

Up the Down Staircase

By Bel Kaufman

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For every teacher fighting to make a difference—the timeless bestseller about the hope, heartache, and hilarity of working in the public school system.

When Sylvia Barrett arrives at New York City's Calvin Coolidge High, she's fresh from earning literature degrees at Hunter College and eager to shape young minds. Instead, she encounters broken windows, a lack of supplies, a stifling bureaucracy, and students with no interest in Chaucer. Narrated in "an almost presciently postmodern style" through interoffice memos, notes and doodles, lesson plans, suggestion-box insults, letters, and other dispatches from the front lines, *Up the Down Staircase* stands as the seminal novel of a beleaguered American public school system perpetually redeemed by teachers who love to teach and students who long to be recognized (*The New Yorker*).

Hailed as "the funniest book written in America since *Catch-22*," *Up the Down Staircase* spent over a year on the *New York Times* bestseller list, has been adapted for the stage, and was made into an award-winning feature film starring Sandy Dennis (*New York Herald Tribune*). It remains an essential and highly enjoyable read that will leave you laughing and shaking your head at the same time.

This ebook features an illustrated biography of Bel Kaufman including photos from the author's personal collection.

Up the Down Staircase By Bel Kaufman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“*Up the Down Staircase* . . . should be read by anyone interested in children or education.” —*The New York Times*

“Easily the most popular novel about U.S. public schools in history.” —*Time*

“The most excellent and useful portrait of a[n] . . . American teacher’s life that we are likely to have for a long time.” —*Life*

About the Author

Bel Kaufman (1911–2014) was a bestselling writer, dedicated teacher, and lecturer best known for her novel *Up the Down Staircase* (1965), a classic portrayal of life in the New York public school system. Kaufman was born in Berlin, the daughter of Russian parents and granddaughter of celebrated Yiddish writer Sholom Aleichem. Her family moved to Odessa when she was three, and Russian is her native language. The family also lived in Moscow before immigrating to New York City when Kaufman was twelve. There, she graduated magna cum laude from Hunter College and with high honors from Columbia University. Kaufman then worked as a high school teacher in the city for three decades. The success of *Up the Down Staircase* launched her second career as a sought-after speaker for events around the country. Kaufman is also the author of *Love, Etc.* (1979), a powerful, haunting, and poignant novel rendering life as fiction.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lucille Renner:

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Anita Rhodes:

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Sandra Passmore:

The reason why? Because this Up the Down Staircase is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap that but latter it will surprise you with the secret this inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such awesome way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

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