ACT ONE
SCENE THREE
<u>PICK OUT YOUR DRESSES WHILE THINKING OF ME</u>

[WINIFRED'S bedroom. She looks at herself in the mirror smiling while moving her dress back and forth.]

OTTILIE

[Offstage] It's ugly!

WINIFRED

No, it's not.

OTTILIE

You haven't even seen it!

WINIFRED

It looked great on me. I don't know why you're complaining.

[OTTILIE exits the closet in a dress that's bordering on hideous. She has the mannerisms of a child getting ready for a church service.]

OTTILIE

I look like a goose.

WINIFRED

Geese aren't green.

OTTILIE

A sick goose. A goose that's about to die from sickness.

WINIFRED

You're welcome to look for another dress.

OTTILIE

No. All of those dresses were bought for <u>you</u>.

WINIFRED

You were in <u>my</u> closet.

OTTILIE
Only because Mom won't give me anything that's not a hand-me-down.

WINIFRED
That's not true. She bought you a hat last week.

OTTILIE
Only because my head's bigger than yours! Oh, it's not fair! I'm going to look horrible!

WINIFRED
Come here.

[OTTILIE walks to WINIFRED. WINIFRED inspects the dress.]

WINIFRED
Well, you're wearing it inside out and backwards, for one thing.

[OTTILIE looks in the mirror.]

OTTILIE
Then I look pretty good, all things considered.

WINIFRED
I have a blue dress hidden towards the back of the closet. Try it on.

[OTTILIE goes into the closet. She talks to WINIFRED from inside. WINIFRED sits at a vanity and begins to do her hair.]

OTTILIE
Charlotte and Victor are meeting us there.

WINIFRED
Charlotte and Victor are invited?

OTTILIE
Victor weaseled his way in. He's good at things like that.

WINIFRED
I suppose you'll be spending the entire night talking with Charlotte, then.

OTTILIE

Don’t be silly. I’ll talk with you, too. I’ll need you to help me remember the details of everything Charlotte talks to me about. She knows so much.

WINIFRED

Too much, if you ask me. I don’t know how she fits all of that gossip in her head.

OTTILIE

Well, she doesn’t read, she says it takes up too much space in her brain that could be used for more important things.

WINIFRED

Like which couple’s engagement ended because of an affair?

OTTILIE

It was Mr. Carter and Miss Lee, in case you were wondering.

WINIFRED

I wasn’t.

[OTTILIE comes out in a blue dress. She does a twirl.]

OTTILIE

How could you not have told me about this dress? I don’t remember you buying it.

WINIFRED

I didn’t. It was a gift from Georgia.

OTTILIE

Tailor?

WINIFRED

Yes.

OTTILIE

I’ll have to thank her for it tonight.

WINIFRED

I’m not giving it to you, if that’s what you think.