

MOTHER'S DAY

A Ten-Minute Comedy Duet

by
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**If performed for contest, where no props are allowed, setting and props can easily be mimed. Otherwise, a small urn and a prop resembling a sailboat should be used. **

CAST: CAROL and LOUISE

CAROL: Well, let's do it.

LOUISE: Just like that?

CAROL: Just like that.

LOUISE: Don't you think we ought to say something first?

CAROL: We said goodbye—

LOUISE: That was in the hospital.

CAROL: Okay, wave bye-bye, Lulu.

LOUISE: Cut it out. I think we should say a few words before we throw Mother overboard.

CAROL: Louise, Mother died three months ago. These are just her ashes.

LOUISE: Look, just because you—

CAROL: Weren't her favorite?

LOUISE: That wasn't what I was going to say.

CAROL: We both *knew* it.

LOUISE: That was all in your head.

CAROL: The boat's rocking. You sure the anchor's holding?

LOUISE: You're wearing a life preserver.

CAROL: How do I know it works?

LOUISE: Jump overboard.

CAROL: Nobody saw us leaving the dock. Nobody knows I'm out here with you. If I disappeared—

LOUISE: I have no *reason* to push you overboard. Mother didn't leave enough money to kill for. What would be my motive?

CAROL: A terminal case of sibling rivalry.

LOUISE: I have a husband, a boat, and a house. Why would I be jealous of you?

CAROL: That was a nasty crack.

LOUISE: I'm sorry.

CAROL: I hate boats; I have a fear of water... So, what do we do? We sail out into the Atlantic Ocean. We could've walked in up to our knees and thrown the ashes into the water.

LOUISE: You can see the shore from here.

CAROL: Not without my contacts, I can't.

LOUISE: Then put them in.

CAROL: And risk seeing a shark? No thanks. Maybe we'll end up being marooned on an island together. That could be fun. But you'd miss your aerobics class.

LOUISE: If you're so anxious to get this over with, why don't you just do it?

CAROL: I wanted to. You're the one who said we have to make a speech, or a toast, or something –

LOUISE: Not a toast –

CAROL: A prayer?

LOUISE: Why not?

CAROL: Mother was an atheist. She always said, "Give 'em enough religion to rebel against."

LOUISE: My rebellious stage is over. I've joined a church.

CAROL: So have I.

LOUISE: Episcopalian.

CAROL: Catholic.

LOUISE: We never agreed on anything. I'll pour half the ashes; you do the other half.

CAROL: How will I know you only did your share? You used to cheat at Monopoly –

LOUISE: Okay, okay, then you go first.

CAROL: All right, besides, I'm older; I should go first. Goodbye Mother, and I want you to know that I think you were wise to leave your jewelry, especially your pearls, to Louise.

LOUISE: And Mother, I think you were wise to leave most of your money to Carol.

CAROL: Sour grapes?

LOUISE: Not at all. You *could* borrow the pearls. But they don't go with jeans.

CAROL: And you could borrow my money. At only 15% interest.

LOUISE: Mother, you did a great job; seriously, you did. We both do *what* we want—

CAROL: And with *whom* we want—

LOUISE: At least one of us is still a traditionalist.

CAROL: And one of us is still rebelling. (*pause*) I can't let go of her.

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