

# How to Marry the Minister

May Kramer





ArtAge supplies books, plays, and materials to older performers around the world. Directors and actors have come to rely on our 30+ years of experience in the field to help them find useful materials and information that makes their productions stimulating, fun, and entertaining.

ArtAge's unique program has been featured in *Wall Street Journal*, *LA Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *American Theatre*, *Time Magazine*, *Modern Maturity*, on CNN, NBC, and in many other media sources.

ArtAge is more than a catalog. We also supply information, news, and trends on our top-rated website, *www.seniortheatre.com*. We stay in touch with the field with our very popular enewsletter, *Senior Theatre Online*. Our President, Bonnie Vorenberg, is asked to speak at conferences and present workshops that supplement her writing and consulting efforts. We're here to help you be successful in Senior Theatre!

***We help older performers fulfill their theatrical dreams!***

**ArtAge Publications**

Bonnie L. Vorenberg, President

PO Box 19955

Portland OR 97280

503-246-3000 or 800-858-4998

bonniev@seniortheatre.com

www.seniortheatre.com

## NOTICE

**Copyright:** This play is fully protected under the Copyright Laws of the United States of America, Canada, and all other countries of the Universal Copyright Convention.

The laws are specific regarding the piracy of copyrighted materials. Sharing the material with other organizations or persons is prohibited. Unlawful use of a playwright's work deprives the creator of his or her rightful income.

**Cast Copies:** Performance cast copies are required for each actor, director, stage manager, lighting and sound crew leader.

**Changes to Script:** Plays must be performed as written. Any alterations, additions, or deletions to the text must be approved.

**Permission to Film:** Rights to produce, film, or record, in whole or in part, in any medium or in any language, by any group amateur or professional, are fully reserved.

**Royalty:** Royalties are due when you perform the play for any audience, paying or non-paying, professional or amateur. This includes readings, cuttings, scenes, and excerpts.

The royalty for amateur productions of this show is posted online. It is payable two weeks prior to your production. Contact us for professional rates or other questions. Royalty fees are subject to change.

Insert the following paragraph in your programs:

***"Performed with special permission from ArtAge Publications' Senior Theatre Resource Center at 800-858-4998, [www.seniortheatre.com](http://www.seniortheatre.com)."***

© May Kramer 2005

**Warning!**

**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

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!**