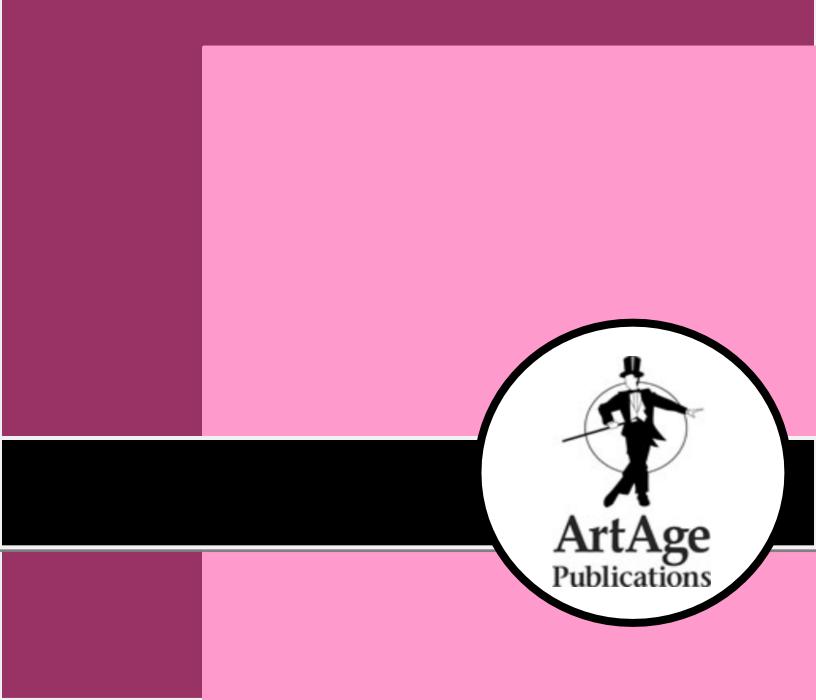
How to Marry the Minister

May Kramer





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FREEVIEW – Copywrited Material

How to Marry the Minister by May Kramer

CAST

THELMA:	a business woman
ANNABEL:	an aging ex-beauty queen
CARRIE:	a volunteer committeewoman
BRENDA:	a church secretary, with red hair that resembles a lion's mane

SCENE 1 Table at a coffee shop (*Annabel and Thelma are seated. Carrie enters*)

CARRIE: News girls! News and gossip!

ANNABEL: Sit down. Tell us!

CARRIE: Georgina Potter has left her husband!

THELMA: Surely not! You don't leave your husband if he is a minister!

CARRIE: Well, it's true!

ANNABEL: I thought he was looking a bit peaky lately...

THELMA: Every available woman in the parish will be after him...

ANNABEL: Well a minister must have a wife, mustn't he? And I would make the perfect wife for a minister.

CARRIE: My mother always wanted me to marry a minister. Presbyterians consider ministers to be the ideal form of a husband. And I've been alone now for seven years...

THELMA: What! You and Mr. Wonderful, remember. Your tuba player.

CARRIE: Oh that ended two years ago. He ran out of breath. (Pause) I haven't had a bite since.

THELMA (to Annabel): And you had Mr. Water Board and then Mr. Town Council...

ANNABEL: Nothing came of either. But I have a feeling I'll be the next Mrs. Potter.

THELMA: Over my dead body!

CARRIE: Have you no shame, Annabel. We'll have to give him time to get over the shock...and then the divorce.

ANNABEL: In my experience you should never give men too much time to think.

CARRIE: Amen to that. But girls, we're forgetting the obstacle!

ANNABEL: The obstacle! Oh, we forgot about the obstacle!

CARRIE: The lioness! Brenda the lioness! Who guards the gate to Henry Potter?

THELMA: Night and day!

ANNABEL: She keeps his flock of women admirers at a distance.

THELMA: And no one — no one gets an appointment with the Reverend Potter without Brenda.

ANNABEL: How long has she been his secretary—and keeper?

CARRIE: Forever, I'd say.

THELMA: Yes, I think she's been around forever.

CARRIE: It will be a challenge to get anywhere near Henry Potter.

ANNABEL: Yes it will. And I hope we can still be friends when I become the next

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Mrs. Potter. I'm going to get started at once.

CARRIE: Where are you going?

ANNABEL: To make an appointment at the beauty parlor, of course. Beauty is what captures a man...

Annabel exits

CARRIE: Oh, the shameless hussy! Do you think she's right? Is it beauty that captures a man?

THELMA: Depends on the man, I'd say...What do you think?

CARRIE: Oh, I think a man like Henry Potter would want a refined, cultured woman...a woman who could be an asset to him...sitting on committees, that sort of thing.

THELMA: Like you, Carrie.

CARRIE: Well, as a matter of fact...what approach do you intend to take, Thelma?

THELMA: Oh, the business approach has always worked for me.

CARRIE: What's that?

THELMA: Define a goal. In this case, marriage to Henry Potter. Identify obstacles. In this case Brenda. After that, it's a question of selling your idea. Then clinching the deal.

CARRIE: I'm not sure how all that works. But Annabel will be stiff competition. She was Miss Strawberry in her late teens.

END OF FREEVIEW You'll want to read and perform this show!