

Out of Order

by Ray Cooney

Performance dates: 24 October – 2 November 2019, including matinee on 2 November

Play Reading: Tuesday 14 May, 8.00 pm in the Studio (behind the Theatre)

Auditions: Sunday 2 June, 2.00 pm in the Theatre

Rehearsals: Start 28 August – Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, a few Sundays

Director: Peter Damesick, 07825 640947, pdamesick@gmail.com

PA: tbc

Richard Willey, a Government junior minister, has booked a room in the Westminster Hotel for an illicit liaison with Jane Worthington, one of the Opposition's secretaries. Things start to go amiss with the discovery of a dead body in their room. Richard enlists his long-suffering, hapless PPS, George Pigden, to help him dispose of said body but matters rapidly become complicated with the arrival of Jane's distraught husband, Richard's wife and George's mother's nurse. There are also an interfering hotel manager and an opportunistic waiter to contend with. An ever more confusing mess of pretence and deception ensues with fast, furious and farcical action in which an errant sash window plays a critical role.

Characters and Audition Pieces

Richard Willey: a suave and successful man and a Government Junior Minister.

Pages 6-8: "Oh you look gorgeous Shall I open the curtains?"

Pages 24-26: "I need your help win the next election."

George Pigden: an upright pleasant man of nervous disposition.

Pages 32-34: "Mr Willey I wish corpse you'll be carrying"

Jane Worthington: an attractive but rather dizzy young woman.

Pages 6-8: "Oh you look gorgeous Shall I open the curtains?"

Ronnie Worthington: an angry young man of fragile emotions.

Pages 48-49: "I'm Ronnie Worthington Push off!"

The Hotel Manager: man or woman, officious and noseey

Pages; "I don't normally behave by your wife."

The Waiter: a wily old servant

Pages 30-32: "Who is it one of the other guests."

Page 37: "Here we are going like a bomb."

Nurse Foster: a bossy, attractive woman, 40s.

Pages 91-93: "So what have you got to say there was more to you."

Pamela Willey: an attractive, sophisticated woman, 40s

Page 77-80: "Mrs Willey, I thought Come on."

The Maid: an Italian woman, few lines.

Pages 28-29: "'Scusa, Signor Si'"

The Detective: an ordinary looking man, preferably of light build.

Page 82-83: "Oh that's lucky"