

WHEN FLOWERS WORRY

by John Cosper

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A worried flower and a worried bird seek professional help.

DIRECTOR'S TIPS: Renting flower and bird costumes would likely be the best choice for the scene, but budget doesn't always allow for such luxuries. If you choose the economical approach instead and decide to make your own costumes, be a hundred percent sure that the finished product is instantly recognizable. The comedy of the scene hinges entirely on the patients being a flower and a bird, and if this is confusing, we'll not only miss the message of the scene, but be horribly confused.

Leaves and flowers attached to an actor may look hilarious, but it doesn't communicate that they're supposed to actually be a flower, nor do feathers make it clear that the person in question is supposed to be a bird. So take care that the costume is vividly, unmistakably clear, regardless of budget.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3 characters

THEME: Worry

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 6:26

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Illustration

CHARACTERS:

DR. FREUD

LILY— a flower

ROBIN— a bird

PROPS: Chair, couch, desk, pen and note pad.

COSTUMES: Suit, flower costume, bird costume

SOUND: Three wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: A psychiatrist's office

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LILY, a person dressed as a flower, lies on a psychoanalyst's couch. DR. FREUD sits in a chair, taking notes.

FREUD: Good morning, Lily.

LILY: Good morning.

FREUD: How are we feeling today?

LILY: Not so good. I woke up this morning, and I looked up at the sunshine. I thought, what if the sunshine runs out? What if tomorrow, there's no sun?

FREUD: Are you afraid the clouds might roll in and the sun won't come back?

LILY: Not just the clouds, but darkness. What if the night never ends and the sun never comes back?

FREUD: What if it does?

LILY: What do you mean, what if it does? I can't live without the sun! These cells aren't gonna photosynthesize themselves, you know.

FREUD: So you're worried about photosynthesis?

LILY: I'm worried about dying! No sunlight, no flowers.

FREUD: So you are afraid of death?

LILY: Of course I am! What kind of question is that? Everyone's afraid of death.

FREUD: Have you been having any new dreams?

LILY: No, no. Just the same one I've had for the last month.

FREUD: The one where you get turned into a corsage on prom night?

LILY: No. The one about my mother.

FREUD: So you are still feeling abandoned?

LILY: Well, yeah. My mother died when I was just a seedling. I never even knew the woman. My first memory is getting shoved in the ground, fighting with a bunch of other seedlings to break the surface to get to the sunlight so I can have a life.

FREUD: And so, we come back to the sun.

LILY: And water. And carbon dioxide. I mean can you imagine if all of a sudden, there was too much oxygen and not enough carbon dioxide? I'm too young to die. I haven't