

6. FATE OR CHANCE?

Manga English Series Vol. 6

English Education Laboratory

6. Fate or Chance?



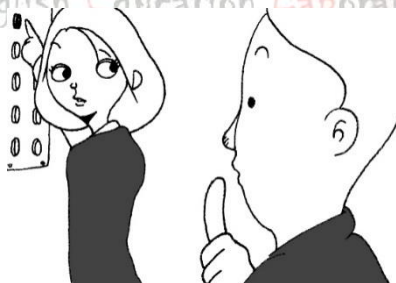
It was the first time
Nancy had ever been stuck
in an elevator.

It was Ryan's third time,
however.

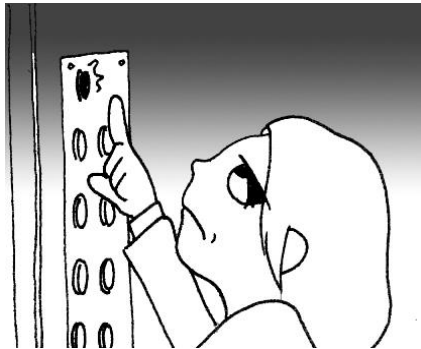


Only the two of them
were in that small elevator
when it stopped,
at the Orion hotel.
They didn't know
each other.

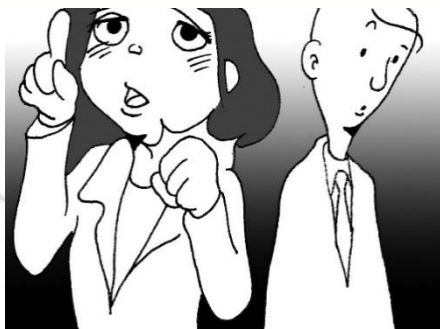
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"Try the phone,"
said Ryan.

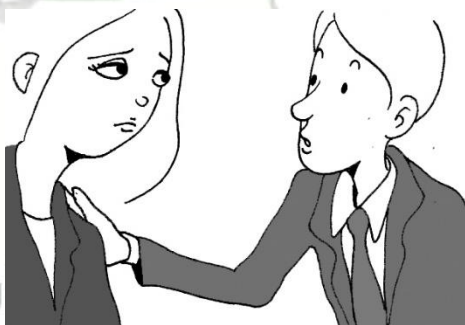


Nancy had already tried
pressing the emergency 'stop' button
-she thought
she could 'unstop' the elevator
by pressing it.



But that didn't work
and Ryan thought
she looked a little panicked
by the whole situation.

"Hello? Hello?
Is anybody there?
Hello? ...Hello?!"



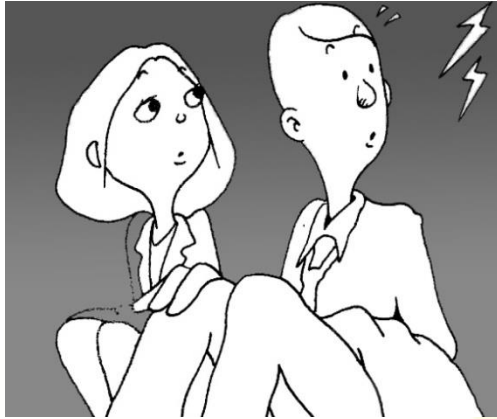
"Try to relax,"
said Ryan.

"This happened to me before
-twice.

I'm sure
someone is already
working on the problem."

Nancy looked
only slightly relieved
by Ryan's consolation.





An hour passed
—maybe more—
before Ryan and Nancy
heard the sounds
of tools and mechanical devices
in the elevator shaft.



During the time
they were waiting,
the two had sat down
on their briefcases
and had begun a conversation.
At first
they speculated
on how the elevator had got stuck.



After that they began talking
about other things
—jobs, their backgrounds,
and the lovely weather
New York had been having that week.

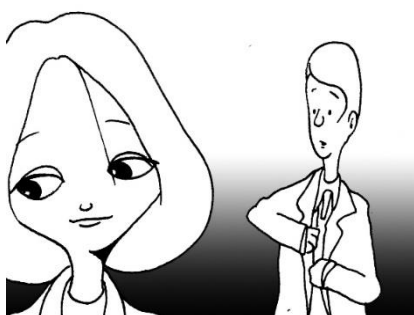


After about an hour or more,
Nancy and Ryan had discovered that
they shared a lot in common
with one another.

It was only a moment
after Nancy said,
“it’s been nice talking to you,”
when the elevator
briefly shook
and then began it’s descent
to the hotel lobby.



It goes without saying that
the couple were happy
the elevator was working again.
But both of them also felt
a spark of disappointment
that their pleasant conversation
had to end.





When the doors opened
at the lobby

there were many people
waiting to see

if Nancy and Ryan were all right.

They offered refreshments to them
and many apologies

In all the commotion,

Nancy finally left the hotel
on her way to a business meeting.

Ryan wondered

if he could ever see her again.

When he caught a glimpse of Nancy
exiting the hotel

he quickly walked away
from the hotel manager,

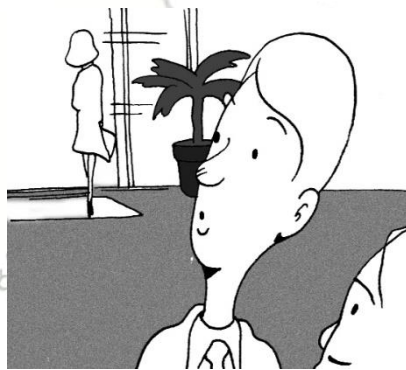
who was again

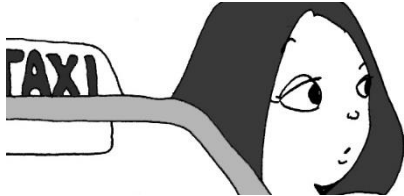
apologizing to Ryan

for any inconveniences

that his hotel might have caused.

Ryan no longer cared.





He ran after Nancy
and finally
caught up to her
just before she got into a taxi.



“Would you like to have dinner
with me tonight, Nancy?”

That was how
Nancy and Ryan began
a very romantic relationship.

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