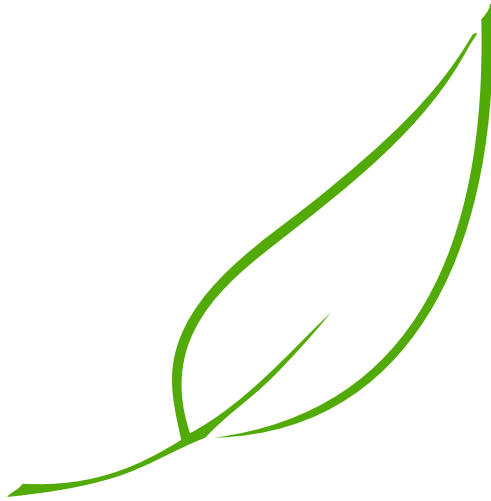


GOING UP

by Ken Bradbury



GREEN ROOM PRESS

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(any combination)

Rusty, an elevator operator

Mrs. Bailey, and her daughter Corey

Sheridan, an older person

Park, a very nervous young man or woman

(Setting: An elevator in a large office building. Rusty is the elevator's operator. He (or she) is an energetic young student very glad to have a job. ... and a bit eager to please.)

RUSTY: *(as the doors open and Mrs. Bailey and her daughter Corey enter)* Good morning and welcome to the Acme Building! What floor please?

COREY: All of 'em! I wanna stop on all the floors, Mama.

MRS. BAILEY: Twelfth floor, Dr. Molar's office.

RUSTY: Ah! Looks like somebody's going to the dentist!

COREY: *(suddenly breaks into screams of panic)* Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh!

MRS. BAILEY: *(as she tries to stifle her spastic child)* Oh, please! Did you have to say that? I told her she was going to buy new shoes!

RUSTY: In a dentist's office?

COREY: *(setting her off again)* Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh!

MRS. BAILEY: Just push the button! Corey's a very sensitive child with a very short attention span! Push the button! Push the button!

RUSTY: *(pushes the button)* Going up!

COREY: Mama, you said he was a shoe doctor!

RUSTY: Shoe doctor? There's no such thing as a ...

MRS. BAILEY: Quiet! *(to Corey)* He's the best shoe doctor in town, honey.

RUSTY: Third floor. Ladies lingerie and heavy equipment. *(Sheridan, an elderly man, enters the elevator)* Morning, Sir!

SHERIDAN: Fifteenth floor, please.

COREY: Wow. He's old.

MRS. BAILEY: Corey! Be quiet!

SHERIDAN: (*sneezes loudly and wetly*)

RUSTY: Bless you!

SHERIDAN: Hurry. I think I'm dying. (*sneezes again*)

RUSTY: Yes, Sir!

SHERIDAN: Is there a doctor on the fourteenth floor? I may not be alive by the fifteenth.

RUSTY: I'll hurry, Sir.

COREY: Is he going to die, Mommy?

MRS. BAILEY: Corey!

COREY: (*sneezes*) Mommy, I'm all wet.

MRS. BAILEY: I told you to go before ...

COREY: He sneezed on me.

RUSTY: Tenth floor! Baby supplies and wet mops! (*Park, a very nervous man, enters the elevator*) Floor?

PARK: I didn't take it!

RUSTY: What floor?

PARK: (*looks down at the floor*) What floor? Is the floor falling out? I gotta get outa here!

COREY: Is he crazy, Mommy?

MRS. BAILEY: Corey! Be quiet!

RUSTY: What floor do you want, Sir?

PARK: Oh ... any of them. Do I have a choice?

RUSTY: The Acme Building as 49 floors.

PARK: Oh, dear. Too many. I can't decide.

RUSTY: Did you want to go up?

PARK: I don't know. What's it like up there?

SHERIDAN: (*sneezes*)

PARK: (*wiping the moisture from his/her neck*) Is it raining? I can't be here if it's raining. When it rains ... I ... I get wet.

MRS. BAILEY: (*looking at Park with great suspicion, to Rusty*) Could you hurry please?

RUSTY: (*to Park*) What floor. Sir?

PARK: Yes. Yes, that would be good.

RUSTY: Okay. (*pushes a button*) How about the 21st floor?

PARK: No!

RUSTY: What?

PARK: My uncle died on the 21st floor!

MRS. BAILEY: Oh, my goodness!

SHERIDAN: *(sneezes)*

PARK: Well, he it wasn't exactly the 21st floor.

RUSTY: Huh?

PARK: And of course he wasn't really my uncle.

MRS. BAILEY: Oh.

SHERIDAN: *(sneezes)*

PARK: And he didn't really die.

MRS. BAILEY: *(to Rusty)* Move this elevator!

RUSTY: She's in high gear, Ma'am.

SHERIDAN: *(sneezes)*

MRS. BAILEY: *(to Sheridan)* Are you alright?

PARK: No!

MRS. BAILEY: Not you!

PARK: I think I'm dying. Excuse me a moment. *(He/she lies down on the floor)* This looks like a nice spot.

RUSTY: You can't die on my floor!

PARK: You want me to die standing up? *(Suddenly all the occupants of the elevator shudder and stagger)*

COREY: What was that?

MRS. BAILEY: The elevator stopped moving!

COREY: I didn't do it, Mommy! I didn't do it!

MRS. BAILEY: Oh, no! We're to be at the dentist in three minutes!

COREY: Dentist! Mama, you lied to me! *(crying)* Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh! Ahhh!

RUSTY: *(pushing buttons)* This is crazy! These things don't stop like this.

PARK: We're all going to die.

RUSTY: *(still pushing buttons)* No, we won't! I'll call for help! *(takes phone from compartment)*

COREY: I saw this in a movie, Mama! Ninja Warriors started dropping through the ceiling tile!

PARK: Really?

RUSTY: Quiet! *(into the phone)* Hello! Hello? Nobody's on the line.



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