

SEVEN THINGS
By Anthea Carns
Play #7, 4 actors

ONE

Here are five things I could have said to my grandmother when she said to me,

TWO

“I’m worried about you working in entertainment.”

THREE

“People are going to pressure you to do all kinds of things – *for the role.*”

FOUR

“Like try drugs! So you know what they’re like. *For the role.*”

THREE

“Or try *sex.*”

ONE

“*Lesbian sex.*”

TWO

“So you know what it’s like.”

FOUR

“*For the role.*”

ALL

One:

TWO

I could have said, “Don’t worry about the drugs, we’re just gonna legalize weed.”

ONE

And I’m gonna be under way more pressure to shop local and make sure the chocolate part of my edibles is fair trade than to try the stuff for its artistic merits.

ALL

Two:

ONE

I could have said,

FOUR

(Panicked.) Why am I discussing my sex life with you, grandmother!

TWO

I'm sixteen! I don't even HAVE a sex life!!

TWO and FOUR

Why is this happening!!

ALL

Three:

FOUR

I could have said,

ONE

“Turn gay? *Me?*”

ALL

(Big fake laughter.)

THREE

Because I'm a very good actor.

FOUR

Perish the thought, Grandmama.

ONE

I'm just a staunch ally in my school's Gay-Straight Alliance.

THREE

I'm gonna move to Seattle and remain totally heterosexual, don't you worry.

ALL

Four:

THREE

I could have said, “Grandma, you're vastly overestimating the number of lesbians in positions of power in the entertainment industry.”

TWO

That's it, that's the whole joke.

ALL

Five:

THREE

I could have said, “Pretty messed up you think your kid didn’t raise me well enough to make good decisions.”

ALL

Six:

ONE

What I actually said was, “Thanks for your concern, I guess?”

ALL

Seven:

TWO

You know what I’d tell her now?

FOUR

You were pretty much right, Grandma.

THREE

And you loved being right.

FOUR

The dire future you imagined for me, where someone with a joint says

THREE

“Hey, kid. Have you thought about ... *kissing girls*?”

ONE

That is my dire present.

TWO

Suuuuuper dire.

ONE

It’s a train I got on when I was six and wanted to marry Han Solo *and* Princess Leia.

FOUR

The train left the station a long time ago.

THREE

And it's going bright places, Grandma. Beautiful ones.

TWO

(Extending a hand.) Wanna come with?

(End of play.)