

Thursday, January 11th, 2001.....It was a typical day at work for me at Delve,..... never having enough hours in the day to do what I wanted to do.

That day, rather than staying just a little bit longer so I could get that "one more thing" completed,.....I left on time. I HAD to get home.

It was the only time my son and I could find the time to get together to shop for his dad's birthday gift.... Which was the next day. He has such a busy schedule; Sean's a senior in High School at Fox, he works at Jack-In-The-Box, he plays hockey and spends time with his friends and girlfriend.

I gathered my things and headed out the door.

Meeting up with a co-worker at the 3rd floor elevators.... we said our greetings "hi!..... long time no see!".....

we chuckled a little... and swiftly move into the elevator while thanking the man for holding it for us.

Simultaneously we commented..... "wow... we got here just in time".....as the door shut; then smiled at each other almost as if it must of been luck that stopped the elevator for us...as if that had never happed before.

Things were good.....

I managed to get off work on time.

I didn't have to wait for the elevator.

I had dinner in the crock-pot. (pork roast seasoned with lemon pepper)

And Sean and I were going to get that shopping done....

Suddenly!.....

I looked around,..... not so much as to observe who was with me, butI was..

Hearing silence.....Feeling stillness.....Seeing darkness.....the elevator stopped.

The words shot through my head again.....

the elevator stopped!.....too early...!

My mind started cluttering.....I muttered to myself....

"oh, it'll start up again...must of been a power surge" in attempt to convince me that things will be alright ...No.....I'M STUCK on an elevator!...

I had this overwhelming feeling come over me as if someone covered my head with a sheet. I could feel it..... It was a heavy sheet.....

Just as if you'd change the channel on a Television, my mind changed thought patterns.

The patterns I began to see were similar to that of clips/or highlights of a show. I've called it..... " A ride of my life".

Thinking back now, I know I had seen a "flashback".

Bits and pieces of my life began to appear...

Some good.....Some bad.....

all of which must of been so impressionable to me to have been recorded and saved in my memory for Thursday, January 11th,..... for the flashback, “A ride of my life”. Since I can’t show you the flashback, listen and allow me to share it with you..... Sit back, maybe close your eyes.....enjoy my show:

-Making white paper birds and hanging them in the doorway, loosing myself as I gazed out the gable windows of the 2 story farmhouse, anticipating my sisters return

-Running through muddy fields, chasing pigs, laughing at their squeals, hearing the sounds of the feed bins clanging as they withdrew their snouts from their meal

- Baton twirling, tap dancing, trampoline competitions

-Taking walks with dad;... the sweet fragrance was that of purple, pink and white Irises, ...feeling how small my hand was cupped in his.

-Stirring the chocolate pudding and playing jacks on the kitchen floor with mom.

-Seeing a familiar mans face in the newspaper, he was charged with molestation; the feeling of disgust filled me again

-Canoeing and camping in the Okeefanokee Swamp swarming with Alligators, carpenter frogs, pig frogs, snakes

-Snorkeling in the Florida Keys,

-Unfolding a yellowed newspaper clipping with the headlines “Earned 3 Missouri State Records in Women’s Power Lifting”

-Finding the last usable vein on a kitten to inject life back into

-The **bold** words jumped out at me.....”**YOU’VE PASSED**” , you’re now a Registered Nurse

Just as I’m getting ready to make that first parachute jump from my brothers plane...

The elevator doors open.

I plunged back into reality.

Life has returned to typical.

I’ve continued working at Delve and living my life to the fullest.

As for the elevator? Do I still use it? Why not....after all....its was “A ride of my life”.