

# Up and Down

Douglas Campbell





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:** 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)*

Copyright 2017 Douglas Campbell

UP AND DOWN

by Douglas Campbell

CAST

MIKE: A man, over sixty.

WANDA: A woman, over sixty.

Place

A department store elevator.

Time

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!

*(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!***