

[1] Introduction

Hey everyone. My name is David Quang Pham. Thank you for the chance to introduce an opportunity for you to be involved in producing the play *Senior Swordplay*, a 2-hander reminiscent of, but not derivative of, *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*. In the next few minutes, I'll answer: Why this play? Why this playwright? And why now?

[2] First, a bit about the story.

READ SYNOPSIS: After Maeve and Rob meet through an online dating site, this seemingly mismatched PhD psychologist and blue-collar welder have their first real date. They promptly begin a provocative and sensual journey of discovery to learn to what extent they might, or might not, be compatible and suited for a long-term relationship.

Senior Swordplay is a drama, but one with lots of humor – you might call it a “dramedy.” There are too few serious roles written for mature and senior actors. There are too few plays dealing with bold senior themes that venture beyond the hardships of aging. *Senior Swordplay* is bold and celebrates vibrant seniors. And writing edgy adult comedies and dramas is Kim's stock in trade.

[3] Casting-wise

READ CASTING NOTES.

Casting

Maeve Female, PhD psychologist. Any ethnicity. 50s, could be near retirement age, more or less.

Rob Male, welder. Any ethnicity. 50's, about the same age.

As we'll see in a minute, Kim's background gives him an ideal foundation to write this story – a hint: he started his career as a mechanic and welder and went on to earn a PhD. He's even managed a team of psychologists. Kim is the psychologists' therapy. The search for compatibility between Maeve and Rob is at the heart of the story, but it's a story complicated by more than differences in occupations. Staging requirements for *Senior Swordplay* are pretty simple and easily produced. The story will resonate with adult audiences of all ages – the theme of finding a compatible partner is universal, and the humor and story will appeal to young adults as well as seniors. The runtime hits the sweet spot for many theatres.

Senior Swordplay by Kim Ruyle

[4] Kim is a playwright based in Wisconsin, a member of The Dramatists Guild of America, The Playwrights' Center, and Chicago Dramatists. He is also participating the 2021 Kennedy Center Playwriting Intensive. Kim's stories come from a unique perspective. An army veteran with blue-collar roots, Kim went on to earn three master's degrees and a PhD. He grew up in rural America and had a career as an HR executive and leadership consultant that took him to 49 states, *except Alaska*, and 45 countries. He's authored or co-authored five books on leadership development and has been a speaker at more than 100 national and international conferences. Writing for the stage is a second career for Kim beginning just a few years ago in 2018. His first three plays have won awards and productions. Kim has the perfect background to write *Senior Swordplay* which is also primed for success. Kim Rules~

[5]

Senior Swordplay has been developed in multiple workshops with Floridians.

This national organization based in Chicago, the Chicago Dramatists developed this two hander. I had the pleasure of being able to watch its recording, if anyone would like to see it.

[6]

On New Play Exchange, which I am plugging the link into the chat.

Copy and paste: <https://newplayexchange.org/users/37647/kim-e-ruyle> **into the chat**

Senior Swordplay has many fantastic quotes and reviews, with award-winning theatre artists addressing the play's intimacy and *cutting-edge* use of language, and a *well-welded* flair for character-driven dramatic dialogue.

[7] **The Plan**

This two hander to secure ~\$10,000 in enhancement funding for a regional production in 2022

Off-Off-Broadway production in 2023

[8]

If you would like to get in touch with Kim Ruyle, you may contact him at kim.ruyle@inventivetalent.com. And you may also reach me with any questions at davidquangpham@outlook.com. Thank you for your time.

Senior Swordplay by Kim Ruyle

I was immediately grabbed by the way Kim manages to spin so much conflict out of Rob's background. It also helps to challenge a reader or viewer to societal prejudice of class and occupation. And it could make certain audiences remember where they came from. To make these themes seeming more organic, I believe a staged workshop would help develop that and get the feedback that Kim needs.