

Transcript

Il caso curioso di Benjamin Button (2008)

Benjamin: [in French] Good morning.

Receptionist: [in French] Yes, sir?

Benjamin: Miss Daisy Fuller.

Receptionist: Just a minute, please have a seat. [in French, on the phone] Hello, this is reception. May I please speak with...?

Narrator: Sometimes, unbeknownst to us, we find ourselves headed for a precipice. Whether this happens by accident or on purpose, there's nothing we can do to avoid it.

A woman in Paris was leaving to go shopping but had forgotten her overcoat and went back to get it. While she was in her apartment, the phone rang. She answered it and talked for a couple of minutes. While the woman was on the phone, Daisy was rehearsing for a show at the Opéra de Paris, and while she was rehearsing, the woman, having finished talking on the phone, had gone out to get a taxi.

A taxi driver had just dropped off a customer and stopped for a coffee. In the meantime, Daisy continued to rehearse. And this taxi driver, who had stopped for a coffee, picked up the woman who was going shopping and who had missed the other taxi. The taxi then stopped for a man who was going to work five minutes late because he had forgotten to set his alarm. While that late man was crossing the road, Daisy had finished her rehearsal and was taking a shower.

And while Daisy was taking a shower, the taxi waited for the woman, who had entered a pastry shop to pick up a package that was not ready because the saleswoman had broken up with her boyfriend the night before and had forgotten about it. Once the package was collected, the woman returned to the taxi that was blocked by a van, and in the meantime, Daisy was getting dressed. The van moved and the taxi was able to proceed, while Daisy, the last to get dressed, stopped to wait for a friend whose shoelace had broken. While the taxi was stopped at a traffic light, Daisy and her friend exited from the back of the theater.

If only one thing had turned out differently... if that shoelace hadn't broken, or if that van had moved a moment earlier, or if that package had been ready because the saleswoman hadn't broken up with her boyfriend, or that man had set his alarm and got up five minutes earlier, or if that taxi driver hadn't stopped for a coffee, or if that woman had remembered her coat and had taken a taxi earlier, Daisy and her friend would have crossed the street and the taxi would have slipped away.

But life, being what it is, had created a series of crossed and uncontrollable circumstances, so that taxi didn't drive away, and that taxi driver was distracted for a moment. And so that taxi hit Daisy and broke her leg.