

TRAPPED IN AN ELEVATOR

A scene by Andrea Blythe

The Cast:

| | |
|--|--|
|  A close-up shot of the artificial intelligence character GLaDOS from the game Portal 2. She is a green, spherical robot with a single yellow eye and a potato-shaped head, mounted on a mechanical base. | <p>GLaDOS (Portal 2)</p> <p>An artificial intelligence currently mounted in and powered by a potato. She has a penchant for sarcasm and murder.</p> <p>Reference: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5kkwerms4</p> |
|  A close-up shot of the character Harold from the game Fallout 2. He is a green, ghoulish creature with a tree growing out of his head and a single glowing green eye. | <p>Harold (Fallout 2)</p> <p>A kind-hearted ghoul with a tree growing out of his head. Nothing much bothers him.</p> <p>Reference: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iCVWtr0sWto</p> |
|  A close-up shot of the character Ellie from the game The Last of Us. She is a young girl with brown hair, wearing a red t-shirt and a backpack, looking directly at the camera. | <p>Ellie (The Last of Us)</p> <p>A fourteen-year-old girl capable of surviving the apocalypse.</p> <p>Reference: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdWQA5b_7Xk</p> |

INT. ELEVATOR

The elevator jerks to a stop, halting its downward descent. The lights dim to power-save mode.

ELLIE glances at HAROLD, who seems unconcerned.

GLADOS, housed in a potato hanging from Ellie's backpack, sways like an over-sized key chain.

GLADOS

What now?

ELLIE

The elevator stopped.

GLADOS

Well done. Fantastic deduction.

(glitch sound)

Oh, good. My sarcasm filter still works.

HAROLD

Yer 'tatter seems to be a might talkative.

ELLIE

Yeahhh. I'm tempted to drop her off back in the gutter.

Ellie steps to the panel and randomly pushes buttons.

Nothing happens.

GLADOS

Oh, yes. By all means. Continue fiddling with the clearly inoperable control panel. I'll just wait here.

ELLIE

I don't see you coming up with any brilliant ideas

(to Harold)

How about you?

HAROLD

Well, youngster, *cough* I don't see the rush. But if you're itchin' to get outta here, I can help ya pry open the door.

ELLIE

Sure. Thanks.

GLADOS

That won't work. This elevator is --

Ellie elbows the potato, sending it swinging on the backpack.

GLADOS (cont'd)

AHHHHHHHH! Stop that! You little *fzt* --
You're going to *mechanical click*

Ellie and Harold each grab one side and jimmy the door. It opens with the screech of metal on metal to reveal --

a wall.

ELLIE

Okay, fine. So that didn't work.

GLADOS

Who could have predicted that? Oh, that's right. It was me.

Something clangs and the elevator shudders.

ELLIE

What the hell was that?

GLADOS

We need to get out of here. Now.

HAROLD

Oh, don't go losing your head, youngster.
I'm sure it's fine.

ELLIE

You sure?

HAROLD

Nothing to worry about.

GLADOS

Don't listen to him! He's an idiot with a tree in his brain!

HAROLD

Heh, yeah. His name's Herbert.

ELLIE

Sorry, wait. The tree in your head. You named it Herbert?

HAROLD

Nah, his real name's Bob. Hee hee. He hates when I call him Herbert. *hacking laugh*

ELLIE

Okay, uh, cool. I guess.

Something pings metallically.

The elevator lurches, dropping several inches.

Ellie screams.

HAROLD

Alright, alright. If you're so riled up, we can try to pop through the top like a cracker jack. *cough wheeze*

Ellie looks up at the ceiling.

ELLIE

Can we even get out that way?

HAROLD

One way to find out, I s'pose.

Harold reaches up and pokes at the panels in the ceiling.

GLADOS

Go ahead and take your time. It's not like we're still stuck in an elevation that's about to *plummet to the earth*.

ELLIE

Would you shut up? You're not helping.

Harold wrangles out a ceiling panel and drops it to the floor. The elevator groans.

ELLIE (cont'd)

Do you see anything?

HAROLD

Yup. Looks like.

Another panel drops to the floor. Harold reaches up through the gap and turns the handle on a hatch. The small door falls open.

HAROLD (cont'd)
Alright, youngster. Let's get goin'.

Harold boosts Ellie up and she scrambles through the hatch.

ELLIE
There's a ladder. We can climb out.

She leans down over the hatch.

ELLIE (cont'd)
Can you get out?

HAROLD
Don't worry about me, smoothskin. I'm a comin'.

Harold reaches up and starts to pull himself through.

Wires groan -- then ping as they start to snap. The entire elevator shifts.

GLADOS
Ahh! Leave him! Leaves him!

Ellie stumbles, reaches out and grabbed a ladder rung. Just as she grabs hold --

the elevator gives way.

Ellie stares down, watching the elevator plunge into the dark.

ELLIE
HAROLD!