

THIRD FLOOR

Written by

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INT. HOTEL - SECOND FLOOR - STAIRWELL - DAY

CAMERA TILTED UP, looking through the spiral towards the third floor. LESLIE (veteran hotel employee) walks past.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY/ROOM 310 - DAY

We watch Leslie as he finishes working in/exits one of the guest bedrooms. Pushing his equipment, he approaches Room 310 to repeat the process.

LESLIE
(knocks)
Housekeeping.

No response - Leslie opens the door.

Shocked, Leslie stands at the entrance looking in: the room is full of cats.

Leslie enters the room and closes the door - trying not to let any cats out. A large portion of the cats are sat/roaming freely on the double bed, others are in carriers stacked around the room. Leslie semi-frantically but carefully navigates the room, attempting to organise the constantly moving cats.

Finally, we watch as Leslie - surrounded by cats - finds and reads a note left on one of the carriers. We don't know what it says but he seems even more confused having read it.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
(unengaged tone
throughout)
Front desk.

LESLIE
Yes - hi - it's Leslie. From
housekeeping.

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
How can I help?

LESLIE
Uh, can you send Frank up? To 310.

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
310?

LESLIE
Yes.

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
Ok, Frank's not in yet... What's the issue?

LESLIE
--He's not? What about Sarah?

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
Sarah's getting married this weekend, she's not back till the 5th.

LESLIE
Well somebody's got to do something
(Leslie is careful not to
speak as a guest walks
by)
There's cats in the room.

BEAT.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
Hello?

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
You said there's cats in the room?

LESLIE
Yes.

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
How many are there?

LESLIE
Uh, I don't know - 30, 40 maybe....

FRONT DESK WOMAN (O.C.)
Ok, hold one minute.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - BALLROOM - DAY

A hotel-employed PIANIST sits at the grand piano - he looks through some sheets of music. Other staff prepare tables and chairs in the background.

An ELDERLY COUPLE watch through an ajar door as the pianist rehearses.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - LIFT - DAY

ARTHUR (about 20) enters the lift and is joined by two strangers - KATHERINE and STEVE (middle-aged couple).

It's awkward, as shared lift journeys always are, but particularly as Katherine and Steve seem to be suppressing an argument.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - ROOM 309 - DAY

Arthur has dragged the bed closer to the window and is sat, looking out onto the street.

The phone rings. Arthur acknowledges it but doesn't answer. Instead it goes to voicemail, the other end of the line remains silent for a moment before:

ARTHUR'S DAD (O.C.)

Hello? Arthur?... Arthur if you're there you need to pick up the phone. It's dad.
 You can't spend my money and not think I'll know where you are, Arthur. Look we've called your mobile over and over but it's not going through. I don't know what's going on but you need to pick up the phone. I've got your teachers calling they said you haven't been in in weeks. Your sisters crying, Misty's gone missing so she's upset about that... it's not been a good week for us.
 Look maybe you're not in the room right now I don't know just call us when you get this. It's not fair. I'm driving up at the weekend anyway - can't get time off before that so... just be safe and give me a call when you get this. Ok.

The phone hangs up and Arthur sits with what he's just heard.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - BALLROOM - DAY

The ballroom now decorated, a HOTEL EMPLOYEE vacuums alone.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Katherine and Steve (dressed up) eat dinner together. Steve focuses mainly on his food and is oblivious to Katherine's boredom. She's stares at his eating.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - ROOM 308 - LATER

Steve, back turned to us, brushes his teeth over the sink in the bathroom. He's now just wearing his shirt and trousers.

He spits in the sink and puts his toothbrush away before rinsing and drying his face. He turns and walks towards the bedroom. Stopping at the threshold, he glares at Katherine (who's off camera).

Steve walks over the his side of the bed, undresses and gets under the covers. He looks to Katherine - who's moisturising her hands on her side of the bed - and turns the light off once she's under the sheets too.

After a moment in the darkness:

KATHERINE

I'm done.

STEVE

...what?

KATHERINE

When we get home I want a divorce.

STEVE

... You're really starting this now?

BEAT.

KATHERINE

I don't see the point pretending.

STEVE
 (sits up, turns the light
 on and looks at her)
 This is ridiculous?

Katherine lays there - doesn't respond.

STEVE (CONT'D)
 Katherine, this is ridiculous. You
 can't--

KATHERINE
 --I don't know what I'm doing here.

STEVE
 ...This was meant to be a good
 trip. Time for us to figure things
 out.

KATHERINE
 I know.

STEVE
 We've been over this, we agreed and
 I'm trying. You can't just discard
 that.

KATHERINE
 I know and I'm sorry Steve but I
 changed my mind.

STEVE
 You changed your mind?

KATHERINE
 Yeah.

STEVE
 Well... that's convenient for you.

Katherine finally turns to look at Steve as she speaks.

KATHERINE
 None of this has been convenient
 for me.

Steve says nothing.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)
 (angrier)
 None of this has been convenient
 for me.

(MORE)

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

I know you're hurt and I hate that -
I find it really hard - but I am
well within my rights if I don't
want to keep going with this... My
friends don't think I should even
be trying in the first place but I
have. I have tried and tried--

STEVE

--Your friends?

KATHERINE

Yes my friends.

STEVE

It's none of their business.

KATHERINE

Well. It is.

BEAT.

STEVE

You just refuse to let go. That's
why this isn't working. I do care
about you. All I've asked is to try
and prove that...

KATHERINE

Yes but I don't want to try
anymore.

STEVE

This is just crazy. Something's not
right with you. I'm sorry but I'm
serious, I don't know if it's your
pills or what...
No one comes out better off from
this.

Katherine gets out of bed and starts collecting her things
(off camera).

STEVE (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

Nothing.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Katherine, what are you doing?

She says nothing. Frustrated, Steve lays back down and
pretends he's going back to sleep.

STEVE (CONT'D)
Fucking ridiculous. I'm not dealing
with this.

Katherine continues to pack her things and eventually leaves -
the door slams.

Steve waits a moment - listens as she walks away through the
hallway...

Steve jolts up, frantically puts on his trousers by the side
of the bed.

STEVE (CONT'D)
Katherine?

Trousers on but still topless, Steve rushes to the door and
opens into the hallway.

STEVE (CONT'D)
Katherine?!!

Still nothing...

A door further down the hallway opens and an overweight,
NOSEY GUEST in a white vest and underwear steps out - seeing
what the trouble is.

Steve reflects on what just happened... As he turns to
reenter the room he briefly faces the nosey guest - who
quickly interjects:

NOSEY GUEST
Other people are trying to sleep,
you know.

Steve shuts the door forcefully - leaving the nosey guest
shocked and alone for a moment before reentering his room.

We stay in the empty hallway and it's very quiet. A cat
appears, sniffs/looks around.

CREDITS ROLL.

END.