

ROSEANNE

"SLEEPING BEAUTY"

Written by

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FIRST DRAFT  
JULY 10, 1989

ROSEANNE

"Sleeping Beauty"

CAST

ROSEANNE CONNER..... ROSEANNE BARR

DAN CONNER..... JOHN GOODMAN

BECKY CONNER..... LECY GORANSON

DARLENE CONNER..... SARAH GILBERT

D.J. CONNER..... MICHAEL FISHMAN

JACKIE HARRIS..... LAURIE METCALF

CRYSTAL ..... NATALIE WEST

POLICEMAN 1 .....

POLICEMAN 2 .....

SET

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ACT ONE

Scene 1

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

(D.J., Becky, Roseanne, Dan, Darlene)

IT IS EARLY SATURDAY MORNING, AND THE LIVING ROOM IS UNKEMPT AND EMPTY.

D.J. ENTERS WEARING HIS PAJAMAS AND PICKS UP THE REMOTE CONTROL. HE PRESSES IT AND THE TV COMES TO LIFE

SFX "MIGHTY MOUSE" CARTOON

MIGHTY MOUSE (TV VOICE)

(SINGING) Here I am to save the day, even though

you're ugly, what the hey! I'm Mighty Mouse and

not a rat! I'm the hero in this cartoon, and

that is that!

DJ SHUTS THE TV SOUND OFF, GRABS A SMALL BLANKET FROM THE SOFA, TIES IT AROUND HIS NECK AND 'FLYS' AROUND THE ROOM. D.J. PICKS UP PILLOWS, TOYS, AND OTHER SMALL OBJECTS AND THROWS THEM AT IMAGINARY 'BAD MEN', MAKING AN EVEN BIGGER MESS IN THE LIVING ROOM.

BECKY ENTERS AND GRABS FOR D.J.'S ARM.

BECKY

(FINALLY CATCHING D.J.) I'm not cleaning up  
your junk, mighty mess.

D.J.

(WRIGGLING FREE.) I'm just playing.

BECKY

Well, when Mom gets up and sees this mess, all  
three of us will spend the rest of the weekend  
cleaning up.

D.J.

Not me! (HE SCOOTs FURTHER FROM HIS SISTER)

BECKY

(PUTS HER HANDS ON HER HIPS.) And just what are  
you saying?

D.J.

Nothing.

BECKY

You'd better help get this room clean, or I'll  
get you good.

D.J.

You've got to catch me first, miss priss. (HE  
MOVES QUICKLY TO THE STAIRS.)

BECKY

(GETS A SADISTIC GLEAM IN HER EYES.) Just  
remember, I'm older and stronger than you are,  
and I live in the same house. (PAUSE) Some  
time, somewhere, when you're expecting a sweet  
and loving sister (SHE STARTS RUNNING AFTER  
D.J.) I'll kill you!

ROSEANNE ENTERS FROM THE KITCHEN, WEARING A ROBE AND  
CARRYING AN EMPTY COFFEE POT.

ROSEANNE

If I could get some coffee in me first, I'd kill  
you both.

BECKY

Look at the mess your son made of this room.  
(PAUSE) And he won't even consider cleaning it.

ROSEANNE

(LOOKING AT D.J.) Well?

D.J.

(SHRUGS HIS SHOULDERS.) Boys will be boys.

D.J. DARTS UP THE STAIRS.

BECKY

Mother!

ROSEANNE

Daughter? (SHRUGS HER SHOULDERS)

BECKY STORMS UP THE STAIRS.

ROSEANNE

(TO HERSELF) Now that the mother daughter relationship has been agreed on, I can get some caffeine pumped into my drug starved system.

ROSEANNE PLODS BACK INTO THE KITCHEN.

DARLENE ENTERS FROM UPSTAIRS FULLY DRESSED. SHE PLOPS INTO THE SOFA AND PICKS UP THE REMOTE CONTROL. SHE SWITCHES BACK ON THE VOLUME AND CHANGES THE CHANNEL.

SFX "SMURFS" TV SHOW.

PAPA SMURF (TV VOICE)

I warned you about the evil wizard, Smurfette.

SMURFETTE (TV VOICE)

But, Papa Smurf, he's soooo big, and how was I to know that the evil wizard was not a safe date?

PAPA SMURF (TV VOICE)

You should have noticed all those blue spots on the soles of his boots.

DARLENE

Aw, poo! (SHE CHANGES THE CHANNEL)

DAN ENTERS SLOWLY DOWN THE STAIRS IN WORK CLOTHES.

DAN

(LOOKING AROUND THE MESSY ROOM.) What did you do this morning, Darlene?

DARLENE

(STILL GLUED TO THE TUBE) I sat down and turned on the TV.

DAN

(DISBELIEVING) Sure, the little urban elves came in last night and ransacked another innocent home.

DARLENE

(STANDING UP) I swear (CROSSES HER HEART) I did NOT make this mess. I'm a victim here.

ROSEANNE SHUFFLES IN WITH A CUP OF COFFEE. DAN DOES NOT SEE HER, SINCE HIS BACK IS TO THE KITCHEN DOOR.

DAN

I used the same line just before my wedding, but  
it didn't work then, either.

ROSEANNE

(TO DARLENE) Yeah. And, I used the line when  
they handed you to me in the delivery room, but  
(SMILES) here you are.

DAN

(CROSSES TO ROSEANNE) Look at this mess (WAVES  
HIS HAND AROUND THE ROOM) We couldn't possibly  
live here.

DARLENE

It isn't me!

ROSEANNE

I have to say that I saw the other two grubs out  
here earlier, trashing and fighting.

BECKY ENTERS

DAN

It looks like our weekend activities are set.

ROSEANNE

What? (LOOKS DISGUSTED) The kids and me  
clean up the house while you clean out the



refrigerator?

DAN

(SMILES) Well, if you like that arrangement.

BECKY

(SHOUTS) No fair! That little twerp up there makes the mess, and all of us have to clean it up.

D.J. (VOICE FROM UPSTAIRS)

Darlene messed it up last night, and besides I shouldn't have to clean it up.

ROSEANNE

I have to hear the logic behind this bulletin of wisdom from above. (SHOUTS UPSTAIRS) Why don't you have to clean up your mess, sweetheart?

D.J. (VOICE FROM UPSTAIRS)

It's woman's work.

ROSEANNE, DARLENE, AND BECKY RUSH UPSTAIRS  
DAN LOWERS HIS HEAD AND CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF.

DAN

(TO HIMSELF) You're on your own, sport.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE  
SCENE TWO

INT. LIVING ROOM - 10:00 AM (DAY 1)  
(Roseanne, Dan, Darlene, Becky, and D.J.)

ALL OF THEM ARE PUTTING THINGS AWAY, AND CLEANING UP. DAN LIFTS UP A SOFA CUSHION AND PULLS OUT A BRA. HE STUDIES IT, THEN TRIES IT ON. DJ NOTICES FIRST, AND GIGGLES. DAN THEN PRETENDS IT'S A SLINGSHOT AND DRAWS A BEAD ON ROSEANNE, WHO TURNS AROUND AND GLARES.

ROSEANNE

Oh, great white hunter what are you doing?

DAN

(SHRUGS HIS SHOULDERS) Well, you always did  
say you were game.

ROSEANNE

(STARES SOME MORE) Would you like me to load  
them up for you, bwana?

DAN

(LOWERS THE BRA, AND GRINS WICKEDLY.) Would'ya?

ROSEANNE

(WITH A SMILE) No.

DAN

Just think, if we were on the wide open plains  
and the Indians were minutes away, where would  
we be, well?

ROSEANNE

If we were on the open plains, we would have  
buffalo pies to clean up in addition to all this  
crap. (SHE WAVES HER HAND AROUND THE ROOM.)

D.J.

Oh boy! That would give me something neat to  
throw at Becky.

ROSEANNE

(SIDEWAYS GLANCE AT D.J.) You're already as  
good as your father at throwing that stuff.

DAN

(DRAWS ANOTHER AIM AT ROSEANNE WITH THE BRA.)

You shall die for that.

ROSEANNE

(RUNNING FOR THE STAIRS) Oh no! Please master,  
not the dreaded brazier firing squad.

DAN

(CHASING AFTER ROSEANNE, AND SPEAKING IN A  
'HORROR FLICK' VOICE) Yes, it's Freddy and his  
ladies undergarments from hell!

ROSEANNE

(AS SHE LEAPS UP THE STAIRS WITH DAN CLOSE ON HER  
HEELS.) Oh my god! A transvestite from beyond!

D.J.,BECKY, AND DARLENE STARE AT THE NOW EMPTY STAIRS.

BECKY

I suppose they'll stay up there until the living  
room's done by us!

ROSEANNE (VOICE FROM UPSTAIRS)

You bet.

DARLENE

I quit! (SHE THROWS DOWN A LOAD OF JUNK FROM HER  
ARMS.)

D.J.

It wasn't my mess anyway. (HE WALKS INTO THE KITCHEN.) You girls should clean it up for me anyway.

BECKY

(SHOUTS AT D.J.) Get your butt back in here!

DARLENE

(TO BECKY) Quick! Before Mom and Dad get back down here, let's smack him in his smart little mouth.

D.J. (FROM KITCHEN)

(SHOUTING) Mom! Dad! Help! Attack of the killer sisters!

BECKY

(RUNNING INTO THE KITCHEN) You'll die for sure!

D.J. (FROM KITCHEN)

Attack of the ugly killer sisters!

DARLENE

(REMAINING IN THE LIVING ROOM.) Sis! You get behind him, then flush him into the living room.

ROSEANNE AND DAN WALK BACK DOWN THE STAIRS

DAN

(TO DARLENE.) He's just an innocent little boy,  
he's too young to feel the wrath of two fierce  
Amazonian warriors yet.

ROSEANNE

Yeah, give him a minute to say his good byes to  
his parents first.

BECKY

(STORMING OUT OF THE KITCHEN, VERY ANGRY) Go  
ahead, make a big joke out of it, but this  
situation has gone far enough!

DAN

(TO ROSEANNE) I do believe Becky's mad this  
time.

D.J. SLOWLY WALKS OUT OF THE KITCHEN, HOLDING HIS FACE. HE HAS A  
DAZED LOOK ON HIS FACE.

ROSEANNE

(BENDS DOWN AND LOOKS INTO D.J.'S FACE) What  
happened?

D.J.

(FIGHTING BACK TEARS.) She punched me out!

I hate her! I hate all of you!

D.J. RUNS UPSTAIRS.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE 3

INT. KITCHEN - 11:30AM (DAY ONE)

(Roseanne, Dan, Jackie)

ROSEANNE AND DAN ARE SEATED AT THE KITCHEN TABLE.

ROSEANNE

I'm not used to open warfare. I mean,  
I don't mind a little fighting, and some  
high spirited sarcasm, but our sweet  
eldest daughter just plastered D.J.

DAN

(SMILING) Yeah, she drew blood, too.

ROSEANNE

You seem happy about that.

DAN

Come on, Rosie. I grew up a boy,...

ROSEANNE

(INTERRUPTING.) I would hope so! I don't  
think I could take another shock this morning.

DAN



If you would let me finish...

ROSEANNE

(INTERRUPTING.) No problem.

DAN

Thank you. Now, I grew up....

ROSEANNE

(INTERRUPTING) Boy, did you.

DAN

(SMILING.) Thank you.

ROSEANNE

(RETURNING THE SMILE, AND GRABBING HIS ARM.)

No, thank you.

DAN

(COCKING HIS HEAD.) Can I continue?

ROSEANNE

Sure.

DAN

(PAUSES FOR A SECOND, WAITING FOR HER TO

INTERRUPT.) I can't begin to count the number of

times I got zapped by relatives my own age. It

ain't no big deal.

ROSEANNE

I'm just not prepared for violence like that.

DAN

Don't tell me you and your sister didn't fight.

JACKIE ENTERS

ROSEANNE

Okay. I won't tell you.

JACKIE

Tell me what?

DAN

That you're stupid.

JACKIE

(TO ROSEANNE) Are you talking about Dan again?

ROSEANNE

No, something much more important.

JACKIE

Tofu?

DAN

(HE LOOKS AT JACKIE'S FEET.) Wear shoes and  
nobody'll notice.

ROSEANNE

(TO JACKIE.) Forget him.

JACKIE

Done.

DAN

If it were only that simple.

ROSEANNE

Why not, you are.

DAN

(DRAWS HIS FIST BACK.) To the moon, Alice;  
to the moon.

ROSEANNE

(TO JACKIE) That's what I was talking about.

JACKIE

(SHAKING HER HEAD.) What are you talking about?  
I'm about as confused as the president at a press  
conference.

DAN

Just nod your head, and say this about that.

ROSEANNE

Becky gave D.J. a right cross.

JACKIE

(SITTING DOWN AT THE TABLE.) Where?

ROSEANNE

Right in the kitchen.

DAN

Knocked his sink clean off. (SHAKES HIS HEAD.)

ROSEANNE

Knock it off, buttercup (SLAPS HIS SHOULDER.)

Seriously, I'm upset about Becky hitting D.J.

hard enough to draw blood.

JACKIE

She drew blood?

DAN

(MOCK SHOCK.) Oh, my god! We'll have to take her to the vet and have her destroyed. You know how they are after they've tasted blood.

ROSEANNE

(TO DAN) You're about to make me draw your blood. I'm serious. I don't know what to do.

JACKIE

You must be upset. You usually have everything under complete control between the kids.

(SHE LOOKS AROUND.) Where are they?

ROSEANNE

They're all in their rooms until I can figure out what sentence to pass on the mugger.

DAN

You're taking all this too seriously. You should look at the innocent victim a little harder.

JACKIE

Why?

DAN

Maybe he deserved the bloody nose.

ROSEANNE

I don't see that. I don't care if you think you're Rambo, I do not want my daughter thinking she's a bad actor who can kill at will.

DAN

Okay, don't listen to me. I'll finish delousing the living room.

DAN LEAVES

JACKIE

It did look a bit messy out there.

ROSEANNE

Yeah, like the last stand of Custer.

JACKIE

(REMEMBERS SOMETHING) Oh yeah, that reminds me,  
do you have something to eat?

ROSEANNE

(LAUGHS) How does that remind you of something  
to eat?

JACKIE

Custard.

ROSEANNE

No wonder you flunked history.

JACKIE

(REMEMBERS SOMETHING.) Do you remember Mr.  
Mendicino, our 11th grade history teacher?

ROSEANNE

You mean Mr. Twinkle Toes?

JACKIE

(LAUGHING.) Yeah. He did lean against the  
black board and rise up on his toes the whole  
period.

ROSEANNE

I always thought he had worms, I mean, scratching  
his butt against the chalk holder the whole time.

JACKIE

(SLAPS ROSEANNE'S ARM) You're so mean.

ROSEANNE

No I ain't. I never socked Mr. Mendicino in the  
nose.

JACKIE

That reminds me.

ROSEANNE

What this time?

JACKIE

Have you got anything to eat?

ROSEANNE

Much as I'll live to regret it, help yourself to  
the fridge.

JACKIE GOES TO THE REFRIGERATOR, OPENS IT, BENDS OVER AND STICKS  
HER HEAD INTO IT. DAN ENTERS.

DAN

(STARING AT JACKIE'S POSTERIOR.) Some people  
wear their heart on their sleeve. (PAUSE) Jackie  
wears her brains on her...

JACKIE

(STANDING UP QUICKLY AND FACING DAN.) Watch it,  
bub! Only men think with their pants.

ROSEANNE

Oh, that's why Dan thinks changing his shorts is  
major surgery.

DAN

But, darlin' I thought you didn't want me to ever  
change. (PAUSE) That ain't what you meant?

ROSEANNE

(SMILES) How about I do some mind reading?

DARLENE ENTERS

DARLENE

I think you'd better come upstairs.

ROSEANNE

What!?! Who's killed who?

DAN

Now, Rosie, it can't be that bad. (PAUSE) Maybe  
one of them's still alive.

ROSEANNE

(TO DAN) You ain't funny! (TO DARLENE) Don't  
string me along, what's happening?



DARLENE

First, I want assurance that I won't be punished.

JACKIE

That doesn't sound too good.

DAN

(TO DARLENE) You won't be hurt..

ROSEANNE

(INTERRUPTING.) Too bad..

DAN

(SIDEWAYS GLANCE AT ROSEANNE.) You won't be punished. What's going on?

DARLENE

I think D.J.'s dead.

ROSEANNE

(STANDS) What!

DAN

(RAISES HIS HANDS.) Calm down everybody.

ROSEANNE RUSHES OUT.

DAN

(TO DARLENE) Where is he?

DARLENE

Well, after Becky smacked the crap out of the little twerp, he went into the bathroom and bawled his eyes out, but then we couldn't hear anything, not even breathing.

JACKIE

(BENDING DOWN TO LOOK EYE TO EYE WITH DARLENE.)

Did you see him leave the bathroom?

DARLENE

No.

DAN

Why do you still think he's in there?

DARLENE

The door's still locked.

DAN AND JACKIE LOOK AT EACH OTHER, THEN RUSH OUT.

DISSOLVE TO:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO  
SCENE 1

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE UPSTAIRS BATHROOM - 12:30PM (DAY1)  
(Roseanne, Dan, Becky, Darlene, Jackie)

ROSEANNE IS LEANING AGAINST THE BATHROOM DOOR, DAN AND JACKIE  
RUSH TO HER.

ROSEANNE

(SPEAKING INTO THE DOOR) Darling. Open the door.

DAN

(PUTTING HIS ARM AROUND ROSEANNE.) Wrong conclusion.

ROSEANNE

(ANNOYED) Just what the hell is that supposed to mean?

DAN

The window, and a short hop to the branch, and then to freedom.

ROSEANNE

(BECOMING MAD.) I'll kill him!

DARLENE ENTERS

DARLENE

Find the body yet?

DAN

I'd watch it. Given your mother's state, the dead body might be yours.

ROSEANNE

(SARCASTICALLY) Most precious daughter, can you do me a favor?

DARLENE

I think that might be a good idea. (NODS HER  
HEAD.)

ROSEANNE

Please go out front, climb up the tree and go  
through the bathroom window, and open this door  
please. (SHE POINTS TO THE BATHROOM DOOR.)

DARLENE

Sure. (NODS AGAIN.)

DARLENE LEAVES

JACKIE

(TAKES A DEEP BREATH.) That was too much.

(PAUSE.) Now I know why I didn't have kids.

DAN

Don't know how?

ROSEANNE

I wish I didn't know how.

DAN

(LOOKS SAD.) I don't.

JACKIE

Where did you suppose he went?

DAN

Somewhere around the neighborhood, I guess.

ROSEANNE

Somehow I feel I'm losing control. (PAUSE)

I guess it's the plight of working motherhood in  
America today.

JACKIE

Come on, sis, you sound like a special on  
Public Television.

ROSEANNE

That would be easy. On Public Television, the  
animals eat their young.

DAN

Ours are too tough.

ROSEANNE

You said it, Sherlock.

BECKY ENTERS

BECKY

Is he dead?

ROSEANNE

(GLARES AT BECKY.) No, but you're pushing  
your luck to the max.

BECKY

(EXPLODING.) You always take up for the little

baby! He's been driving me nuts for years, and  
what do you care! All you do is joke about it!  
Well, I'm sick of it! Do you hear, I'm sick of  
it!

DAN

We all hear you, young lady, and I don't like  
the tone I hear.

BECKY

Fine!

BECKY LEAVES IN A HUFF. HER DOOR SLAMS. DARLENE OPENS THE  
BATHROOM DOOR. DARLENE LOOKS AT ALL THE STRESSED OUT ADULTS,  
THEN LOOKS AT THE FLOOR.

DARLENE

I think I'll read a book now. (PAUSE) At the  
public library.

DARLENE LEAVES

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT II  
SCENE 2

INT. LIVING ROOM - 8:25PM (DAY1)  
(Roseanne, Dan, Becky, Jackie)

ROSEANNE IS STRETCHED OUT ON THE SOFA. JACKIE IS SITTING ON THE CHAIR NEXT TO THE SOFA.

JACKIE

You know, I think you were a little hard on  
Becky today.

ROSEANNE

(SITTING UP.) What are your talking about?

(LOOKS AT JACKIE.) I'm upset as hell, and all  
my eldest thinks about is equal treatment.



JACKIE

Remember, sis. (PAUSE) Remember how you felt  
about me?

ROSEANNE

Why, I loved you too much, Jackie

JACKIE

Well, I seem to remember you tying me up to the  
tree way out in the far corner of the back yard.  
And, if you will recall, no one heard me yelling  
for help for six hours.

ROSEANNE

(STARES AT JACKIE FOR A SECOND) I did it because  
I loved you.

JACKIE

How'ya figure that?

ROSEANNE

Do you remember Billy Finderhammer?

JACKIE

(RECOGNITION.) Yeah! That little twerp. I  
remember him. He always had a crush on you.

ROSEANNE

That he did. He was two years younger than me,  
and I couldn't get rid of him. He did, however  
have a sure-fire scheme to seduce me.

JACKIE

Seduce! You were only 11 and he was 9.

ROSEANNE

That wasn't my word. He said he wanted me.  
(PAUSE) You know, (EMPHASIZES) wanted me.

JACKIE

You're disgusting when you're worried, you know.  
Just get on with your point.

ROSEANNE

My point is, that he was going to break your arm  
for me; he thought I hated you that much.

JACKIE

So?

ROSEANNE

So, I tied you up way out there to save your arm.

JACKIE

(CHUCKLES) What happened to Billy?

ROSEANNE

I gave him what he wanted to save my little  
sister.

JACKIE

You what!

ROSEANNE

Well, actually, he didn't have the foggiest idea  
what the facts of life were, so I told him.

JACKIE

(SURPRISED) You told him! You mean he didn't  
know what he was supposed to do, and you had to  
tell him? (LAUGHS) What did he do then?

ROSEANNE

He threw up. (PAUSE) You know, dealing with  
men really hasn't changed much, has it?

JACKIE

(LAUGHING.) No.

ROSEANNE

What was your point?

JACKIE

What?

ROSEANNE

You know, you were giving me a hard time about razzing Becky today.

JACKIE

(SHAKES HEAD.) Right. You remember how much we fought when we were younger. You really should cool it with Becky.

ROSEANNE TENSES UP AND STARES AT JACKIE.

JACKIE

She's getting older, and I think she wants to be treated more like an adult.

ROSEANNE

She has to act more like an adult to be treated like one.

JACKIE

All I was saying was that you might give her a bit more room to make mistakes, and still feel like she's loved.

ROSEANNE

(RELAXING A BIT.) I see your point.

JACKIE

(SMILING) I know, but if I put a hat on, no one will notice it.

ROSEANNE

(CHUCKLING.) You know for a little sister, you  
ain't too dumb.

DAN ENTERS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR

DAN

I looked everywhere. I looked in every garage in  
the neighborhood; I feel like a peeping Dan.

ROSEANNE

Did you look in Mrs. Miller's garage?

DAN

(SMILING.) You mean the sensuous widow Miller?

ROSEANNE

I don't want a peep out of you.

DAN

I'm too pooped to peep.

ROSEANNE

(SLAPS DAN'S ARM.) Cut that out, you dirty old  
Dan. (PAUSE) So, you've looked everywhere you  
know?

DAN

Yeah, Babe. (SIGHS.) I guess we should call.

JACKIE

You two wait in here, I'll call the police for  
you.

ROSEANNE

(LOOKS AT JACKIE.) Thanks, Sis.

JACKIE EXITS TO KITCHEN

DAN SITS ON THE SOFA, AND ROSEANNE SITS NEXT TO HIM, LEANING  
BACK ONTO HIS LAP. DAN BEGINS STROKING ROSEANNE'S HEAD AND  
SHOULDERS.

BECKY ENTERS DOWN THE STAIRS, AND WALKS TO THE SOFA.

BECKY

Mom. I'm sorry I was so mad. (BORDERING ON  
TEARS.) Do you think D.J. got lost? (CRYING)  
I didn't mean it.

DAN AND ROSEANNE GET UP. ROSEANNE HUGS BECKY.

ROSEANNE

I'm sorry I got so upset, I forgot about you.  
I don't think anything bad's happened to D.J.

DAN

(ALSO HUGGING BECKY.) If anything, D.J.'ll be  
in deep doodoo when he comes home for scaring the  
hell out of his parents.

BECKY

If kids are this much trouble, I don't think I  
want any when I get married.

ROSEANNE

It doesn't work that way. (PAUSE) Every woman  
on the face of the earth says she won't, but has  
a few moments of weakness, and, well the rest is  
history.

ALL THE TIME ROSEANNE, DAN AND BECKY ARE STILL HUGGING

BECKY

So then, it's worth it, right?

NOTICEABLE SILENCE

BECKY

Mom?

MORE SILENCE

BECKY

Dad?

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO  
SCENE 3

INT - LIVING ROOM 9:00PM (DAY ONE)

(Roseanne, Jackie, Crystal, Becky, Darlene, Dan,  
Policeman 1, Policeman 2)

DAN AND JACKIE ARE SITTING ON CHAIRS; DARLENE AND BECKY ARE ON THE SOFA. ROSEANNE IS PACING BACK AND FORTH IN THE FRONT HALLWAY, PAUSING TO LOOK OUT THE FRONT WINDOW, NEXT TO THE DOOR, THEN RETURNING TO PACING.

DARLENE

You know, there is something good happening  
out of all this.

JACKIE

I know. Times like this brings families closer  
together.



DARLENE

No. (SHAKES HER HEAD.) I meant that the cops are coming here. There hasn't been this much fun here since the stiff was stuck in our kitchen.

ROSEANNE

(STARES AT DARLENE.) You always did have a way of making people realize the relative importance of a situation.

DARLENE

(LOOKS CONFUSED.) Thanks.

BECKY

(LOOKS AT DARLENE.) You may think this is the best thing next to a funeral, but I'm embarrassed by the whole thing.

DARLENE

Just because you drove him out of the house, right into the hands of a deranged maniac, doesn't give you the right to look down on my little pleasures.

DAN

(SHOUTING.) I think that's just about enough  
of that!

DARLENE

Sorry.

JACKIE

We're all a bit on edge.

THE DOORBELL RINGS, AND EVERYONE JUMPS UP.

DARLENE

Neat! The cops!

THE ADULTS MOVE TO THE DOOR. ROSEANNE REACHES IT FIRST, AND GRABS FOR THE KNOB.

EVERYBODY IS HOVERING IN FRONT OF THE DOOR AS ROSEANNE OPENS IT. CRYSTAL IS STANDING IN THE OPEN DOOR.

DARLENE

Oh, rats! it's not the cops.

DAN

What are you doing here?

CRYSTAL

You're just upset. You really want friends here  
in your moment of sorrow.

CRYSTAL ENTERS THE LIVING ROOM, AND ROSEANNE SHUTS THE DOOR.

ROSEANNE

It ain't no moment of sorrow, we're just waiting

the cops to come here so we can file a missing  
POLICEMAN 2

Okay. We need to fill out some forms, get a  
description, and a picture; then we'll start  
doing our job.

DARLENE

Oh, boy! I love cops! The police  
should be....

THE DOORBELL RINGS. DAN REACHES IT FIRST AND OPENS IT. TWO  
POLICEMEN ENTER AND STAND IN THE LIVING ROOM.

POLICEMAN 1

Is this the Conner residence?

DAN

Yes, sir.

POLICEMAN 1

Then, you reported a missing child.

ROSEANNE

Yeah. (WALKING OVER TO THE POLICEMEN.) He  
went out the bathroom window about lunchtime  
today.

POLICEMAN 2

We usually don't consider it a missing person  
case until the person is missing over 48 hours,

but in the case of a child this young, we will start the case much sooner.

DAN

I spent the whole afternoon going to all his friends houses, and looking everywhere in the neighborhood.

POLICEMAN 1

Did you look everywhere in this house?

POLICEMAN 2

In a lot of cases, a child will run away from home by hiding in the garage, or even in the back yard.

DAN

I looked everywhere in the garage, and in the house. I even looked under his bed; he ain't here.

POLICEMAN 2

Okay. We need to fill out some forms, get a description, and a picture; then we'll start doing our job.

DARLENE

Oh, boy! I love cop talk.

POLICEMAN 1

(LOOKING AT DARLENE.) Are you his sister.

DARLENE

(A LITTLE NERVOUS.) Oh, yeah, but (POINTING TO BECKY.) she's the one who made him run away.

ROSEANNE WALKS TO BECKY AND HUGS HER

ROSEANNE

No, she didn't. He ran away on his own, and for his own reasons.

POLICEMAN 1

Yes, ma'am. Do you have a place I could write on?

DAN

(POINTING TOWARDS THE KITCHEN.) In there. You can write on the kitchen table.

EVERYBODY WALKS TO THE KITCHEN.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO  
SCENE 4

INT - KITCHEN SECONDS LATER (DAY ONE)  
(Roseanne, Dan, Jackie, Crystal, Becky, Darlene, D.J.,  
Policeman 1, Policeman 2)

POLICEMAN 1 AND ROSEANNE SIT AT THE TABLE, EVERYONE ELSE MILLS  
AROUND IN THE OVERCROWDED KITCHEN.

POLICEMAN 1

Can you describe your missing son?

ROSEANNE

Well, he's real short, and has cute little  
beady eyes and an adorable little turned up  
nose.

POLICEMAN 1

Actually, I meant height and weight, hair and  
eye color, you know, stuff like that.

DARLENE

Just the facts, Ma'am.

BECKY

(TO POLICEMAN 2) Can you take her with you  
when you go?

POLICEMAN 2

I don't think so.

DAN AND BECKY LOOK AT EACH OTHER

DAN AND BECKY, TOGETHER

Please?

ROSEANNE

Come on, you guys, this is serious. Let me tell the officer what he needs to know. (LOOKING AT THE OFFICER.) What do you need to know?

POLICEMAN 1

This might be easier if we had a picture of him.

DAN

(PULLING OUT HIS WALLET.) Here, I have his school picture. (HANDS A PHOTOGRAPH TO POLICEMAN 2)

POLICEMAN 2

(LOOKING AT THE PICTURE.) He's a fine looking young man.

DARLENE

Yeah, you can tell him a mile away by his ears; they make him look like he could pick up a satellite feed from China.

BECKY

(ANGRY.) Look, Darlene, just because I lost my temper at him, doesn't give you the right to talk about him this way when he might be in bad trouble.

THE DOOR TO THE CABINET UNDER THE SINK AND D.J. CRAWLS OUT.

D.J.

That's right. You can't talk about me like that.

ROSEANNE, JACKIE, DARLENE, BECKY, AND CRYSTAL SPEAK TOGETHER

EVERYONE

D.J.!

POLICEMAN 2

(LOOKING AT THE PICTURE IN HIS HAND.) Hey, that looks like the missing kid.

ROSEANNE

(TO DAN.) Sherlock Holmes works for our town, Dan.

DAN

Elementary, my dear. He was kidnapped, and the perpetrators threw him back under the sink after ten minutes on the lamb.

CRYSTAL



He was riding a sheep somewhere?

ROSEANNE

(LOOKING AT CRYSTAL.) No one can pull the wool  
over your eyes.

D.J.

(LOOKING AT THE POLICEMEN.) Hey! What happened  
while I was asleep under the sink? Why are the  
cops here?

ROSEANNE

Looking for you, puddin' head, like the rest of  
us, looking for you

DAN AND ROSEANNE HUG D.J.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN:

INT. LIVING ROOM - MIDNIGHT (DAY ONE)

(Roseanne, Dan)

ROSEANNE AND DAN ARE LYING BACK ON THE SOFA.

DAN

I'm glad the police didn't hassle us too much.

ROSEANNE

I'm just glad we've got all our little elves

upstairs, safe in bed.

DAN

I think we ought to listen to them more. I mean sometimes I ignore their feelings just because I think of them in diapers, and oblivious to it all.

ROSEANNE

Especially Becky. She's becoming a real person, I mean with a brain and hormones and everything.

DAN

(PLAYFULLY) Do you have hormones and everything?

ROSEANNE

(GRINNING, SHE KISSES HIM QUICKLY.) Do you?

DAN

(SHRUGS HIS SHOULDERS.) I dunno. They say men peak out at seventeen. (PAUSE, SMILING.) But, women peak much later.

ROSEANNE

(PUTTING HER HAND TO HER MOUTH.) Oh, Dan. I'm sorry, I forgot to tell you, I peaked last November 12th. It was five thirty and you weren't there.

DAN

Did I miss something?

ROSEANNE

I don't know. I was shoveling the neighbor's dog  
mess out of the front yard at the time.

DAN

Just wanna go to sleep, right?

ROSEANNE

Say good night, Dan.

FADE OUT:

END OF SHOW