

SUZANNE is an actress, who just found out that her manager ran off with all her money.

DORIS

Dear, it's no good feeling sorry for yourself. Your gonna have to overcome these difficulties. And you might as well do it with some style. Ya know, you can easily make an enormous amount of money if you would only sing. You have a God given talent and you just throw it away. You could be a much bigger star than that Madonna, because she doesn't have half your voice. You would have to give up smoking again. You could make an album. I could produce it.

SUZANNE

Mom I'm gonna get out of the business and lead a normal life.

DORIS

Let's take things one at a time. First, everyone is always getting out of the business. And B, you are just like me. Sometimes I wake up in the morning and I feel like I'm talking to my

SUZANNE

Mom, please stop trying to run my life for a couple of minutes. Isn't it enough that you were right?

DORIS

You feel sorry for yourself half the time for having a monster of a mother like me. Everything about you says, "look what you've done to me".

SUZANNE

I never said that you were a monster.

DORIS

You don't say it, but you feel it. Somehow you lay the entire blame for your drug taking on me.

SUZANNE

I do not. I do not mother. I took the drugs. Nobody made me.

DORIS

Go ahead and say it. You think I'm an alcoholic.

SUZANNE

Okay, I think your an alcoholic.

DORIS

Well maybe I was an alcoholic when you were a teenager, but I had a nervous breakdown when my marriage failed and I lost all my money.

SUZANNE

And I started taking drugs.

DORIS

But I got over it. And now I just drink like an Irish person.

SUZANNE

You just drink to relax. You just enjoy your wine, I know you've told me. Mother you don't want me to be a singer. You are the singer. You are the performer. I can't possibly compete with you. What if somebody won? You want me to do well, just not better than you.

DORIS

You are jealous, because I can drink and you can't take drugs any longer. Because I can handle it and you can't.

SUZANNE

Handle it? How do you handle it?

DORIS

My drinking does not interfere with my work. I wish that my mother would have been as concerned with me when I was a little girl. Will you please tell me what is this awful thing I did to you when you were a child?

SUZANNE

You want to know?

DORIS

I want to know.

SUZANNE

Okay fine. From the time I was nine years old you gave me sleeping pills.

DORIS

That was over the counter medication.
And I only gave it to you because you
couldn't sleep.

SUZANNE

You gave me sleeping pills.

DORIS

It was perfectly safe. Now don't
blame me for your drug taking. I do
not blame my mother for my
misfortunes or my drinking.

SUZANNE

You don't even admit that you drink.
How could you possibly blame your
mother for something that you don't
even do? Remember my seventeenth
birthday party when you lifted your
skirt in front of all those people.

DORIS

I did not lift my skirt up, it twirled
up. You only remember the bad stuff.
What about the big band I got to play
at that party? Do you remember that?
No! You only remember that my skirt
accidentally twirled up.

SUZANNE

And you weren't wearing any underwear.

DORIS

Well, Dear, I am sorry if you think
I've hurt you. Everything I did, I
did out of love for you. I might have
done wrong sometimes. How can you do
everything right? I made some
mistakes, I'm human.

Suzanne starts to leave.

DORIS

Where are you going?

SUZANNE

I'm going to cut an album Mom. I'm
going to have some thyroid tumors
removed okay (She walks out the door)
I'm going to freakin' loop.