

# Blue Sky with Approaching Storm

Kate Katcher





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](http://www.seniortheatre.com). We stay in touch with the field with our very popular e-newsletter, *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](mailto:bonniev@seniortheatre.com)  
[www.seniortheatre.com](http://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:** You do not have permission to film, record, or distribute the play in any medium. You are also not allowed to post on electronic services such as, but not limited to, YouTube. Exceptions must be granted by written permission from the publisher.

**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)*

*Blue Sky with Approaching Storm* © 2019 by Kate Katcher

BLUE SKY WITH APPROACHING STORM

By Kate Katcher

CAST

LAINE FRANZ: Attractive wife of a wealthy financier

LARRY FRANZ: Dynamic, boorish, used to getting his way

JOHANNA MAXWELL: Gallery owner, smooth, businesslike

PETER CARSTEN: A successful artist, handsome, manly, unpretentious, earthy

Place

An art gallery.

Time

Early evening.

BLUE SKY WITH APPROACHING STORM

*Setting: An art gallery. There may be other modern paintings visible but only one is important: an almost solid blue canvas. If you put your nose up to it, you'd see shades of blue, but from a distance, it's just the blue of the sky on a brilliant day.*

*At rise: Elaine Franz, wealthy, is staring at the blue painting. Her husband Larry approaches her. He is dressed casually but expensively. Larry is a boor. His gods are money, power and possession.*

LARRY: *(entering)* There you are. You ready?

ELAINE: What do you think of this one?

LARRY: It's beautiful. Can we go?

ELAINE: You really like it?

LARRY: If I like it, can we go?

ELAINE: I'm serious. Look at it.

LARRY: These tickets cost me a fortune.

ELAINE: You're not looking.

LARRY: You promised. If I came to the gallery, you'd come to the game. I came. Let's go.

ELAINE: Please.

*(Larry groans, frustrated.)*

LARRY: Hank Scranton is going to get there before me. Do you have any idea how embarrassing that will be?

ELAINE: Okay, fine. I'll just buy it and we can go.

LARRY: Great. Wait. What?

ELAINE: I want to buy this painting.

LARRY: This one?

ELAINE: Yes.

*(really looking for the first time)*

LARRY: Why?

ELAINE: I like it.

LARRY: It's...blue.

ELAINE: It's about a thousand shades of blue.

LARRY: I just see blue.

ELAINE: I think it's very powerful.

LARRY: I think it's a piece of crap. *(he checks the price tag)* Oh, my God, it's a ten-thousand-dollar piece of crap! Let's go.

ELAINE: You said you wanted to start investing in art.

LARRY: Picasso, Pollack...find me some art and I'll invest. This is wallpaper.

ELAINE: All of a sudden, you're a connoisseur? I'm the one with the art degree.

LARRY: And I'm the one with the wallet. And that wallet is going to be considerably lighter if I blow off Hank Scranton.

ELAINE: That is so crude. I have money, thank you, and this is how I choose to spend it.

LARRY: Fine. You want to throw your allowance away on... *(he checks the name of the painting)* "Blue Sky with Approaching Storm," terrific. Just hurry up. I'll get a cab. *(he starts out)*

ELAINE: I'll meet you at the arena.

LARRY: What? No! His wife is coming. You have to be there!

ELAINE: I'll be there! Just a few minutes late.

LARRY: No!

ELAINE: An hour, tops.

LARRY: An hour?!

ELAINE: Half an hour. You won't even miss me.

LARRY: What takes an hour? *(he yells out...)* Excuse me, is there anyone here who can take a check?

ELAINE: *(mortified)* Stop that! It's an exhibition, not a basketball game.

LARRY: For ten-thousand dollars, I think they'll forgive a little yelling. *(yelling again)* Can I get this wrapped?

ELAINE: Oh, my God. Let's just go.

*(she starts to shove him out, willing to forego the painting if it prevents a scene. Johanna, the gallery owner, approaches them.)*

**END OF FREEVIEW**

***You'll want to read and perform this show!***