

*A birthday party. Granny and Mother enter.*

MOTHER

She's still in bed!

GRANNY

Man alive! Does that girl do anything besides sleep?

MOTHER

Not without a fight! Every morning it's the same routine. I say, "Wake up, Rosie! Wake up, Rosie! WAKE UP, ROSIE!" But it doesn't make any difference. The entire house could be on fire, and she wouldn't know it. She'd just lie there, snoring, snoring, snoring!

GRANNY

And it's her birthday, too! You'd think she'd be up with the dawn.

MOTHER

Rosie doesn't even know what the dawn is. I'm worried, Granny! She stays up all night, and then she sleeps all day. It's no good. She's a little girl, not an owl!

GRANNY

Who?

MOTHER

Rosie!

GRANNY

Oh don't you worry about her. When she sees what I got her for her birthday, it'll be all you can do to keep her indoors!

MOTHER

I sure hope so. You know, I asked her what her favourite song was the other day. Guess what she said.

GRANNY

*(Immediately) "Hotline Bling. " (Or something cool and relevant. )*

MOTHER

What? No, the "Sleep Country" theme song!

GRANNY

Well that's just good marketing, honey.

*She chuckles and settles into a chair.*

MOTHER

Did you ever have that problem when I was little? *(Granny begins to snore)* It must skip a generation. *(Beat)* Well, if that girl keeps sleeping, she's going to snore through her birthday party! Honestly, she's worse than Sleeping Beauty! Maybe someone got her an alarm clock this year.

*She moves to the edge of the stage and begins to shout off:*

MOTHER

Wake up, Rosie! Wake up, Rosie! Wake up, Rosie! *(Beat)* It's no use. I'm just not loud enough! If only I had an entire room full of helpful children... *(She notices the audience)* Hey! Well, isn't that convenient! What do you say? Will you help me get that lazy-pants out of bed? All right! Now, when I give you the word, you help me say, "Wake up, Rosie!" All right? Let's give it a shot!

*So, with the audience's help:*

MOTHER

WAKE UP, ROSIE! WAKE UP, ROSIE! WAKE UP, ROSIE!

*ROSIE does not appear.*

MOTHER

Darn. I really thought that would work! Oh well, good thing I like chocolate cake.

*ROSIE bounds onstage.*

ROSIE

Did someone say chocolate cake? Boy oh boy, I sure am glad I was born today!

MOTHER

Not so fast, bed-head! It's too early for cake.

ROSIE

It's never too early for cake. Besides, it's almost noon!

MOTHER

It's your own fault you sleep so late.

ROSIE

You call this late? Just wait 'til I'm a teenager!

MOTHER

Well, it's still too early for cake.

GRANNY

This cake is delicious.

MOTHER

Granny!

ROSIE

Cut me a slice!

GRANNY

Now Rosie, you know the rules.

ROSIE

*(Defeated)* Yeah...

GRANNY

You can't have cake until you open your presents!

ROSIE

YEAH!!!

MOTHER

Rosie! All you do is sleep, eat cake, and watch Netflix! I've had enough!

GRANNY

*(To MOTHER)* Would you be so kind as to grab me some napkins, dear? The icing is making my fingers all sticky.

*MOTHER stomps out of the room.*

GRANNY

*(Hurriedly)* I hid the napkins to buy us some time. Quick, open this one! It's from me!

ROSIE

Oh, Granny! You're the best!

GRANNY

I know.

ROSIE

No, I mean it. You always know what I want. You have perfect taste!

GRANNY

Thank you, child.

*ROSIE tears open the present and withdraws a ridiculous, red cap. It resembles a chicken's comb.*

ROSIE

Perhaps I spoke to soon.

GRANNY

Do you like it?

ROSIE

You shouldn't have.

GRANNY

I knew you'd like it! I made it myself, you know!

ROSIE

You don't say.

GRANNY

Now you'll have something nice and stylish to wear when your mother makes you play outside!

ROSIE

Outside? You mean, where other people can see me?

GRANNY

Of course! *(Beat)* Aren't you going to put it on?

ROSIE

On? On what?

GRANNY

On your head, silly!

ROSIE

It's a hat?! I thought it was a giant glove!

GRANNY

*(Cheerfully)* Oh, Rosie! *(Suddenly intense)* Put it on.

*ROSIE obeys. MOTHER re-enters.*

MOTHER

Oh my.

ROSIE

Don't say a word.

MOTHER

*(Knowingly)* I told you not to open your presents.

ROSIE

I'm sorry, okay?

MOTHER

Did you thank your granny, Rosie?

GRANNY

Oh, you don't have to thank me.

ROSIE

Whew!

MOTHER

Rosie. . .

ROSIE

But-- All right. Thank you, Granny.

GRANNY

I'm just glad you like it, dear.

ROSIE

Like it? I love looking like a chicken! What kid doesn't?!

MOTHER

Oh Rosie, stop being silly! You do not look like a chicken.

*ROSIE looks at her mother incredulously before she begins to strut around the room, bobbing her neck, flapping her arms, and clucking.*

MOTHER

Well, maybe when you do that.

ROSIE

I would much rather have preferred. . . I dunno. . . a red riding hood or something.

GRANNY

That's preposterous! Who wears little red riding hoods in this day and age! No sir! A smart, sporty, scarlet cap is the way to go! You'll be the talk of the town!

ROSIE

That's what I'm afraid of.

GRANNY

You know, I'm starting to think you don't really like my present!

ROSIE

Oh, Granny--

GRANNY

I worked on that hat for an entire week. I didn't even sleep. A team of doctors advised me against it. They said I'd go mad if I didn't sleep, but I insisted: "No! This hat must be ready for my Rosie's birthday!"

ROSIE

But Granny--

GRANNY

No! You've hurt my feelings, Rosie! (*She glances at her watch*) I'm going home!

MOTHER

It's almost time for your stories, isn't it?

ROSIE

You're going to go read stories? You mean like fairy tales?

GRANNY

Heavens, no! What adult would spend their free time watching a fairy tale! No, I'm going home to watch my soap operas! *(Beat, then dramatically)* I mean, alack, you have offended me! Goodbye, wretched grand-daughter! I know not when we shall see each other again!

MOTHER

Should I save you some cake?

GRANNY

*(Dramatically)* Yes please.

*She exits.*

ROSIE

Well this has been fun. Now for a quick power-nap before bed!

MOTHER

You're not going anywhere, Rosie.

ROSIE

But I'm sleepy!

MOTHER

Did you ever stop to think that maybe you're sleepy because you eat sweets and never get any exercise? Your entire day is one prolonged sugar-crash!

ROSIE

That's an interesting theory. Let's discuss it more after my nap. Wake me up when it's *not* too late for cake.

MOTHER

We're not done here, Rosie! You were also very rude to your grandmother.



ROSIE

Rude? If anything I was evasive.

MOTHER

She went through all the trouble of making you that hat, and you barely said a word.

ROSIE

Mom, I'm not allowed to say half the words I want to use to describe this hat!

MOTHER

Just because it's your birthday, that doesn't mean you get to be so cheeky! Now, you are going to march right over to your grandmother's house and apologize in person-- or else you won't get any presents!

ROSIE

Can't I just leave a heart-felt Facebook post on her wall?

MOTHER

No! You're going to go outside and get some fresh air and exercise.

ROSIE

*(Whining)* But it's chilly!

MOTHER

Well, it's a good thing she gave you a nice, warm hat to wear!

ROSIE

You wouldn't.

MOTHER

Oh I think I just did. And you better keep it on all the way there! Now get going!

ROSIE

Man, some birthday...

MOTHER

Remember not to talk to any strangers!

ROSIE

I won't!

MOTHER

And no sleeping in the woods!

ROSIE

I'll try! Remember to not eat all of the cake when I'm gone!

MOTHER

I'll try! Oh, and Rosie: aren't you forgetting something?

*MOTHER holds up a pair of big, false teeth.*

ROSIE

Ewww! Did Grandma forget them again?

MOTHER

Yep!

ROSIE

Man, why is she always taking these things out?

MOTHER

Here.

*She hands ROSIE a wicker basket.*

ROSIE

A wicker basket? How cliché. *(She starts to go; singing to herself, sadly)* "Why buy a mattress anywhere else. . ."

MOTHER

A little fresh air and sunshine will do that lazy-bones a world of good! And with a little luck, it'll fix that attitude of hers, too! I wonder where she gets it from! It's exhausting! (*She yawns*) Gosh, I think I need a nap now!