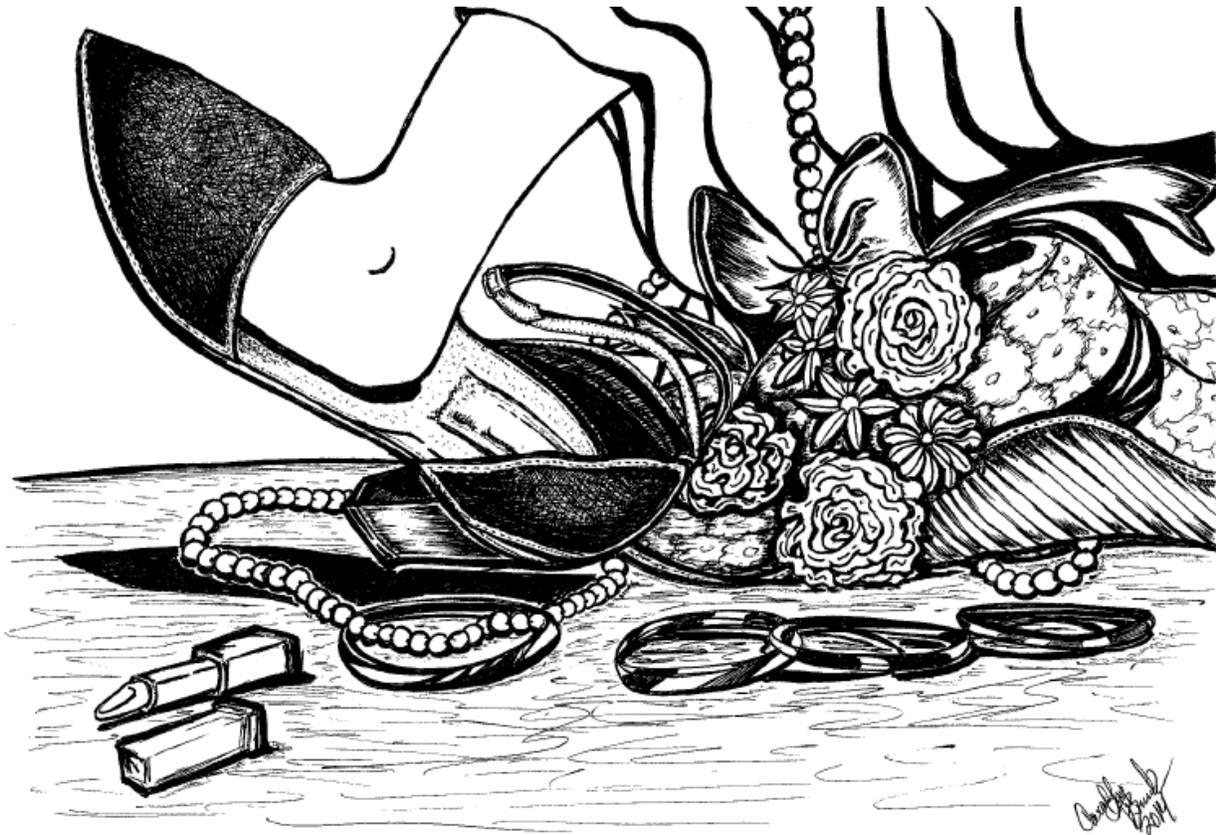


“Mom’s dress and Grandma’s Flowered Hat” -

Writer and Illustrator Carol L Brunk 2014



POEM

“Mom’s dress and Grandma’s Flowered Hat”

The mirror stands before her,
Her dress is many, many, many times too big
but, it fits her Mom perfectly.
Mom’s hair is very long.
Hers is tied in a young girls pig tails, just a little lopsided.
But, she is sure she looks really, really looks good.
Mom’s shoes maybe too large.
Oh! About a big person’s size that envelope her small foot
with so much extra room inside.
She likes the high heels.
So, she’s got to be careful not to lose her balance and fall over.
Mom’s good about wearing her own shoes- she never fall’s over.
She grabs her Grandma’s hat,
Not Mom’s – it got more flowers than anything she’d seen.

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Grandma won’t mind – she’s in the flower garden.

She fidgets with it on her head,
moves it a little bit to the right
then moves it a little bit to the left.

She finally realizes Grandma’s got a big head compared to her.
So, she kind of flops it around until she can see right out the front.

The flowers kept getting in the way,
but, she just pushes them around
hoping it to settle to a point.

She makes a few faces- mostly exaggerates a smile,
and tries to act like she’s batting her eye lashes,
Mom puts black make-up on her eye lashes.

She can’t figure quite how to put that on,
“she’s afraid she’ll poke herself in the eye”
so, she doesn’t try to even put it on.

She did try on the lip stick.

But don’t tell.

It’s a little bit off kind of all the way around her mouth, but she looks great to her,
and, it to her, it looks even better when she smiles.

She loves the pearl long necklaces,
and the bangle wrist bracelets.

Maybe, Mom just won’t notice if she peeks in on her.

Grandma, she knows, still in the flower garden
-she spends all day there.

Now, that she’s fully dressed from head to toe looking in the mirror,
she ponders, a little, just long enough
to try to figure out how she’s going to be able to walk to the kitchen and show her surprise.

After all she’s standing in Mom’s dress,
her high heel shoes,
her pearl necklace,

her bracelets with Grandma’s flower hat on- that is also way to big.

Smiling with the best lipstick on
only just a little crooked all the way around the mouth
-she may have got a little on cheek and chin.

But, she, to herself looks great.

So, she scoots and shuffles,
and scoots and shuffles

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leaving just a few scuffs behind.
She’s getting closer to the kitchen now.
Only, stalling long enough to adjust her Grandma’s flower hat to see and
making sure Mom’s dress is pushed to the back
of her just right so that she doesn’t trip.
It’s just a little awkward,
while scuffling around having Grandma’s hat when it keeps falling down.
But, she’s getting closer and closer
to the hallway.
Finally, she gets there and has to adjust everything,
Grandma’s flowered hat again- she adjusts to see,
making sure Mom’s dress is pushed to the back,
and make sure those bangle bracelets stay pushed up.
Yet, the bracelets hang at her elbows while she holds Grandma’s flowered hat.
Ah! She hear’s Mom is in sight,
she’s almost there,
she can hardly wait,
It’s a surprise for Mom!
She can’t wait.
And then she gets there in the entrance to the kitchen.
She’s standing there trying quickly to straighten the dress
and Grandma’s flowered hat,
smiling in her Mom’s lipstick.

What a precious sight?
She stands there in front of her Mom her face with all the smiles
And her eyes twinkle while she keeps Grandma’s hat in position.
Bangle bracelets were almost to arm pit.
The pearl necklace drapes to half way to the floor.
Her face you could tell a little girl’s hand was in place
And all Mom can do is smile.

“Mom” she says “Don’t I look great?”
“I’m ready for my date!”
“Not so fast. Just maybe in another 10 years,” her Mom says smiling.

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By then the little 6 year old girl might fit in Mom’s dress and her shoes.

Grandma’s hat maybe retired by then and in more use to her.

The lipstick will take some practice and the necklace

and bangle bracelets won’t be hanging down to the floor on her.

Remembering back, Mom says, “You look great! I think you’re ready for your date.”