

POSSESSED BY A REBELLIOUS SPIRIT

by

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CAST LIST

2 Female Teens, 2 Male Teens, 1 Female Adult

CASEY (short for Cassandra), age 16

MOTHER, Casey's mother, around 40

ALAN, Casey's brother, age 14

STEPHEN, Casey's sort-of-boyfriend, age 17

HILLARY, Casey's friend, age 16

Performance note: The actress who plays CASEY also has to play the voice of her grandmother. I don't indicate when it is CASEY speaking or when it is her grandmother. Sometimes the difference is obvious, I hope, by the way she speaks and the phrases she uses. Sometimes I think whether it is CASEY, her grandmother, or some combination of the two should be left up to the interpretation of the director and actor.

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(A funeral. CASEY is delivering a eulogy.)

CASEY

What can I say about my grandmother? There was one thing that was more important than anything else in the world to her—family. That was why my mother named me after her, so that she would show some interest. I mean, because of the great interest she showed. Me, my brother Alan, and my Mom were all that mattered to her. From the day she accidentally got knocked up by a musician—um, what I meant to say was, from the day my mother was born, nothing else mattered to her besides family. Unless you count jazz, gin twists and virtually anyone who played the saxophone. Especially that boy Billy, what was his last name—I don't know why I just said that. Sorry. What I meant to say was, she lived for us, and us alone. OK, what's with this lived for us alone crap, Casey? You know me better than that. Why sugarcoat it? Say the truth. My grandmother loved life. She did love her family, but she found them hard to deal with, which was why she was usually completely shnockered when she bothered to show up to family events. I'm sorry. I think I don't know what I'm saying. I don't even know what shnockered means. Drunk, I guess. In conclusion, I would like to say I miss my grandmother. Um...thank you.

(CASEY steps down from podium.
Her brother ALAN walks over to her.)

ALAN

Wow, Casey. I don't think I've ever heard a eulogy like that.

CASEY

I know.

ALAN

Mom's going to kill you.

CASEY

I know.

ALAN

So why did you say all that?

CASEY

I don't know. Maybe I was sick of everyone making up things. She didn't care about family. I mean, she liked us fine, but she was more interested in finding a good party than coming over for the holidays.

ALAN

Yeah. But you can't say that at a funeral.

CASEY

I guess I just did.

(STEPHEN and HILLARY walk over.)

HILLARY

Hey.

CASEY

Hey.

HILLARY

Sorry about your grandmother.

STEPHEN

Yeah. Me too.

CASEY

Thanks.

STEPHEN

Cool eulogy, though.

CASEY

Thanks.

STEPHEN

So...maybe I'll get going, then.

CASEY

My Mom's made some food, for the house. You should both could come over.

STEPHEN

Oh. Nah. Thanks, though.

CASEY

Are you coming Hillary?

HILLARY

Sure. Whatever you want.

CASEY

I want.

HILLARY

OK.

STEPHEN

So, uh, see you back at school, I guess.

CASEY

Steve?

STEPHEN

Yeah?

CASEY

Thanks for coming. It, like, means a lot to me.

STEPHEN

Yeah, well. See ya.

(STEPHEN exits.)

ALAN

Is he, like, your boyfriend?

CASEY

No.

ALAN

Then what?

CASEY

It's just a sex thing, with us.

HILLARY

It's what?

CASEY

Uh...never mind. I don't know what I'm saying today.

(Casey's MOTHER enters)

MOTHER

Cassandra, how could you?

CASEY

I'm sorry, Mom.

MOTHER

What was all that about jazz and gin twists?

ALAN

It's true, isn't it?

MOTHER

You don't say those things in a eulogy.

CASEY

Spiced thing up, though, didn't it, darling?

MOTHER

What?

CASEY

I can't believe you're really your mother's daughter. Are you a complete stick in the mud?

MOTHER

What's gotten in to you, today, Cassandra?

CASEY

I don't know. Grief?

MOTHER

Grief or gin?

CASEY

Grief. Though a shot of gin or two would go down smooth right now. Sorry. I didn't mean to say that, Roxy.

MOTHER

Roxy?

CASEY

Roxanne. Mom. I mean, Mom

MOTHER

This behavior had better stop. I'm burying my mother today. One day you'll know what that feels like, when I pass away.

ALAN

You're not going to pass away.