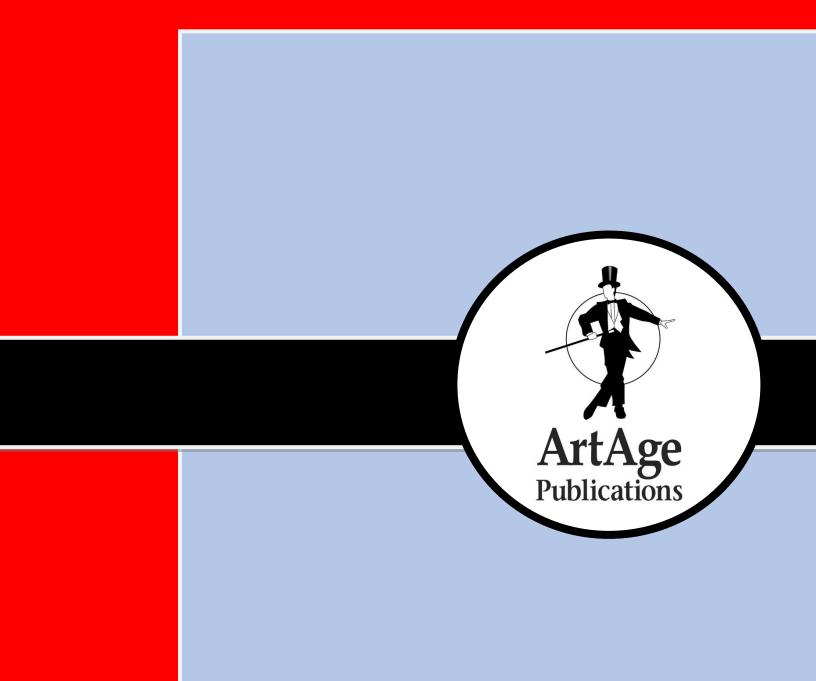
Up and Down

Douglas Campbell





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UP AND DOWN

by Douglas Campbell

CAST

MIKE: A man, over sixty. WANDA: A woman, over sixty.

<u>Place</u> A department store elevator.

<u>Time</u> The present.

Setting: An elevator.

At Rise: MIKE enters the elevator. He sees WANDA and holds the door for her.

WANDA: Thank you. Eight, please.

MIKE: Certainly, ma'am.

(beat)

WANDA: I like the way you pushed that button. I can tell you're an expert.

MIKE: I was. Forty-one years I worked as an elevator operator.

WANDA: Forty-one years! Amazing!

MIKE: I was a real professional.

WANDA: So, tell me, why did you retire?

MIKE: Occupational illness. Too much up and down. I developed bipolar disorder.

WANDA: What a shame!

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(MIKE and WANDA suddenly move quickly back and forth, indicating that the elevator is not working properly. A second later, they suddenly stop.)

WANDA: What happened?!

MIKE: (*repeatedly pushing button*) The elevator fell. We're stuck!

WANDA: Oh, good grief! Which floor are we on?

MIKE: (*looking up, squinting*) Between seven and eight--the Complaint Department and the Compliment Department.

WANDA: Well, push the button again!

MIKE: (*pushing button again and again*) I'm afraid it's no use. We're not moving. I'll call for assistance. (*he picks up the telephone receiver*) Hello? Hello? Operator? Operator? Yes, I'd like to report a stuck elevator...What's that?...Where are we? Why, we're in Ding's department store.

WANDA: Ding-Dong's! R. H. Ding's merged with J.C. Dong's.

MIKE: Correction. We're in Ding-Dong's department store...What's that?..."What's the elevator number?" Let me get my reading glasses. (*to WANDA*) Hold the phone a moment, would you, please?

WANDA: Of course.

(MIKE looks in his coat for his glasses. After a brief frantic search, he finds them. He then takes off his normal glasses and puts on his reading glasses. Finally, he takes the phone back from WANDA.)

MIKE: Thanks. (*into phone*) Let me see. (*reading*) "Up and Down Elevator Company. License number 728-43-1981326-485912-7562318."

WANDA: Oh, good grief!

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!

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