPS GOING UP.

Everybody inside the elevator is dead.

THE END