

ARIANA

(Talking to herself)

I must be losing my mind. This can't be real.

(ARIANA picks up Nona's picture)

ARIANA *(Talking to the picture)*

Can you actually come to me? **(beat)** On the other hand, Rev. Rose said it happens all the time and I really could use some help finishing your song.

(ARIANA puts the picture back on console table then picks up her guitar.)

ARIANA *(continues)*

Oh Voice of Higher Love, please help me.

(CUE MUSIC: Reprise of the Chorus of It's Who You Are.)

(PINK SPOTLIGHT UP on ARIANA as she starts strumming her guitar, then closes her eyes while deep breathing to connect with SENIOR NONA.)

REV. ROSE *(Off Stage SINGING)*

REPRISE: **ITS WHO YOU ARE**

SO SIMPLE TO FIND IT
IT'S NOT VERY FAR
AND WHAT IT WILL TELL YOU
IS WHO YOU ARE

AND WHEN YOU HAVE FOUND IT
YOU'LL FEEL VERY STRONG
IN LIGHT AND IN POWER
YOU'LL RIGHT EVERY WRONG

(SENIOR NONA ENTERS in her own SPECIAL LIGHT.)

SENIOR NONA

I'm here Bambina. It's me ... your Nona.

ARIANA

Nona, it can't be you!

SENIOR NONA

Who else would call you Bambina?

ARIANA

My Nona used to call me that every time she wanted a hug.

SENIOR NONA

Yes. And I can still feel your arms around me.

ARIANA

Well, if you really are my Nona, why were you gone all this time?

SENIOR NONA

Sometimes adults make mistakes. They think they are doing the best thing by not interfering. **(pause)** My lawyer told me I could go to court, but I was afraid if I did, It would only make matters worse between me and your Dad. I'm sorry, maybe I should have fought for you.

ARIANA

He's never gotten over his anger at my Nona.

SENIOR NONA

I know. But you shouldn't blame him. My pride got in the way too. I should have called or found a way to make amends and I didn't.

ARIANA

I was told that spirits in the light are never prideful. My Nona was kind and would have found a way. How do I know you're really my Nona and not some ... dark spirit trying to trick me?

SENIOR NONA

Wow. I didn't see that coming. **(beat)** Remember what Rev. Rose told you? Do you feel upset and frightened ... or do you feel loved?

ARIANA

I feel both. **(beat)** This can't be right

SENIOR NONA

Do **you** think you're speaking to darkness?

ARIANA

I don't know what to think.

SENIOR NONA

Darkness is just another word for the mischief that runs amuck in our minds. That's why Rev. Rose calls it the Monkey Mind, because just like the monkeys in the zoo, it makes enough noise to drive you crazy. All the spiritual books talk about how the great teachers figured it out.

ARIANA

Are you saying that the voice of Darkness, is the voice of anger and fear?

SENIOR NONA

I'm glad they taught you something in that fancy, shmancy school of yours.

ARIANA

Dad would be happy to hear that.

(they both chuckle)

SENIOR NONA

But seriously, you can always stop the voice of Darkness.

ARIANA

How?

SENIOR NONA

When you're feeling angry, upset or frightened, simply say, "Mind be Still and Know that I Am Love. "

ARIANA

Really? Well, I never believe anything anyone tells me. I always Google it first.

SENIOR NONA

Now you sound like your father. Google can give you information but it can't give you intuition. You can only find that within your own heart. It's a matter of learning to hear that voice within and trusting what you get. When you constantly look for confirmation from the outside, you are definitely living in fear.

ARIANA

I'm not afraid of anything.

SENIOR NONA

Oh really? Webster's has 69 euphemisms for the word fear. **(beat)** What's the worst that can happen to you right now? **(beat)** Come on. Be truthful.

ARIANA

(Pauses and Thinks)

Well, maybe that I'm imagining all of this .. and that you're not my Nona...and if you are, I will lose you again.

SENIOR NONA

"What if I lose my Nona," is a thought triggered by fear. It only lives in the future because it hasn't happened yet and isn't going to. That's why fear it is the greatest weapon of darkness. It makes you feel powerless, just like I did when I lost you and your father. The trick is to quiet your mind. Then the next thought you'll have will be coming from the voice of your Higher Love that lives in your heart.

ARIANA

You've got to be kidding! Between my cell phone, constantly to running to catch the bus, and the Internet giving me bad news all the time ... how can I quiet my mind? It's impossible!