

A New Year's Surprise

Written by Rachel Kruglyak

Made in Highland

INT. ELEVATOR- NIGHT

The buttons for Floor 10 and the Penthouse are pushed but the elevator isn't moving.

AMBER MCGUIRE (late 20s, slim, sparkly v-neck shirt, flouncy skirt, heels, energetic) frantically pushes the Help Button.

CHRIS O'MALLEY (50s, suit and tie, Italian loafers, fancy watch, stoic) shoots her a sympathetic smile.

CHRIS
That isn't going to work.

AMBER
How do you know?

CHRIS
That button's been broken for as long as I can remember.

AMBER
I see.

Chris and Amber pull out their phones, and dial the contacts "Honey" and "Babe" but neither call goes through.

AMBER
Shit.

CHRIS
Yeah, cell service can be pretty crappy in the elevator.

AMBER
It's worked for me in the past.

CHRIS
Yeah, well, it can be fickle.

AMBER
I'm guessing the same can be said of the elevator itself?

CHRIS
Only lately.

AMBER
Well, this is just great. I usually take the stairs but I was late.

She begins pacing.

Made in Highland

AMBER (CONT'D)
I need to be on Floor 10 in...

Amber checks her phone.

AMBER (CONT'D)
4 minutes. Fuck!

CHRIS
Stop pacing. Please. Look, I
really want to watch the ball drop
with my wife, but freaking out
won't magically fix the elevator.
So just try to stay calm, okay?

AMBER
How am I supposed to stay calm
when I'm missing one of the
biggest moments of my life?

CHRIS
New Year's comes around every
year. There will be another one.

AMBER
Not like this.

Amber starts pounding the elevator.

AMBER (CONT'D)
HELP! WE'RE STUCK IN THE ELEVATOR!

Chris rolls his eyes.

CHRIS
Had enough yet?

Amber checks her phone: 11:59. She slides to the floor.

AMBER
Well, this is just great. I really
wanted to perform my flashmob
during the countdown.

CHRIS
Flashmob?

AMBER
I thought I would surprise my
girlfriend by performing with a
flashmob during the countdown and
then proposing.

Chris softens.

Made in Highland

CHRIS

I'm sorry things aren't going as planned for you. You know, I proposed to *my* wife with a flashmob.

AMBER

Really? I guess it's a more common approach than I thought. My father proposed that way, and Destiny said *her* dad proposed that way, too.

CHRIS

Destiny?

AMBER

Destiny O'Malley. My girlfriend.

CHRIS

Oh my god.

AMBER

What?

CHRIS

That's my daughter.

Amber blanches.

AMBER

Your daughter? So that makes you...

CHRIS

Chris O'Malley. And you must be...

AMBER

I'm Amber.

CHRIS

Right, Destiny's mentioned you a few times. I just didn't realize it was this serious.

AMBER

Oh.

CHRIS

She said the two of you met in a dance class?

Amber nods.

AMBER
Yeah. In college.

Chris's eyes widen.

CHRIS
College?

AMBER
You didn't know that.

CHRIS
No. She only started talking about you a year ago when she came out to Iris and me.

AMBER
Yeah, um, a year ago was when I told her I loved her.

CHRIS
Right. Makes sense.

AMBER
After she said it back, she said it was about time she started being honest with her parents because she always promised herself that when she found love, she wanted to share it with those she loved.

CHRIS
Don't you think you should slow down a little?

AMBER
No, I don't. I've been seeing her for five years. I love her and want to spend the rest of my life with her.

CHRIS
Well, it's only been a year for me.

AMBER
This isn't about you.

CHRIS
It doesn't bother you that you haven't met her parents yet?

AMBER
Well, I've met you.

CHRIS
But not Iris. And I'm guessing
Destiny hasn't met your parents.

AMBER
Actually, she has. Many times.

CHRIS
Well, she's never mentioned it to
us.

AMBER
Seems like she doesn't mention a
lot of things to you.

CHRIS
Apparently not.

AMBER
The engagement can fix that.

CHRIS
I find that hard to believe.

AMBER
Look, I feel like we got off on
the wrong foot.

CHRIS
Yeah. Let's start over.

AMBER
Once Destiny and I are officially
engaged, I'm sure we will spend
tons of time with you and Iris. In
fact, I'll make sure of it.

CHRIS
You would do that?

AMBER
Of course. We'd practically be
family.

Chris and Amber smile at each other. Chris looks at his phone.
The time reads: **12:03**.

CHRIS
Hey, look at that. Happy New Year.

AMBER
Happy New Year.

Made in Highland