

MIRROR SIDES

17.

No tricks?

ESPERANZA

I wasn't trying to trick you.

ROBE

You coulda fooled me.

ESPERANZA

Esperanza hangs the Robe back on the bed post,
and gets back into bed.

Your mother is suffering in another world.

ROBE

ESPERANZA

Well, I'm suffering in this one. Who do you think you're talking to? I'm
Esperanza! I'm great! I'm TEN! And no one's gonna break me down! Much less
some talking bathrobe! I shouldn't a eaten all that cake.

She pulls the covers up. ANOTHER VOICE calls
her.

START

Esperanza!

ANOTHER VOICE

Esperanza sits up.

Who is it now?

ESPERANZA

The OVAL MIRROR has lit up.

It's me! MIRROR

Who? ESPERANZA

The Mirror! MIRROR

The Mirror who? What do you want? ESPERANZA

MIRROR
Want? I want what I always want. Praise. I'm very vain. I want you to look at me and tell me how beautiful I am.

ESPERANZA
You do know when I say 'I'm beautiful', I'm talking about ME, right? I'm the one who's beautiful. Not some mirror.

The Mirror gets haughty.

MIRROR
Come look at me and tell me I'm not beautiful.

ESPERANZA
I don't want to play this game.

The Mirror drops the attitude.

MIRROR

Please? I'm starving! I'm a mirror. When no one looks at me, I go crazy! Look at me! Look at me! Just a little! Please?

ESPERANZA

Alright. Ease up. One look. But then I'm done.

Esperanza gets up and looks in the mirror.

MIRROR

Ahhh! I felt that. You're like a mouthful of peanuts!

ESPERANZA

You're a freak.

MIRROR

No, I'm you.

ESPERANZA

You wish.

MIRROR

Dance with me!

ESPERANZA

I done my dancing at the party.

MIRROR

With who?

ESPERANZA

A boy named Tito.

MIRROR

Tito.

ESPERANZA

I don't know how he looked at me.

MIRROR

How?

ESPERANZA

Like this.

She looks in the mirror making believe she is Tito.
As Tito, she makes serious eyes.

MIRROR

Whoa. He's in love with you.

ESPERANZA

No. It wasn't love.

MIRROR

I'm jealous you danced with him and not me!

ESPERANZA

Alright. Alexa! Play Maria, Maria.

Maria, Maria plays and Esperanza dances. She
jumps up on the bed, dancing.

ESPERANZA

Mira! Check it out!

Look at me!

MIRROR

Esperanza laughs.

No! Look at me!

ESPERANZA

I'm hot!

MIRROR

Get real. I'm the hot one! I'm smoking! I'm on fire!

ESPERANZA

Movie star!

MIRROR

Influencer!

ESPERANZA

I never want to dance with anybody else!

MIRROR

Alexa, stop!

ESPERANZA

The MUSIC stops.

ESPERANZA

You have though.

MIRROR

What?

ESPERANZA

You have danced with somebody else. You danced with my mother.

MIRROR

Did I?

ESPERANZA

She used to play music and get dressed and talk to me and dance.

MIRROR

I remember now. I remember her eyes. You look just like her.

ESPERANZA

No, I don't.

MIRROR

Put on her Robe. Let me see.

ESPERANZA

No. That Robe's crazy.

MIRROR

Then put the Robe over me, so I don't have to think.

ESPERANZA

Alright.