

From The World's Largest Rodent

For more information on this play, contact me at don@donzolidis.com

BILLY, 14 a messed-up kid

CHASTITY, 15, a home-schooled evangelist

(BILLY's comatose mother is lying in his bedroom after he stole her from the hospital. In this scene, he brings his platonic friend, CHASTITY, 15, a home-schooled evangelist over to help wake her up.)

(BILLY and CHASTITY are at the edge of his bedroom. He waits for a moment before opening the door.)

BILLY

I need to show you something. Okay, eyes closed.

CHASTITY

This reminds me of the time when I was touched inappropriately.

(BILLY leads her into his room. His MOTHER is on his bed.)

BILLY

Okay, wait. Stay there.

(He leaves her for a moment in order to arrange his MOTHER more artistically.)

Okay, wait. Wait some more.

CHASTITY

What is it—Oh my God?!

BILLY

Cool, huh?

CHASTITY

What did you do?

BILLY

I rescued her. Mom, this is Chastity.

CHASTITY

Hi.

(She waves.)

HI.

(Seeing no response from her, she whispers loudly to BILLY.)

Is she still in a coma?

BILLY

Yeah.

CHASTITY

Can she hear us?

BILLY

I think so.

CHASTITY

It's nice to meet you. Billy's told me a lot. That sucks about you being in a coma and all.

(Loud whisper to BILLY)

Why is she here?

BILLY

She wanted to come home. And since Meg is a whore and has taken her room and used it for fornication, the only place for her to go was here. But... and this is the exciting part: You and me are gonna wake her up.

CHASTITY

How are we gonna do that?

BILLY

Well I've been watching a lot of made for TV movies and—

CHASTITY

I know! We could pray!

BILLY

No, but in the movies—

CHASTITY

We'll pray! Prayer always works unless God hates you! Do you go to church, Billy?

BILLY

No.

CHASTITY

You need to go to church, otherwise it won't work. But okay, let's, oh I'm so excited about this! Hugs!

(She hugs him.)

BILLY

Hugs.

CHASTITY

Okay, so here's what we do—get on your knees right here. And we'll do it together, okay?

BILLY

All right.

(BILLY gets on his knees next to CHASTITY.)

CHASTITY

Dear Lord: It's me, Chastity. Thank for you for the sunny day yesterday, it was really nice. And thank you for the birds that sing in the morning, and thank you for my hair, which is really pretty.

(she whispers at BILLY again.)

Okay, now you try!

BILLY

Dear Lord: It's me, Billy. Um... thank you for uh... for... the tree over there. It gives me some shade when it's hot and um... yeah.

CHASTITY

So Billy has a question.

BILLY

Lord, will you please let my Mom wake up?

CHASTITY

And will you let there be another sunny day this week? Thanks! Oh and thank you for bunnies.

(She gets up.)

Pretty nice, huh?

BILLY

It didn't work.

CHASTITY

Well sometimes you have to pray real hard. And then sometimes you need to call a televangelist cause God likes them more. And the televangelist gets a whole lot of people praying at the same time, and then it really works a lot better cause sometimes God won't listen you unless you have a lot of people asking for the same thing.

BILLY

Why?

CHASTITY

He's just like that.

BILLY

So maybe that best way to wake my Mom up would be to shock her, you know?

CHASTITY

With electricity?

BILLY

No I mean—

CHASTITY

I had that done to me once.

BILLY

Why?

CHASTITY

I'm not supposed to remember! Maybe you should get her a puppy.

BILLY

No I was thinking if she saw something shocking, you know, like us making out—

CHASTITY

Now I remember! Uh oh. Oh no.

(CHASTITY's cheerful demeanor cracks.)

Oh. I don't think I'm going to be much help praying with you.

BILLY

Why?

CHASTITY

God doesn't like me.

BILLY

Of course God likes you. I mean, look at the body He gave you.

CHASTITY

I know! But—I can tell you anything, right?

BILLY

Right.

CHASTITY

That's why I love you!

BILLY

I love you too—

CHASTITY (*interrupting and overlapping*)
You're like the best friend a girl could have!

BILLY
Uh huh.

CHASTITY
Okay, well this is a big secret. But sometimes... I have... desires.

BILLY
Really?

CHASTITY
Naughty desires.

BILLY
Oh.

CHASTITY
And I just want to do these terrible things, and I know they're wrong, but sometimes, I'll be in the shower, and I'll be naked, and I'll be soaping myself up...

BILLY (*quivering*)
...yeah...

CHASTITY
And the water feels so good... on my skin... that I'll start fantasizing, and this is what gets really wrong... and dirty, really dirty, I'll think about—
(*A little alarm goes off in her purse*)
Church! I gotta go!

BILLY
What?

CHASTITY
I'll pray for your Mom!
(*she starts to run off, then comes back quickly.*)
Hugs!
(*She squeezes him, then runs off.*)

BILLY
...bye.