

The Princess and the Worry Peas

by Julia Bettencourt

Four Person Skit:

- Narrator
- Sister Irene
- Sister Margaret
- Mrs. Worry Wart (elderly lady dressed in black carrying a cane)

Scenery/Props: Scene One requires a split stage. One chair for Sister Irene and one chair for Sister Margaret, along with phones. The main scenes will be these two characters each sitting and talking on the phone to each other from their homes. You will need a ringing phone sound as Sister Margaret calls Sister Irene each time. Scene Two requires a coffee shop sign, a cane for Mrs. Worry Wart, and a purse for Sister Irene to carry a small Bible inside.

Narrator:

Let's listen in as Sister Margaret; a young Christian woman shares her experiences with Sister Irene, a dear older and wiser woman in Christ. Margaret has just started her morning after a sleepless night. Let's peek in and see what's going on.

Scene One:

Margaret walks across the stage rubbing her neck and back, looking like she's had a sleepless night. Her hair is messed up slightly and she is pulling her robe around herself as she enters holding some files in one arm and a wind-up alarm clock in the other hand. The alarm clock keeps going off and on as she fumbles with it. She finally gets it to stop and goes to the phone and dials.

Margaret:

Hello! Sister Irene? Is that you?

Irene:

Yes. This is Irene. Sister Margaret? Is that you calling me so early this morning?

Margaret:

Yes, Irene. Do you have time to talk just a minute? I need some good godly advice.

Irene:

Sure, Margaret. Go ahead. What's on your mind?

Margaret:

Well, I haven't been sleeping very well and this morning I woke up and found an alarm clock going off under my mattress and some file folders from work. It's not my alarm clock and Oh, Irene, I'm not supposed to bring anything home from work!

I'm so afraid I'll get into trouble with Mr. Henson, my boss. How do you think these things got under my mattress and what does it mean?

Irene:

Sister Margaret, please calm down. Have you been worrying about something at work or maybe getting everything done you need to in a day?

Margaret:

(Emphatically) Exactly! I have been worrying quite a bit about work and being a mom too, and squeezing it all into my day.

Irene:

Well, that's understandable. We all get concerned over keeping things organized and our schedules. You just need to give those worries over to the Lord. Remember, you are a daughter of the King and He loves you.

Margaret:

Thanks. I'll try that. Goodbye now.

Irene:

Goodbye.

(Both hang up their phones)

Next Day:

Margaret walks in looking just a little more disheveled than the day before. She is yawning and rubbing her back again. She stretches to get the kinks out. She's carrying several boxes of macaroni and cheese and three cans of soup. Margaret goes to the phone, dropping some of the boxes as she goes and dials.

Margaret:

Sister Irene? It's me again. Sorry to bother you again so soon but today I woke up and there were several boxes of macaroni and cheese and three cans of soup under my mattress. It was so lumpy that I couldn't sleep at all!

Irene:

Well, Margaret, I know you've been concerned about your husband's job.

Margaret:

(Emphatically) Exactly! Oh, Irene! Do you think it means my family is going to have to live on macaroni and cheese and just soup from now on?

Irene:

Now calm down Margaret. I don't think it means you'll be living on just macaroni and soup. Everyone gets concerned about providing for and feeding their family. You just give those worries over to the Lord. Remember, you are a daughter of the King and He loves you.

Margaret:

Thanks. I'll try that. Goodbye now.

Irene:

Goodbye.

(Both hang up their phones)

Next Day:

Margaret heads onto stage looking just slightly more of a mess than the day before, while holding a little stuffed animal. She does a few toe touches to get out those back kinks before she heads to the phone to dial.

Margaret:

Hello Sister Irene. Me again!

Irene:

Oh, hello Sister Margaret. *(She smiles and shakes her head)* I never guessed it would be you calling me again so early this morning. What is it Margaret? Did you find something under your mattress again?

Margaret:

No, not something! Someone! I kept hearing whimpering all night and the mattress was all cockeyed and this morning I found my little Johnny hanging out looking like a rag-doll with his favorite stuffed animal dangling in his hand. Johnny was pretty flattened but I fluffed him up and sent him off to school this morning.

Irene:

Well, now Margaret. Have you been worried about your kids?

Margaret:

(Emphatically) Exactly! I worry that I don't spend enough time with them, what they are learning in school, and whether they have the things they need.

Irene:

Well, it's only natural that we are concerned about our children. We love them and want the best for them. You just give those worries over to the Lord. Remember, you are a daughter of the King and He loves you.

Margaret:

Thanks. I'll try that. Goodbye now.

Irene:

Goodbye.

(Both hang up their phones)

Next Day:

Margaret heads onto stage looking even more tired than the day before, while holding an inhaler. She yawns long and loud as she starts to dial the phone but puts it down. Then she yawns long and loud again (over-dramatically) before picking up the phone again and dialing.

Margaret:

Sister Irene? I bet you can't guess who this is!

Irene:

(She shakes her head "no" emphatically and rolls her eyes) No! Why is this Sister Margaret calling me this morning?

Margaret:

Oh, Sister Irene! It is me! You will just never believe what happened last night. I heard these strange hissing sounds all night long. I was so afraid that there was a snake in my room somewhere ready to strike at me! I didn't get any sleep at all.

Irene:

(Excitedly) Oh, Margaret, was there a snake under your mattress?

Margaret:

No! No snake. Thank the Lord! It was my daughter Susie's inhaler. You know how bad her asthma is. What if she needed it during the night and it being under my mattress and all? Well, I just can't understand it, Irene.

Irene:

Well now Margaret, have you been worried about your family's health?

Margaret:

(Emphatically) Exactly! Susie's asthma is getting worse and we just keep finding out more things that little Johnny is allergic to. Plus, it's time for their doctor checkups again and my husband may get laid off from work and then we won't have good health insurance....and....and...and... *(Whimpers)*

Irene:

(Breaks in) Oh, Sister Margaret, you just calm down. We all are concerned about our family's health and taking care of them. It's just natural. Now you give those worries over to the Lord, okay? Remember, you are a daughter of the King and He loves you.

Margaret:

I'll try, Sister Irene. Thanks. Bye.

Irene:

Goodbye.

(Both hang up their phones)

Next Day:

Margaret enters looking cautiously around. She looks both ways slowly a few times before she begins dialing the phone. She yawns long and loud before she talks.

Margaret:

(Whispering – but loud enough for audience to hear) Sister Irene. It's me.

Irene:

Hello! Hello! Is anyone there? *(Pause)* Sister, Margaret, is that you?

Margaret:

(She looks around cautiously before talking a little louder) Oh Sister Irene. I'm so scarred! I can't tell you on the phone. I just **have** to see you in person today. Can you meet me at the coffee shop right away? *(She hangs up the phone and leaves the stage as Irene begins to talk)*

Irene:

Okay. I'll be there in 10 minutes. What's the matter? Margaret? Sister Margaret? *(Irene shakes her head and hangs up the phone. She exits the stage.)*

Scene Two:

Scenery should include coffee shop sign. Irene needs to be carrying a purse containing a small Bible.

Irene:

Oh, there you are Sister Margaret. What in the world did you need to see me in person about? What's going on?

Margaret:

Sister Irene, come with me to my car. I have something to show you in my trunk. *(They walk together for a few steps)* Oh Irene. It's not **what** I found under my mattress this morning. It's **who!** I'm so afraid. *(Margaret looks cautiously around before proceeding. She opens trunk or pretends to)* Look! *(An elderly lady appears dressed all in black leaning on a cane)*

Irene:

(Quite surprised) Margaret! Why did you put her in the trunk?

Margaret:

Well, What if her family misses her and someone sees her and recognizes her? They'll think I kidnapped her! Whatever will I tell my family if I have to go to jail? Oh Irene. This woman has followed me everywhere since I found her sticking out from under my mattress this morning. I know she was in the bathroom while I was taking a shower too. I could just feel her presence. I've seen that Psycho movie you know. Bad things always happen when you are in the shower!

(The older lady moves closer to Margaret and puts her arm around her shoulder. Margaret slowly takes it gently away trying not to touch the lady's hand much and then Margaret moves away from her.)

Margaret:

See! She's creepy!

Irene:

Oh, Sister Margaret. *(With recognition)* I know who this woman is! I've dealt with her myself a long time ago. This is Mrs. Worry Wart! I refer to her as WW for short. She will get a hold of you and follow you around and yes, Margaret, even into the shower. She'll rub up next to you and try to make you a worry wart too.

The thing is Margaret; you allowed her and all the other things to come into your life. They showed up under your mattress because you tried taking care of yesterday's worries, today's worries, and tomorrow's worries all by yourself. Margaret, that's just impossible to do, even for a Christian woman. We need the Lord's help. We have to

give all of our worries over to Him entirely. Don't worry about WW. She will just disappear eventually but you have to give this over to the Lord.

Margaret:

Did Mrs. Worry Wart ever visit you again, Irene?

Irene:

Well she still tries to poke her head in now and again. I guess I still have a few unwanted things that try to disturb my sleep too, but the Lord brings me through and He'll do the same for you too, Margaret.

Let's look at a few verses in the Bible that's helped me. *(Pulls a small bible from her purse)*

Matthew 6:25, 26

"Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?"

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

Matthew 6:34

Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Why don't we stop right now and pray about this?

(Both bow heads as Mrs. Worry Wart hobbles away leaning on her cane and exits the stage)

Irene:

Dear Lord, help Sister Margaret rely on You and trust You with her worries. We know You are more than able to take care of each of us. Thank You for loving us so much. Amen.

Margaret:

Dear Jesus. Please take all my worries from me and help me to love and trust You more. Please give me peace about what I face each day and help me to remember that I'm Your daughter and You will always be there for me. Amen.

Thank you, Sister Irene. I feel so much better. *(She looks around)* Where did WW go?

Irene:

I think she has gone her way. I know she never likes it when I go to reading the Bible and praying around her. It gets her all nervous or something. You remember that, Margaret. God's Word and prayer can work wonders on our worries, so if you ever get some worry peas under your mattress again, just remember, you are a daughter of the King and He loves you.

Margaret:

I'll remember that. Thank you for your help.

Irene:

You are welcome. Do you want to go get a cup of coffee now?

Margaret:

No. (*Yawning*) I'm really tired and exhausted from that lumpy mattress. I think I'll go and take a morning nap. I'm sure I can sleep now. Thank you. Talk to you at church on Sunday.

Irene:

Okay, bye Margaret. Sleep well, Princess!