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# ORIGINAL CAST LIST for premiere performance December 5, 2018 at Mayfield Secondary School Senior Social

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# CAREER ADVICE- By Sophia Ahola

There are two grandchildren, a teenager and a younger sibling visiting their grandma for the day/weekend. They are doing yoga with the GRANDMOTHER leading, and the TEENAGER struggles with a pose for a moment. Upset, she falls and walks away to sit down. The GRANDMOTHER noticing, turns slightly.

#### GRANDMOTHER

What's wrong honey.

#### **TEENAGER**

I'm just so stressed about choosing university courses y'know? I mean I'm good at math and science, but I'm not sure if I want to do that forever. I also really like drama and things outside of school. I just don't know, there are so many choices.

#### GRANDMA

Well you know when I was your age I always wanted to be -

# TEENAGER

A yoga instructor, I know Grandma. And now you've made your yoga business.

## **GRANDMA**

No, actually.

## BOTH SIBLINGS

What?!

## YOUNGER SIBLING

But Grandma! You weren't always a yoga MASTER?

#### **GRANDMA**

Well this may surprise you, but when I was younger I was a very academic student. I wanted to be a biologist, and I was even in that field for a while.

#### YOUNGER SIBLING

No way! You, academic? But you're so... (She trails off, and then does a very cliche yoga impression)

#### **GRANDMA**

(Laughing) I know, I know. Most people don't believe me, but I really loved the sciences, and a part of me still does. Really, me being into yoga has only started in the past 20ish or so years.

# TEENAGER

Really?

#### **GRANDMA**

Well, I really loved my job. But I wanted something a little more relaxing. And... (Notices that they have started slacking on their yoga poses) HEY! Just because I'm telling stories does NOT mean you guys can start slacking! LUNGE! (She begins to bend them, and they do so, but as soon as she looks away they stop) As I was saying, I wanted something new so I started new things outside of my field.

# YOUNGER SIBLING

You- you just switched jobs? When you were that old?

# GRANDMA

(Smiling) Well I wasn't that old you know. And I just started to really like yoga classes. So when your mom was out of the house, I quit my job and started really investing my time in yoga.

#### TEENAGER

You - you just quit?

#### **GRANDMA**

It wasn't that easy, but essentially yes.

#### YOUNGER SIBLING

Wow. That's so cool! I have a grandma who is a yoga teacher AND a biologist!! All my friends are gonna be so jealous.

GRANDMA laughs as the YOUNGER SIBLING runs off, probably to tell all her friends. The TEENAGER still looks confused.

#### TEENAGER

But Grandma, weren't you scared to leave your field, And when you were older too?

## **GRANDMA**

Honestly yes, but I also knew that if I really loved it, and I figured that you are never too old to do something new. Better start late than never right?

#### TEENAGER

Right.

They both inhale and exhale at the same time. The YOUNGER SIBLING runs back in, and plops down beside them.

# GRANDMA

So you know, picking what you want to do isn't so scary guys. You can change if you really want to.

#### TEENAGER

(unsure) Really?

# GRANDMA

Really. You'll do great things.

#### TEENAGER

Thanks, Grandma. And you're doing great things too you know. We always tease you about being a hippie (YOUNGER SIBLING exclaims "A BIG HIPPIE"), but you make people happy, and everyday you show age is truly just a number. Thank you.

#### GRANDMA

(Laughing again) You're too sweet.

Hey! I know what you could be.

The TEENAGER looks up, hopeful, while the GRANDMA is smiling suspiciously.

(Dramatically) An inspirational speaker.

The TEENAGER shakes her head, while both laugh. Then-

The GRANDMA rushes off while both siblings groan. The TEENAGER follows, while the YOUNGER SIBLING stays on stage for a moment. She says:

# YOUNGER SIBLING

I wonder what my life would have been like in the  $60 \, \mathrm{s...}$ 

Transition to...

# Movement through time

By: Nicolas Riccio and Jasmine Rana

Music: Tightrope from The Greatest Showman

Concept: A movement piece depicting women's roles in the 1960's, revolving around a wife/mother's love and care for a family. A day in the life of the mother representing society's expectations to cook, clean, work, take care of the family, and still have time to take care of herself. The scene depicts the role of a mother living in the 1960's.

Scene opens on a living/dining room with father reading newspaper on the sofa, while mother is carrying plates to the table. After placing each one, she calls "Breakfast's Ready!" as music begins.

Son and daughter come running onstage. As the mother sees the daughter chasing the son, she pulls them apart and seats them at the table. The father takes a seat at the table as well. After pouring a pitcher of lemonade into each cup, everyone begins eating and the mother begins to tidy up the kitchen.

After finishing up in the kitchen the mother finally takes a seat and her husband looks at his watch, and motions that it is time to go. He gets up from the table and the mother helps her husband put on his jacket and hands him his briefcase. She says goodbye to her husband and sits down at the table.

Almost immediately, her children get up and so does she.

The mother hands them their lunches, takes off her apron and

puts on her work coat, and then they walk DSL where the mother

waves goodbye to her children as they walk down the steps.

Two co-workers enter SR and begin to work. The mother then turns around and joins them, walking through what used to be her kitchen door. She enters, says hello to her co-workers, sits down and begins to type. A few beats have passed and her boss walks in to look at their work. Her boss gives her a gesture of approval showing that he likes her work the most.

The father then enters SL and dials a phone to call his wife. She then picks up and they begin to converse with loving gestures. She then notices the time, hangs up the phone, packs up her things and exits through the door. As she does this, the

other women do the same, leaving her kitchen empty for when she returns home.

The mother walks through the door, puts down her things, takes off her work jacket/apron and puts on her cooking apron.

The mother then begins to cook dinner when she notices the time. She walks over to the door and lets her children in with an attempt to control them. She sits them at the table and pulls out their homework.

After setting them up to do their work, she gets up and begins dusting the furniture. She notices the time and goes into the kitchen to pour her husband a drink. Her children then ask her to read them a book, so they sit on the couch and the mom sits on the floor.

Her husband walks through the door and she greets him, hands him his drink and the book, and takes his jacket. The children run to hug him as well. He then sits at the table with the children and begins to read while his wife sets the table for dinner. She fills each bowl with what she has made and her family begins to eat while she cleans the kitchen.

She then sits down and her children get up to get ready for bed. She quickly eats, clears the table and goes to put them to bed. She comes back, clearly exhausted and goes to sit on the couch next to her husband when she notices his hands are empty. She then gets two cups of tea from the kitchen and hands one to her husband as she sits down on the couch with him.

As the music ends, the two are drinking their tea and relaxing for the evening. The husband sighs and says, "Today was an exhausting day of work." The wife responds, "Well, tell me all about it."

Scene ends.

# EVERY DAY- By Stephanie Bisram and Elizabeth Gonzalez

A scene about a senior's battle against losing her independence. She breaks the fourth wall and tells the audience her struggle. Various characters in her life enter the stage, showcasing their small but impactful statements, later freezing in tableau on stage. However, with the help of her grandchild, she is finally able to regain a small amount of independence.

Spotlight CS on LINDA.

LINDA: Every day. Every single day for the last 65 years it's been me, taking care of myself. Brushing my teeth, cooking my own food, walking down the stairs, and every afternoon I go out on a walk, take a shower and go to bed. But yesterday, something weird happened. I walked out my door, and just as I was about to lock it, my daughter caught me

Enters from the SR

PATRICIA: (hesitantly) Heyy Mom. Where are you going?

LINDA: Patricia knows that every day, every day, I take a walk. It's my time to reflect, and being retired, with three grown children, and I can finally have some time for myself.

PATRICIA: You know mom, a friend of mine from work, Karen, her mom broke her hip walking down the sidewalk the other day. It was like a freak accident, and no one knew where she was, could you imagine? \*hesitantly again\* Why don't I just drive you somewhere instead, that way you can still get fresh air! I'll go get my keys!

LINDA: Fresh air in a car? The A/C doesn't count. But that's how everyone's been treating me lately. Tip toeing around me as they tell me what I should and shouldn't do. Bringing up what ifs and stories from the news as ways to remind me that I'm not as young as I used to be (walks to stool SL)

**DOCTOR** (ENTERS SL): So I'm going to prescribe you a morning pill, Orvaten, for that low blood pressure you've been having.

LINDA: (to the audience) More medication? I didn't know so many could be prescribed to one person.

**DOCTOR:** And I think it's worth looking into physio to prevent your arthritis from worsening- you know what, why don't you just ask your son to join us for your next meeting and we'll discuss this. (EXITS SL)

(Linda gets up)

LINDA: Huh. It's my body, my problems they are treating, but I'm not seen fit to understand the details. And that's not even the worst of it, the worst is I didn't even notice when the simplest tasks got taken away from me. I used to buy and bring in groceries for my kids for years, working nine or more hour shifts to pay my OWN bills, my own mortgage. Now I get concerning looks from bank tellers when I try to draw out anything larger than two digits. I would like to be treated like a normal human being.

ANDREW (walks in with JORDAN) Hey Mom!

LINDA: Oh My! Hey Andrew (hugs ANDREW) Is that my little Jordie!

**JORDAN:** Hey Grandma! (hugs LINDA, then runs off and sits on the ground)

LINDA: Glad to see you two, why didn't you call?

ANDREW: Well, I actually just got back from Patricia's, and we saw that you forgot to pay the electricity bill last month.

LINDA: Oh, well it must have completely slipped my mind. (Turns to Jordan, clearly deflecting the conversation, walks towards Jordan) Jordie, would you like me to make you a snack?

ANDREW: Mom, please. (Linda turns to face him), this is serious. It's the second time you've done this. I thought we made a deal, that you could live on your own, as long as you-

LINDA: (sits down) I know, I know, you already told me. As long as I could stay on top of everything. But I am...

**ANDREW:** You can still be independent if you let us give you some assistance with stuff around the house!

LINDA: I am the the one who raised you, and I didn't need any assistance as a single mother.

ANDREW: (guides Linda to seat) And you did such a great job, that now me and Patricia can help you out as you may start to need it. Let us help you here and there, and not because you are not capable, but because we just want to make things a little easier for you!

**LINDA:** (pause)

JORDAN: (stands up) My teacher helped me with my geometry homework the other day, not because I wasn't smart enough, but because she says I just needed a little boost.

LINDA: (chuckling) I guess there's nothing wrong with a little boost here and there.

ANDREW: (Gets up and puts his hand on LINDA'S shoulder) You're the strongest woman I know.

LINDA: No I get it. And (pause) thank you. I can accept help when I need it.

(ANDREW and JORDAN freeze)

LINDA: (stands up) All this time, I was so worried about losing control, that I didn't realize that maybe I did need some help. I know I am completely capable, but getting some assistance doesnt mean im fragile, rather I have people who care about me.

(unfreeze)

JORDAN: Can we go eat? I'm hungry.

ANDREW: (chuckling) Sure, get in the car.

LINDA: Actually... (thinking) can we walk instead?

ANDREW: Yeah, sure.

\*all EXIT stage\* FADE OUT

# BOOK CLUB- By Elizabeth Gonzalez and Jasmine Rana

The scene starts with the grandmothers chatting to each other before beginning their weekly book club meeting.

# Agnes

Oh Ruth! It is so lovely to see you again! How is Bart?

#### Ruth

Oh he's doing well. We went to bingo night yesterday and let me tell you, it was a hoot!

(All Grandmothers are excited and react to one another)

#### Beatrice

Oh Vivian dear! How have you been?

(Vivian doesn't respond and continues eating a biscuit)

# Beatrice

Vivian! Vivian!!

(Vivian is startled and she turns up her hearing aid)

#### Vivian

Oh sorry dear. My hearing aid was turned down because Paul was going on and on about golf this morning.

(Edith enters with her teenage granddaughter, Melissa)

# Edith

Ladies, I brought a very special guest with me today, meet my granddaughter! Oh honey go say hi to all my friends.

(Melissa walks around the semi circle with her hand extended, prepared to shake, but is startled as all the women grab her cheeks and pinch them, all saying how pretty she is, notice her clothing and continue jabbering, ad lib, improvise comments. Melissa sits down while rubbing her cheeks in pain.)

#### Vivian

Oh Edith if you can't afford a tailor I can stich those jeans up for you! Here hun (starts to get up towards Melissa)

#### Melissa

Nooooo, thank you. Haha... I like my jeans the way they are.

#### Vivian

Ugh, you kids and your fashion! When I was your age we weren't even allowed to wear jeans. All we wore were school dresses.

#### Melissa

But... you're wearing jeans right now aren't you?

#### Vivian

(A little startled) Yes bu- \*turns to Edith\* She's got a bit of attitude doesn't she? Probably all that rap music these kids listen to now days.

#### Agnes

These young'uns need to be listening to some Paul Anka. Then they'll learn to be like gentlemen!

(Grandmothers nod and speak in agreement)

#### Melissa

Isn't Paul Anka dead yet?

(Grandmothers gasp and shake their heads)

#### Vivian

How dare you...

#### Edith

Agnes.... Why don't we start the meeting?

# Agnes

Oh right! Everyone, let's start our monthly book club meeting. Why don't we discuss last month's pick. (everyone pulls out their copies of Eat Pray Love) Anyone want to start the discussion?

#### Vivian

Oh my, I wish I had a Felipe! (All the grandmas nod in agreement and giggle.)

#### Edith

Elizabeth Gilbert created one of the best books of all time! (the grandmas say their agreements)

#### Melissa

Wait, hold on. You actually think that *Eat Pray Love* is one of the best books of all time? Seriously?

#### Vivian

You suppose one of your shirtless-vampire-boys surpasses that?!

#### Melissa

Well, no. But those scenes were all unrealistic! (The ladies look at each other) I mean, don't you think it's a little self-indulgent? Why don't you guys read 1984 by George Orwell or The Hate U Give, I actually have a copy (pulls out iPad.)

#### Ruth

Heavens to Betsy what is that?!

#### Edith

Melissa, you brought your computer!

#### Vivian

You know, I heard that one in two Canadians die from computer addiction every day!

# Agnes

This isn't a computer, It's an iPad. Albert and I just finished watching *Gone with the wind* on that Flixnet app.

#### Melissa

It's um- Netflix, but yeah! iPads are like having a whole movie theatre, or library- at your fingertips!

#### Beatrice

Yeah! My daughter bought me one of those pad-things for Christmas! I must've gotten a text from my grandson, how do i- I think I broke it

(Melissa gets up to take a look at Beatrice's tablet)

## Melissa

It's just turned off. (turns it on and the screen goes bright, and all the women lean forward)

# All the ladies together

. WWWWOW

#### Melissa

See, you can download these things called apps, and you already have... Tinder?

#### Beatrice

Tinder...Oh! My daughter mentioned she got that for me to (air quotes) "get out there". Is it for fire safety?

# Melissa

Umm (clearly uncomfortable), it's actually a dating app. If you open it you can swipe right on people you like and-

# Edith

Oh like Christian Mingle? I always get ads for that when I'm playing online bingo. My friend Bertha from church met a nice fellow after her divorce.

(Edith excitedly presses Tinder)

#### Beatrice

Oh jeez louise! That man isn't wearing a shirt...

(All the grandmas get up to hover around to get a look, clearly interested)

#### Vivian

Swipe right on that one!

(Facetime ring is heard. All the women jump back with fear)

#### Vivian

What in god's name is that noise?

#### Ruth

It must be the aliens!

#### Edith

No no it's a Facetime! Just press the green button?

# **Beatrice**

Oh it's my grandson- what green button?

# Edith

Your 19 year old grandson? Answer the poor boy!

# Beatrice

Hi dear! I'm at my book club meeting right now!

(All the old women lean into the screen to say hello)

#### Ben

Umm- hi?

#### Edith

Oh Melissa, look how handsome he is! Now remind me dear, what are you studying again?

#### Ben

I'm in med school, studying to become-

#### Edith

A doctor! Melissa (nudges her) you should swipe right on him!

## Melissa

And that's enough of that! Bye Ben! (taking the iPad and ending the call)

## Beatrice

Why Melissa, you've not only taught me how to mingle, but now I know how to keep in touch with my grandson all the way in Harvard.

## Edith

(almost pleading) Harvard Melissa! If you don't marry him I will!

## Melissa

Grandma! (shakes her head while smiling) and no problem Beatrice.

#### Ruth

Well, I'm going to get my son to buy me a compute-I mean, iPad... right Melissa?

#### Vivian

Well... You learn something new everyday, don't ya?

# Melissa

Yep, iPad. And you know what- I'd love to come to the next meeting- as long as you guys get better books.

# Vivian

As much as we should keep up with the times, maybe you should be more open to OUR taste. It may not be new, but there's still a lot of darn good things in there that changed who we are.

# Melissa

Huh, I never thought about it that way.

# Agnes

Melissa dear, why don't you suggest a book for next month's meeting?

# Melissa

Oh, how about 50 Shades of Grey! I've heard it's a real good one!

# Agnes

Is that about a rainy day?

Fade Out

# Your Words- By Nicole Shi

(DAUGHTER is DSL, reading a speech for her grandmother. CS there is a flashback of her grandmother, FB(flashback) GRANDMOTHER, and a younger version of her, FB(flashback) DAUGHTER, acting out the memories in the speech.)

#### **DAUGHTER**

This is for my grandmother. The woman who helped raise me, the woman who loved me unconditionally, and the woman who always had the perfect words to say to me. You were the woman who was there for me when I hurt myself at the park, or fell off my bike, or tripped on a tree stump, or stumbled on nothing. You were the one with the bandages, you were the one with the hugs. And every time you would say the same thing:

(FB DAUGHTER is on the floor crying, clutching her knee. FB GRANDMOTHER is beside her, comforting.)

# FB GRANDMOTHER

When you get hurt, I'll kiss your boo boo.

# **DAUGHTER**

Do you remember when I was too sick to play outside and mom had work late? You would always play with me. Dolls, store, dress-up, or that weird version of Monopoly I made up because I didn't know how to play Monopoly—you didn't mind. You wanted to see me happy, so you told me:

(FB DAUGHTER and FB GRANDMOTHER are on the floor, playing "Monopoly".)

#### FB GRANDMOTHER

Just know I'll always take care of you.

#### DAUGHTER

Even when you couldn't help me, like when I struggled with math homework or was stressed about a test, you reminded me each time:

(FB DAUGHTER has a pencil and paper, and struggles with her homework. FB GRANDMOTHER pats her lovingly.)

## FB GRANDMOTHER

No matter what, I'm with you every step of the way.

#### DAUGHTER

There were times when I was sad. Just sad, and you didn't understand why but you always wanted to see a smile on my face. So you brought me cookies and games and you said to me:

(FB GRANDMOTHER holds a plate of cookies to an unhappy FB DAUGHTER.)

#### FB GRANDMOTHER

Don't forget about the sun when the skies are grey.

#### **DAUGHTER**

I'll never forget about that. And I'll never forget when I got older, and you gave me a ring of yours. But it's not just any ring:

(FB GRANDMOTHER hands FB DAUGHTER a ring. They are sitting beside each other.)

# FB GRANDMOTHER

So you know you're never alone, even when we're apart.

# **DAUGHTER**

And you always, always told me:

(FB GRANDMOTHER and FB DAUGHTER are facing each other, holding both hands.)

#### FB GRANDMOTHER

I love you. I love you, with all of my heart.

## DAUGHTER

Now, I'll be honest. I was never good at words. That was your strength, grandma. You are the one who inspires me with every word you speak. That's why I'm going to use your words, that I have kept all these years, to let you know exactly how I feel about you, because I want you to know: When you get hurt, I'll kiss your boo boo. So just know I'll always take care of you. No matter what, I'm with you every step of the way. And don't forget about the sun when the skies are grey. And I know I'm never alone, even when we're apart. But grandma, know that I love you, with all of my heart.

# The How To Show! - By Benjamin Ma

Lights up: a game show set up is seen.

HOST 1: Welcome to the SenHow show!

HOST 2: A show where we teach older generations how to do stuff!

BOTH: Yay! (they clap and cheer)

HOST 1: Today we have young Sky Reid here with her grandma!

**HOST 2:** Welcome Sky and Betty!

SKY and BETTY walk onstage while everyone cheers and claps for them

SKY: Thank you so much for having us here today!

**HOST 1:** No problem!

HOST 2: Now, let's Sen-

ALL BUT BETTY: SHOW HER HOW!

**HOST 1:** All right! Sky, please call your grandmother on her cellular device!

**SKY:** I'm on it! (A phone rings)

BETTY: Oh my! A call! (She glances at the phone) HELLO? HellO?

**HOST 2:** Betty? Betty? No no no no! To answer the phone, you swipe the little green phone symbol like this, and then talk!

BETTY: (attempts to answer the call) Hello?

**SKY:** Grandma you did it! (They celebrate together)

**HOST 1:** By the looks of it, we only have time for one more lesson.

HOST 2: Let's teach Betty the "art of text messaging"

**SKY:** You mean texting?

BOTH HOSTS: Of course!

HOST 2: Sky, please send your grandmother a text.

**SKY:** (mumbling) and.... sent!

**BETTY:** (hears a ding and pulls out her phone) So that's what a text is! I thought text was a brand new and cool way to speak about the textile industry!

HOST 1: Seeing as how your text sizes are at the largest possible setting, I'm going to teach you how to use your text function from back here! Simply press the letters you need to form a word, once you spell a word, press "space" and continue doing so until you're ready to send it!

**BETTY:** (using 1 finger) okay, and to send it, do I press this blue arrow?

BOTH HOSTS: DING DING DING DING!

**HOST 2:** Now when we come back, we'll talk about modern language, music, and most importantly...

**HOST 1:** EMOTICONS!

SKY: They're like feelings, but behind a screen!

**BETTY:** (faints because she is overwhelmed)

End of scene

# The How To Show Part 2- By Benjamin Ma

Lights up: a game show set up is seen.

HOST 1: Welcome to the ShoHow show!

**HOST 2:** A show where we teach our grandkids how to do simple things like mental math, cross stitching, and taxes.

**HOST 1:** Today we have young Sky Reid here with her grandmother Betty.

**HOST 2:** Welcome Sky and Betty!

SKY and BETTY walk onstage while everyone cheers and claps for them

SKY: Thank you so much for having us here today!

**HOST 1:** No problem!

HOST 2: Now let's have Betty -

ALL (but SKY): Show her how

BETTY: To do stuff!

**HOST 1:** Let's start with mental math!

**HOST 2:** Betty and Sky, we will ask you a series of questions and you must answer them to the best of your abilities.

**HOST 1:** Betty, what is 12 times 45?

BETTY: (Thinking about it), I'm going to say 540.

HOST 2: Ding ding ding!

**HOST 1:** Sky, what is the square root of 49?

**SKY:** That's simple! You put the 7 inside a little box, plant it in the ground, and then you have your answer!

**HOST 2:** Wrong! Betty? Do you have an answer?

**BETTY:** It's obviously just 7.

**HOST 1:** DING DING DING!

HOST 2: Now let's move on to the reading portion!

**HOST 1:** Here's a copy of *Goodnight Moon*! Please read it to your Grandma!

**SKY:** G-G-G, can I read it on my phone?

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HOST}}$  2: No! Betty, can you read this story to your

granddaughter?

**BETTY:** Goodnight, moon, Goodnight gameshow!

**HOST 1:** There you have it folks, books read and math done!

**HOST 2:** Catch us next time on

ALL: The sen how show!

End of scene

# What's Best- By Benjamin Ma

#### Rosa

When I wake up and look into the mirror, I don't see what my grandchildren see. When I look into the mirror, I see someone beautiful. Someone who is not afraid to live my own truth, or to be my own person, or to say what's on my mind. I see someone strong and brave, someone who isn't afraid to get my hands dirty. I see me for who I truly am. But then my perspective changes. From their point of view, I am someone weak. I am a burden. I am someone marked by the scars of age. I am someone broken down due to years of hard work. That is not who I am. I just wish they would know that.

#### Mark

When I look into my grandmother's eyes, I see her pain. I see her pretending that everything is alright even though everything is falling apart. I want her to know that I'm just trying to help her, and sure, maybe my motives are taking away from the things that she really loves to do, but I just want to protect her.

#### Mark and Rosa

I just want what's best for

Rosa Mark
Him. Her.

# **BOOT CAMP-** By Benjamin Ma

Lights up mid class. Inside, people mime light yoga. Alex and John walk onstage following their Grandma Betsy. The idea is that this scene is broken up into 2 different parts. A before and after; as the plot with granny pauses, multiple people come in to share their fitness testimonies.

**BETSY:** Are you sure you want to take my class today? It gets a little intense at times.

JOHN: I think we'll be fine GRANDma.

ALEX: We've got this. BETSY: Suit yourselves.

As the family walks inside, everyone onstage freezes. A MAN and WOMAN walk to the front of the stage and talk to the audience as they are doing an infomercial.

MAN #1: Before I started taking Granny's bootcamp, I just walked around the lake. Now that I've been taking her camp, I've been learning all sorts of things!

**WOMAN #1:** I used to think watching the grandkids was a workout. Boy was I wrong!

Everyone in the class comes back to life and salutes BETSY

**BETSY:** At ease soldiers! I have my two grandchildren here today so our routines are going to be a little simpler.

**GYMNAST 1:** Oh thank heavens!

BETSY: The warm up routine that is.

GYMNAST 2: Oh no.

BETSY: Places everyone! And 5,6,7,8! Stretch 2,3,4 Stretch 2,3,4

Everyone follows BETSY's lead and then freezes. Another MAN and WOMAN step forward.

MAN #2: When I take this class, I feel like I'm in my teenage years again! Lots of unnecessary pain and yelling!

**WOMAN #2:** These fingers aren't just for cross stitching anymore! Come at me robbers. I'm no longer a defenceless old lady anymore! HA! (She does some karate)

Everyone continues on with their stretches.

ALEX: This isn't so bad!

JOHN: It won't get worse or -

**BETSY:** WHY DO I HEAR VOICES THAT AREN'T MINE? Let's move on to routine one. 10 burpees, 9 lunges, 8 push ups, 7 squats, 6 jumping jacks, 5 cartwheels, 4 sit-ups, 3 crunches, 2 minutes of wall sits, and 1 minute of plank! NOW!

JOHN and ALEX are exhausted and faint.

BETSY: Not too bad for a GRANDma?

EVERYONE EXCEPT BETSY, ALEX, AND JOHN : Thank you granny!

Lights down.

# \*\*APPENDIX

THE FOLLOWING SCENES ARE ALTERNATE ENDINGS TO EVERY DAY

#### ALTERNATIVE ENDING #1 - EVERY DAY

ANDREW: Hey mom

LINDA: Oh My! Hey Andrew (hugs ANDREW) Is that my little Jordie!

JORDAN: Hey Grandma! (hugs LINDA, then runs off and sits on the

ground)

LINDA: Glad to see you two, why didn't you call?

ANDREW: Well, I actually just got back from Patricia's, and we

were discussing who would get the house.

LINDA: What do you mean?

ANDREW: Well, not right now! Unless, of course, you're okay with that. I do still have the spare bedroom in the basement you

know-

LINDA: But why would I move in when I have my own hou-

ANDREW: Mom, the real estate business is booming right now. I have a friend who sold his dad's place for more than double the asking price! Plus, it doesn't make sense for you to have this whole house to yourself. (sees Linda's face, walks towards Jordan) Mom, I know this is uncomfortable to talk about, but I have to be thinking about Jordan's future, and college and-

JORDAN: But I'm only in grade 3.. And plus... this is still grandma's house and grandma's life.

LINDA: (realization moment) I think you're right, hun. I love you and Jordan, but just because I'm getting older, doesn't mean you guys can make decisions for me. This is my house, and I'm not ready to give it up

ANDREW: But Mom-

LINDA: I have to stand my ground. This is my decision, not yours, hun. (sits down)

ANDREW: (BEAT) Alright, I understand. I didn't mean to cross the line

LINDA: Thank you. (turns to Jordan) And thank you!

JORDAN: You're welcome Grandma. Someday I want to be as responsible as you.

LINDA: (ANDREW and JORDAN freeze) All this time, I felt like my independence was getting taken away from me, and there was nothing I could do to stop it. And I guess in some situations, I won't be able to. But, for now, I can stand up for myself, and make my own choices. I am not fragile, and I still have a say in what happens in my life.

JORDAN: So... can we go eat, i'm hungry.

ANDREW: (chuckling) Sure, get in the car

LINDA: Actually... (thinking) can we walk instead?

ANDREW: Yeah, sure.

FADE OUT

#### ALTERNATIVE ENDING #2 - EVERY DAY

ANDREW (walks in with JORDAN from SR) Hey Mom!

LINDA: Oh My! Hey Andrew (hugs ANDREW) Is that my little Jordie!

**JORDAN:** Hey Grandma! (hugs LINDA, then runs off and sits on the ground SL)

LINDA: Glad to see you two. Why didn't you call?

**ANDREW:** Well, I actually just got back from Patricia's, and we saw that you accidentally took some money out of your savings instead of your checking account to pay the bills.

LINDA: Oh yes, Im sorry I haven't gotten the hang of that online banking on my phone.

ANDREW: Yeah... well, I think you should know that Patricia and I think it's best if I take over your mortgage.

LINDA: (looks at at him confused)

ANDREW: (rushed) Only if you're okay with it. But it would be a great weight off your shoulders! It's just in case you were to make a mistake again, I could make sure everything got done... correctly. (sits down) And I'm financially stable to do so.

(ANDREW goes in tableau)

LINDA: (to the audience) I spent my whole life supporting me and my family, and yet, now my family feels the need to support me. Maybe I shouldn't be complaining, that they want to care for me. But I didn't think I would lose this, something i've been handling for so long. I guess what happens when you get older-

(JORDAN interrupts)

JORDAN: Wait, I don't know anything about mortgages or money or any of that stuff, but what I do know is there's nothing grandma can't handle (Andrew stands up, walks towards Jordan)

LINDA: Jordie honey, don't worry, this is just adult stuff. Your father just thinks that I can't-

ANDREW: I just think it's less for Grandma to stress about. Jordan, when you get older, people have to take care of you.

JORDAN: But grandma isn't stressed, she just made a mistake. Grandma can still take care of herself. You know, she was the one who taught me how to use my first piggy bank

LINDA: SHe did save up enough for that Playstation in only two months.

JORDAN: See Dad, Grandma knows her way with money. Plus, how would you feel if I did this to you.

ANDREW: I guess - uh I guess your right. I'm sorry mom. I didn't realize we were overstepping our boundaries.

LINDA: Thank you (turns to Jordan) and thank you.

JORDAN: No problem. Can we go eat? I'm hungry.

ANDREW: (chuckling) Sure, get in the car.

LINDA: Actually... can we walk instead?

ANDREW: Yeah, sure.

\*ANDREW and JORDAN go in tableau\*

LINDA: Funny that my grandchild, only 11 years old, was able to open me and my son's eyes to possibility. Jordan reminded her father and I that I am still capable of taking care of myself and being my own person. After everyone limiting me just because

of my age, I'm glad someone finally understands that I need to be free. But maybe all this time I just had to build up the courage to say something. And I know that every day, every single day there will be someone who will treat me like I'm frail, but, at least for today

(looks at Andrew)

I can take my walk. (they exit SR)