

The Skeleton laughs, shaking. The skull falls off the Skeleton.

SKELETON (V.O.)

Oh no!

The Skeleton vanishes. A NAKED GIRL scampers through the room, laughing a little crystal laugh. Then she's gone. A lion roars. Esperanza yelps, and pulls the covers over her head. Then she peeks out.

ESPERANZA

What's going on?

The shade flies up. The window is open again. The SOUND OF WIND. A blue light fills the window frame and oak leaves blow in. The arms of the robe hanging from her bedpost lift, and the ROBE speaks.

START

ROBE

Esperanza!

ESPERANZA

Oh no. My bathrobe is speaking to me. This is not good.

ROBE

What are you doing?

ESPERANZA

What am I doing? I'm shitting myself that's what.

Put me on. ROBE

No. ESPERANZA

To save your mother. ROBE

My mother's dead. ESPERANZA

She sent me. ROBE

A suicide. ESPERANZA

She needs you. ROBE

ESPERANZA
No, you got it backwards. I need my mother, and she bailed on me. This was her room. And you were HER robe!

Put me on. ROBE

No way! ESPERANZA

ROBE

Do it.

ESPERANZA

I don't take orders from the laundry!

ROBE

Quick!

ESPERANZA

Alright. I'll do it. But don't rush me.

Esperanza puts on the robe.

ESPERANZA

You're warm. Like...

ROBE

That's her.

Esperanza gets emotional.

ESPERANZA

Don't tell me that.

The Robe takes over Esperanza's body causing her to dance briefly.

ROBE

Whoopee! Gotcha! Taki! Taki!, Taki! Taki!

ESPERANZA

What are you doing?

ROBE

Follow me! You're going to jump out the window.

ESPERANZA

No, I'm not!

ROBE

Trust me!

ESPERANZA

Is this how you got my mother to jump?

ROBE

Don't fight it!

Esperanza tears off the robe.

ESPERANZA

No!

She throws the Robe on the floor.

ESPERANZA

I'm not stupid and I don't want to die!

ROBE

Alright. Hang me back up.

END
