Grammy-nominated storyteller & performance artist

Sharon Kennedy's

new show for everyone!

But especially for those who are taking care of an elderly parent ...and trying to do the best they can.



# Which One of Us is the Mother Now? Tales from the Nursing Home

A daughter's story of love, laughter, and lessons learned; trials, tears, and advocacy.

\* Bring tissues—but come prepared to laugh too! \* \*

"Sharon weaves a tale of truth, a
daughter's saga of turning tables, with
touches of tension, apprehension, humor,
and magic. We were spellbound..."
— Susan Hotchkiss, Director, Council on
Aging, Middleborough, MA

"Kennedy has abundant stage charms and spell-binding narrative skills." — The Boston Globe

see last page for more reviews...

now booking for November (Alzheimer's Month)

Sharon Kennedy
Storyteller

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## **Sharon Kennedy**

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# Which One Of Us Is The Mother Now? Tales From The Nursing Home: A daughter's story of love, laughter, and lessons learned; trials, tears, and advocacy.

Who is this story for? Would it suit your organization or not? Let me try to help!

This story is for:

Adult children who have parents...

- 1. who are getting a little confused as they grow older
- 2. with Alzheimer's
- 3. with dementia
- 4. in a nursing home
- 5. in assisted living
- 6. living with them (the offspring)
- 7. living by themselves (with offspring worrying)
- 8. who are uncooperative making decisions especially about any transitions
- 9. who are on (or need to be on) anti-anxiety drugs or drugs for depression
- 10. who are mildly delusional, angry, paranoid
- 11. who may need to be evaluated at the psychiatric ward of a hospital

#### The story is *especially* for...

- 1. the son or daughter who is the chief caretaker or advocate
- 2. the son or daughter who doesn't have much help from other family members (may include real problems within the family)
- 3. the daughter or son who has to make the decision about a nursing home or other facility
- 4. the chief person in charge of quality of life and dignity for her/his parent

- 5. the chief person trying to negotiate various parts of the health care system.

  (This ultimately includes figuring out how to get the best from a large number of nurses, medical directors, directors of nursing, nurse practitioners, aides, psychiatrists, OTs and PTs in a nursing home, assisted living place, or any other situation.)
- 6. the person who also needs to work with Hospice.
- 7. the daughter or son who faces death with her/his parent and also has to make all the decisions.

#### Please note:

All of the above are important in this story but since I'm a professional storyteller (<a href="http://sharonkennedy.com">http://sharonkennedy.com</a>) and have been performing full time for audiences for almost thirty years, I am very aware of what my audience needs. Therefore this story includes...

- lots of humor
- many times when the audience will laugh out loud
- plenty of very sweet moments
- lovely interactions between a mother and a daughter
- definitely times which may bring tears
- a comforting ending

**Please call me** and we can talk about whether this show is right for you. Talking about it is better than email.

My number is 781-393-7566, my answering machine is always on, and I'm prompt about returning calls.

Which One Of Us Is The Mother Now? is available for bookings now. The performance is one hour.

### Audience response to Which One of us is the Mother Now?

"It was a special treat having Sharon Kennedy in Middleborough to present her latest show, 'Which One of us is the Mother Now.' Sharon weaves a tale of truth, a daughter's saga of turning tables, with touches of tension, apprehension, humor, and magic. We were spellbound and left with sustaining images of the endurance of our connections to one another."

—Susan Hotchkiss, Director, Council on Aging, Middleborough, MA

"I attended your program last night and thought it was wonderful. The tale was so true to life. I am a hospice chaplain and have the opportunity to work with many people with this disease. I liked how you took us all on that painful journey from diagnosis to nursing home to hospice to death and beyond. You captivated the audience because in your telling you were so truthful. You 'could hear a pin drop.' Keep up the good work. People need to hear this story."

—John Welch, Raynham, MA

"Sharon's story is deeply personal and universal at the same time. The audience is mesmerized as the people in her story are brought to life by her physicality and voice. The moments in the story are enriched by the details of setting and language. These moments flow smoothly through the year and a half of Sharon's mother's story. Anyone with parents should experience this story--it may help one get through it when the story becomes one's own."

—Sharon A. Bernard, Director, Fitchburg (MA) Public Library

"I found the program alternately funny and moving—and loved how she took us on the entire journey of caring for her mother. Her impressions of the different staff at the nursing home were wonderful, and made me remember many of the people who cared for my own mother."

—Marcia Ladd, librarian

"We thoroughly enjoyed Sharon's presentation at our facility in Fitchburg, MA the other evening. She is able to keep one enthralled with her innovative style and wonderful sense of humor. Working in the medical field, we often don't see things from the other side of the coin. Sharon gave us a glimpse of what the families are feeling and experiencing while dealing with the decline of their loved ones. Thank you, Sharon, for a great experience!"

—Beth Hemingway, Resident/Family Education Coordinator, The Highlands Nursing Home