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Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another, "What! You, too? I thought I was the only one."--C.S. Lewis

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Criminal Law and the Crossdresser	1
Skin Care, Beard Cover, Foundation and Facial Make-up	4
Chapter News From Around The GGA World	7
My Christmas Present (a poster)	
An Adventure of Courtney Davis	8
Happy Birthday	12
What's Happening? Events	
Information conerning (Where are they? What are they doing?)	12
Commercial advertising	13

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CRIMINAL LAW AND CROSS-DRESSING by Joanna M. Clark and Diane Saunders ©copyright 1983 Reprinted with permission

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It should be noted that in many of the municipal ordinances the word "dress" is used. In the context used the word means apparel or outer clothing rather than the specific item of women's apparel defined as "a dress", although the word does, of course, encompass that specific item.

With two significant exceptions the preoperative transsexual, whose anatomical sex is incongruous with the individual's psychological disposition and preferences, there is no reason, in general, to believe the transsexual will run afoul of criminal law more often than anybody else. First, the transsexual may indeed have sexual contacts that will be regarded by unsympathetic police and prosecutors as homosexual. Second, the preoperative transsexual's more serious problem is with "cross-dressing," i.e. wearing the clothes of and generally presenting oneself to others as being of the "opposite", but desired, sex.

As of 1982, there were approximately ten states still having laws which could be construed to prohibit "cross-dressing" or "disguising" oneself as a member of the opposite sex. Many more prohibitions may be in effect at the municipal level. Consequently, regardless of State, the transsexual is potentially in danger of being confronted by law enforcement personnel.

Examples of how courts have dealt with cross-dressing can be illustrated by:

City of Columbus v. Zanders. ((1970) 266 N.E.2d 602, 25 Ohio Misc. 144, 54 Ohio Ops2d 142.)

Defendant Zanders was apprehended,

while wearing women's clothing and makeup, arrested, charged and tried under \$2343.04 of the Columbus Municipal Code, which reads: "No person shall appear upon any public street or other public place in a state of nudity or in a dress not belonging to his or her sex, or in an indecent or lewd dress." The court, after receiving expert testimony that defendant was a true transsexual, dismissed the charge based on a finding that "a person is not responsible for criminal conduct if, at the time of such conduct as a result of a mental defect, he lacks substantial capacity either to appreciate the wrongfulness of his conduct or to conform his conduct to the requirements of the law."

Columbus v. Rogers, ((1975) 324 N.E.2d 563, 41 Ohio St.2d 161, 70 Ohio Ops2d 308.)

The same city ordinance as that in Zanders, supra, was held unconstitutionally vague on its face, on the grounds that it failed to give fair notice of the conduct forbidden by the ordinance and to provide guidelines to law enforcement officials charged with its enforcement. The Court noted that modes of dress for both men and women are historically subject to changes in fashion, with clothing presently being sold for both sexes which was so similar in appearance that a person of ordinary intelligence might not be able to identify it as male or female dress. Moreover, said the Court, is is not uncommon today, for individuals to purposely, but innocently, wear apparel which is intended for wear by those of the opposite sex. The Court stated that once it is recognized that present-day dress may not be capable of being characterized as being intended for male or female wear by a person of ordinary intelligence, the constitutional defect in the ordinance becomes apparent. The defect, said the Court, is that the terms of the ordinance, "dress not belonging to his or her sex", when considered in the light of contemporary dress habits is so vague that men of common intelligence must necessarily guess at its meaning and differ as to its application.

Finally, the effect that the transsexual's so-called cross-dressing could conceivably have on the public will be addressed. Although some members of the public may view the subject of transsexualism or the preoperative transsexual who appears in public in the clothing not gendertypic for the individual to be offensive, it should be pointed out that the act of wearing the clothing of the "opposite" gender is not, in and of itself, an "immoral" act. It is an act which can only be viewed with individual preference by other members of the public. "There is no evidence, however, that cross-dressing, when done as a part of a preoperative therapy program or otherwise, is, in and of itself, harmful to Society." (Doe supra, at 80).

City of Cincinnati v. Adams ((1974) 330 N.E.2d 463, 42 Ohio Misc. 48, 71 Ohio Ops2d 455.)

Defendant Adams was charged with a violation of a city ordinance prohibiting any person to "appear in a dress or costume not customarily worn by his or her sex, or in a disguise when such dress, apparel, or disguise is worn with the intent of committing any indecent or immoral act ...". Defendant, a male, was standing in a parking lot wearing a woman's wig, earrings and carrying a purse. The court struck down the ordinance on due process grounds, ruling that the law did not give the defendant fair notice of what was prohibited because of its vagueness and overbreadth. The court implied, in its opinion, that any ordinance prohibiting transvestism, unaccompanied by criminal activity or solicitation, would be unconstitutional.

People v. Simmons ((1974) 357 N.Y.S.2d 362. 79 Misc.2d 249.)

Defendant Simons, a male, was dressed in female clothing and, after soliciting another male for sex, stole some money from him. One charge against him was violation of a New York statute prohibiting criminal impersonation, defined as when one "impersonates another and does an act in such assumed character with intent to injure or defraud another." The court, after a lengthy discussion of definitions of the words used in the statute and other cases, concluded that the statute did not apply to this defendant because he was not impersonating but simply being himself.

City of Chicago v. Wallace Wilson, et al. ((1978) 389 N.E.2d 522, 75 III.2d 525, 27 III Dec. 458, 12 ALR4th 1242.)

Defendants, two preoperative male-to-female transsexuals, attired in female clothing when arrested as they left a rest-aurant following an early Sunday morning breakfast. Convicted and fined they appealed their case to the Illinois Supreme Court, which upheld the constitutionally of the ordinance but overturned the lower court's action, recognizing the need for cross-dressing of the preoperative transsexual undergoing treatment for eventual sex reassignment.

Doe v. McConn (489 F. Supp 76 (U.S.D.C. S.D. Tex. 1980).)

The court declared, in the case of preoperative transsexuals who crossdress in preparation for sex reassignment surgery, a Houston, Texas city ordinance making it illegal to appear in public areas "dressed with the designed intent to disguise his or her true sex as that of the opposite sex," unconstitutional as it was applied to the plaintiffs. The court noted that an integral part of the presurgical process requires that a transsexual wear the clothing of the gender to which reassignment is sought throughout the preoperative stage, and that the ordinance in question, therefore, directly prohibited the treatment of the transsexual plaintiffs and their reassignments. The court noted that there was no exception of defense under the ordinance for the transsexual, including those under a doctor's care. The court also pointed out that the defendants, past and present city officials, charged with the responsibility of enforcing the ordinance had not submitted evidence of a state of interest in the enforcement of the ordinance. ("Wearing dress of opposite sex", 12LR4th 1249, 1251.)

In his four page opinion U.S. District Judge Norman W. Black described, at length, the transsexual syndrome and the generally agreed upon treatment program which a presurgical candidate must follow in order to receive sex reassignment surgery, stating, "[t]ranssexualism is a rare syndrome of gender identity disturbance which appears to occur more frequently in male than female subjects. The cause of the syndrome is unknown. Treatment for

this condition in adults by psychotherapy alone has been futile. Administration of hormones of the opposite sex followed by sex-conversion operations has resulted in better emotional and social adjustment by the transsexual individual in the majority of cases. Prior to undergoing surgery, the patient is required to be seen by a team of specialists in physical and psychological medicine over an extended period of time, generally one to two years." [Emphasis added - authors.]

Judge Black continued his discussion of the treatment program, stating "To date, it has been generally agreed that the common requirement of a pre-operative period of six to twenty-four months of living and working in the gender role of choice provides the best index of judgement for eliminating non-transsexuals." The judge stated the finding indicated that the transsexual individual has not made a choice to be "... as he is," but has instead found the choice made (for him or her) as the result of numerous causes prior to and out of the control of the individual.

One of the reasons for the requirement that the preoperative transsexual live and work in the gender role of reassignment, is that this "real-life test" is presently the most relied upon indices of how well the transsexual can adjust to the demands of everyday living in the gender of reassignment. It provides the individual, as well as the treatment team, with an accurate indication of the individual's ability to function in society as a member of the opposite sex. Also, as stated by the court in Mc-Conn, supra, "[s]ince some patients presenting transsexual symptoms and desiring surgery may change their mind, a period of hormone therapy and of living in the desired gender role is strongly indicated, so that those whose motives are confused or weak may discover this for themselves through direct experience."

Thus it can be seen that "cross-dressing," as noted <u>supra</u>, is an integral part of the presurgical process and requires that a transsexual wear clothing of the gender to which assignment is sought throughout the preoperative stage. Said procedures are "medically and psychologically necessary" for the true integration of the body and mind throughout the transition period of the developing gender. (Doe v. McConn, supra at 79.) In fact, it is mandatory, as

surgery will generally not be performed unless the transsexual has dressed in the clothing that is gender-typic for that sex for a minimum specified period of time. Id.

State statutes or local municipal ordinances which restrict or prohibit an individual, particularly a preoperative transsexual, from dressing in the clothing usually associated with a particular gender, as seen above, can be challenged in court as impermissibly denying the individual the right to express one's gender identity, which is related to the constitutional right to privacy and the pursuit of happiness guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

At least one court has recognized the individual's right to self-expression in their manner of dress or personal appearance, non-confined by any constitutional strictures whatsoever, is fundamentally inconsistent with "values of privacy, self-identity, antonmy and personal integrity that the Constitution was designed to protect." (The City of Chicago, citing Kelly v. Johnson (Marshall, J., dissenting). Moreover, the Supreme Court has recognized a constitutionally-derived right to control one's own body. (See, Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113, 93 S. Ct. 705, 35 L.Ed 147 (1973); Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479, 85 S.Ct. 1678. 14 L.Ed.2d 510 (1965)).

In recent cases a trend seems to have developed in the use of the phrase "gender of choice". As noted in the text, the use of the word "choice" is wholly inaccurate. The true transsexual has not chosen to be transsexual — he or she just is — and will not have made a conscious "choice" to be a transsexual any more than the heterosexual individual choses, during the early stages of sex differentiation, to be heterosexual.

Also, in recent years the use of the term "cross-dressing" has developed in cases pertaining to the transsexual. This term, when used to denote the manner in a which preoperative transsexual dresses, is inaccurate. The true transsexual does not "cross-dress," as to do so, from the view-point of the transsexual, would be to wear the clothing of "opposite" sex, i.e., the preoperative male-to-female transsexual, since "she" feels she is already female, wears the clothing "normally" associated with the female gender, and, hence is not, as such "cross-dressing;" however, she would be if she chose to wear clothing

"normally" associated with the male gender. The same, but opposite, would be true for the female-to-male preoperative transsexual.

A note of caution is warranted in conclusion. The preoperative transsexual who is presently, or considering, wearing the clothing normally associated with the individual's gender of reassignment should be cautioned to give some thought to the activities in which the person will be involved while dressed as a member of the gender of reassignment. If you are an individual who may be involved in prostitution, etc., you should be aware that to do so while so dressed opens you up to the possibility, more likely probability, of verbal and physical assaults by either the jail staff or other inmates or both. In many States it is commonplace for judges and their staffs to be unsympathetic to the plight of the preoperative transsexual who may be making a living from such activities.

If you feel it necessary to so dress while engaged in such activities you must realize the possible consequences for such actions. It is strongly advised that if you don't want to be the target for such assaults, you do not place yourself in situations which would tend to encourage abusive behavior toward you from those within the criminal justice system with whom you would come in contact.

COMPREHENSIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TRANSSEXUALISM

For a copy of the 69 page Bibliography of Transsexualism and Related Issues with references back to approximately 1966 and current as of 1983 send the coupon below and \$20.00 to Joanna M. Clark, 31815 Camino Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. Make check/money order payable to the Joanna M. Clark.

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SKIN CARE, BEARD COVER FOUNDATION and FACIAL MAKE-UP by Muriel Olive

Most men have heavy beards and a rather coarse skin. Daily shaving is very hard on the skin and care should be skin used by every man (whether he dresses or not). Many men, in all walks of life, have facials regularly.



Facials are not just for women and should be considered a must for everyone. People who live and work before the public — public relations of any kind, who want to look their best for their job, especially to maintain a more youthful or ageless look to insure longer employment and to always look attractive to friends and for other relationships, should certainly take good care of their skin by having regular facials even if it is done secretly by special appointment with a cosmetologist or skin care specialist — many of whom have men customers.

The skin is the **first** place to show a person's age and health status. All women know this and now, I'm passing it on to you.

Make-up covers a lot, but it doesn't cover wrinkles, bags under the eyes and large pores very well. It is as essential to take care of the skin from the inside with good nutrition as the outside with cleansing, toning and lubricating on a daily basis.

Skin care is essential under all make-up; especially if it is opaque and applied heavily enough to cover a heavy beard shadow or other skin flaws. All make-up is rough on the skin as it tends to clog the pores. The more facials one has the better the skin and the more perfect the make-up looks. Women's skin is not as coarse as men's, but they certainly do get wrinkles and have large pores and other flaws. As a rule, however, women's skin is much finer and make-up can cover her wrinkles and pores much better but, she still needs facials. So, if one wants to look like a woman one must do what a caring woman does.

Skin care can be broken down into three basic procedures on a daily routine:

1. cleansing. 2. toning. 3. lubricating.

CLEANSING: Use specially formulated preparations for the cleansing of the skin. Never use soap of any kind. On the occasions when you are wearing eye make-up, remove same with preparations specifically made for this purpose. (The most efficient and thorough is Revlon's 30 Second Eye Make-Up Remover). It's a good practice to follow this step with a liquid "soap" (as opposed to regular bar soap).

TONING: is meant to stimulate the circulation of the blood vessels, firm the skin's pores and create a bacteriostatic condition, as well as remove any remaining oil lingering on the skin's surface. Never use around eyes.

Toning the skin is essential. Regular skin care will also prevent excessive oiliness Excessive perspiration of the upper lip can be controlled by using an anti-perspirant in that area under the make-up. It is important to understand that "fresheners" are used on normal or dry skin while "astringents" are used on oily complexions. Also, the use of a freshener or astringent for an after-shave lotion is far more gentle than any after-shave preparation.

LUBRICATING: The purpose of this step is to condition the skin, and by this step, moisture as well as necessary oils are replenished. Moisturizer is used to conserve or replenish water content in the skin's cells. Many oily complexions suffer from surface dryness because of cell dehydration—although there may be an underlying excessiveness of oils; therefore, oily skins need moisturizing like any other complexion would.

At bedtime a fine-textured and light night cream should be used. Night creams function as restoratives — for while the body repairs itself during the night, the skin is repaired too. Night cream is a vital part of your skin care program and is as necessary to the oily skin as to the dry. Night creams also are made to augment the skin's natural oils and should be used very sparingly, with special attention to the area around the eyes and the throat.

Once a week your skin care program should include a deep-cleansing and conditioning. The various types of treatment pro-

ducts for the skin fundamentally are made to slough off dead cells clinging to the skin's surface and absorb the embedded debris, and finally to firm up the skin's structure. The steps must occur in their proper sequence:

- 1. cleanse. 2. steam. 3. exfoliate
- 4. re-surface. 5. tone. 6. lubricate.

STEAMING: is a very simple procedure which is done by allowing hot steam to bathe the face from a running tap or pan of hot water. When the face is heavily perspiring, the pores are open as widely as they can be, allowing all the impurities to be unlocked from deep within the pores. A wonderful way to enhance the activity of the steaming/sauna is to use Gaylord Hauser's "Swiss Kriss", following the simple directions. This is an herbal mixture which is very stimulating and theraputic.

EXFOLIATING: is generally done with a gritty or grainy product. Never use around the eyes. Be absolutely certain to work it around very gently and pay particular attention to the creases around the nose and the general T-zone (across the forehead and down the center of the face and around the chin).

RE-SURFACE: Both of this and the above heading are interchangeable. Because the sophistication of today's treatment preparations is such most of the available products — a huge array — tend to overlap in these two functions. To make your new skin treatment program easier, just think of re-surfacing and exfoliating as one step utilizing two separate products.

Masks will "re-surface" the skin (as the sloughing products do, also) better than any other preparation. They are available in various forms — peel-off types, clay, lotions, foams, etc. As a general rule-of-thumb peeling types are the most effective in removing completely dead cells, while the clay types are more efficient in absorbing the deep-down grime and impurities.

Lotions, creams and foams are more stimulating to the circulation. All are intended to make the walls of the pores more firm, therefore causing a tighter appearance to the skin and giving a smoother, firmer and softer surface and brighter, clearer translucence to the natural glow of the complexion.

A terrific opaque foundation that does a great job in transforming a bearded shadow area into a smooth illusionary transparent women's complexion is Covermark. This product was created by Lydia O'Leary to cover a hideous, flaming "port wine stain" birth mark covering all of one side of her face from chin to forehead. With the help of a chemist, after many experiments using a variety of ingredients she discovered the wonderful formula for a creamy foundation cream which would completely cover and disguise the disfiguring birth mark so no one could possibly detect it. Little did she realize she also discovered the perfect disguise for a dark grey "beard shadow" that would disfigure a woman's face if she were actually a man. Now, thanks to Lydia and her wonderful line of foundation cosmetics "his" skin can pass for "her" skin. It can be set with powder for a soft matte finish and is actually waterproof; does not rub off on clothing and will only come off entirely with makeup remover. So perfect for both fantasy and reality!

The Foundation

Pick two shades — one that matches the all over skin color and a lighter shade, perhaps 2 or 3 times lighter depending on the darkness of the "shadow".

Apply the lighter shade around the eye area, over the beard and mustache area and down the neck just enough cover the to shadow area. Blend the edges at the line of the skin.

Cover the rest of the face and the lighter areas with the darker shade and blend the two shades together using just enough foundation to cover and look natural. Too heavy an application will look artificial. If one has deep or enlarged pores a little heavier application should be made in that area, working the foundation down into the pores — heavy enough to make the skin smooth looking.

Cream Rouge

Find the cheek bone by placing the forefinger along the cheek at an angle to the eye area. Apply cream rouge in a wedge shape along the cheek bone with the widest part of the wedge nearest the hairline and the narrowest part of the wedge no farther forward than the back corner of the eye.



The rouge must be blended along the edges so it fades into the surrounding complexion tones and doesn't look painted on.

Contouring or Shading Cream

A much darker cream foundation is used for contouring the face, narrowing down jawlines, the forehead and the tip of the nose and for narrowing the width of the neck.



Apply as illustrated.

Blend at the edges so there is no line of demarcation. The jawline shading should connect softly at the edge of the rouge to create the illusion of a hollow cheek and narrower, feminine jawlines.

Remember: <u>Dark</u> <u>colors</u> <u>project</u> while <u>light</u> colors recede.

Highlights

Using a very light shade of foundation cream or a foundation cream in highlighter stick form, apply highlights (as shown in the sketch at the right) on forehead, under the back edge of eyebrows, the top of cheek bone



under back corner of the the eyes, front of cheeks at edge of rouge, a straight line down the center of the nose and one the chin.

Blend all edges softly (Covermark Stick is excellent for highlighting as well as for covering spots of touch-ups).

CHAPTER NEWS

NEW CHAPTER ACTIVE IN THE FORT WORTH/DALLAS AREA

We wish to extend a hearty "Welcome Aboard" to our newest Chapter the DFW-Metroplex Chapter.

Meetings will be held each Saturday, from 7:30 until "all hours" in Barbara's TV Boutique, a renovated Victorian house at 2620 Scott Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76103. In case you get lost the phone number is (817) 429-7313.

The first Saturday of each month will be the "major meeting", but chapter members are free to attend any and all meeting.

Parking near the meeting facility poses no problem. Changing facilities are available on premises for those unable to arrive dressed. And, there is a Ramada Inn half-ablock down the street where arrangements have been made for out-of-towners attending meetings to spend a hassle-free night or week-end if they wish.

Barbara has contacted the local police and received assurances there will be no problems from them so long as people conduct themselves in an orderly manner and things don't get out of hand.

Look for Barbara's ad on the inside back cover of future issues.

GALVESTON/HOUSTON AREA

The GH Chapter initial meeting of the Fall Season on Oct. 1st was a resounding success with people from as far away as San Antonio and Fort Worth and as near as Galveston in attendance to hear Alice report on the Eighth HBIGDA Symposium held at Bordeax, France.

Hopefully the large attendance of the first Fall Season meeting portends good things for the remainder of the year.

GGA Associates in the "hinterlands" of Texas who wish to start a Chapter in their area may contact Alice at 809 Church Street, Galveston, TX 77550 or call (409) 763-6227. Alice feels, and the GGA Board concurrs, there is a need for activity in other areas such as Lubbock, the Midland-Odessa area, San Antonio and El Paso.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SANTA ROSA CHAPTER

It hardly seems possible but the Santa Rosa Chapter celebrated its First Year Birthday — with cake and a party — on October 7th, 1983.

Congratulations Santa Rosa members.

MISS GGA, CHICAGO

The Miss GGA, Chicago talent/beauty pageant sponsored by the GGA Windy City Chapter was held in September.

Sharon, the Prex, has promised photos of the winner and runners-up as well as photos of the meeting in general. The photos and accompanying article, when received, will appear in the earliest possible issue. The winner's photo will appear on the back cover while the other photos will appear inside with the story. So, keep the old eyes peeled for this photo spread.



ADDRESSES IN THE CORRESPONDENT'S DIRECTORY

"Dear Georgia,

A question which perhaps you can clear up in a future issue of the Phoenix. I notice in the CD that several listings give only a street address, with no apartment number or any information to will assure delivery of the letter(s) to the correct place. I assume these might be single houses. Can you provide any clarification?

Confused"

Dear Confused,

I haven't the vaguest idea whether the houses are single, married or just living together. I can only tell you that any address listed in the CD is the same one to which our mail is directed and that until such time as mail is returned as UNDELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED we presume it is getting through the hostile lines of the Postal Service letter carriers.

AN ADVENTURE OF COURTNEY DAVIS

The "Adventure of Courtney Davis" section is a platform in which readers of the <u>Phoenix</u> may see their own humorous, dramatic, harrowing or just plain embarrassing stories. We have chosen the neuter-gender name "Courtney Davis" so both MTF and FTM readers will be more willing to tell their adventures under a cloak of anonymity. You need not identify yourself when sending us your story. So, come on! Let's hear yours.

Continued from last month Conclusion

Linda has been explaining to her older sisters, Avril and Bee, how she came to change from their brother Courtney, to her present womanly image and personage of Linda; the years as "Miz Luce" with a rock group; how she came to have custody of her small son, Two, born to Court's college room-mate Betty; her stage, televison, movie and night-club work. Avril is trying to convine Linda to return home with her and Bee and tell Court's parents they now have not only a grandson, but a daughter to replace the son they raised and loved.

"Linda, I know they'd accept you as Two's mother."

"Sure, but what would I tell them happened to their son? One look at me without these glasses and they'd know what happened to Court."

"That might be a difficult one to handle."

"Right. I don't want to lay a ton of guilt on them. You know how parents are. They think anything adverse that happens to their children is their fault."

"Why don't you go back with us? You've got the time and I know the folks would love seeing you and Two. He is, after all, Court's son."

"Are you out of your mind?"

"No. You and Two go back with us. Tell the folks the truth. It won't kill them."

"I don't think I'm strong enough to do that. It's one thing to tell you, but it's quite another to tell our parents I'm no longer the son they raised and loved but a stranger and a female stranger at that. No. I don't think I can. I'd love for Two to go back, but what would you tell them?"

"You mean about Court?"

"We could dream up something."

"Sure like he went off to war and got killed."

"No," Linda said strongly, "It's either the truth, well maybe a slightly diluted version of the truth, or nothing."

"Look," said Avril, "we've got a couple of days before we have to leave. Why don't we sleep on it and see what we can come up with?"

"All right. And while you're out here, you'll stay here with me. I've got seads of room and there's no point in you staying in a motel. What would Two think if his two new aunts don't stay here? I don't know about you two, but I'm ready for bed. My God, look at the time, it's almost four in the morning and I promised to take Two to Disneyland tomorrow."

When Linda and Two returned home about six from a day of rides and sight-seeing he was still bursting with energy and it was all Linda could do to keep up with her energetic nine year old. She poured herself a glass of wine, checked with Mavis about dinner and went to visit with her sisters on the sun deck. Where they were enjoying the view, the air and a cool drink.

During dinner Avril again brought up the question of Linda and Two going back with them for a week. Linda was still quite firm in her refusal to make the trip — and face her parents. Two, on the other hand, wanted to go. "Gee Mom, it would be great to meet Grandma and Grandpa. I've never even seen a grandparent. Or any of my cousins and stuff. Boy, that would be great."

"I know it would honey, but Grandma and Grandpa Davis don't know us from Adam and Eve and we can't expect them to take in strangers for a week. Can we?"

"Sure! Grandparents are supposed to

take us in. That's the way it works."

Linda smiled having, no argument for his logic.

The three women sat chatting after Two went to bed. Suddenly Linda asked "Did you rent the car you came here in?"

"Yes. At the hotel. We were planning to go to San Diego but came here instead."

"Look honey, there's no point spending money on that car when it's just going to sit out there for the next couple of days. If you need a car while you're here you can use one of mine. Come on, get your bag and keys and we'll take it to the airport and turn it in. Want to come Bee?"

"No, I think I'll sit here on the porch and just listen to the ocean. I can see why you love it here."

After returning the car Linda drove Avril to the main terminal. She parked in front of the entrance of the airline on which Avril and Bee were booked for their return flight. She got out, handed the keys to one of young men working the valet parking service saying "Don't park it too deep in the lot, we'll only be here a few minutes."

In the lobby she asked Avril for the tickets. At the counter she handed the tickets to one of the young women reservation clerks asking, "Do you have four first-class seats available on this flight?"

The young woman tapped a few keys on the display terminal and after the information she requested scrolled up on the screen she said, "Yes, we have first-class seats available."

"Fine. I'd like to turn in these two tickets in and buy four first-class."

"No problem." She made the necessary key entries to reserve the seats. "Aren't you Linda Daniels?"

"Yes."

"Would you autograph this for me?" She asked sliding a piece of paper across the counter.

"Of course." Linda signed the paper.

"Eight o'clock Saturday morning. Go directly to the VIP Lounge. The people there will take care of your baggage and see that you get on the plane without any trouble."

Once on the freeway Linda settled down for the return trip holding the

powerful little car at sixty. "No point in antagonizing the police. This little thing looks like it's speeding when it's parked." She reached over touching Avril's knee, "Relax Big Sister. Think of the picture we make. Two great looking blondes, speeding down the highway in a new convertible." Avril had to join her in laughter.

Back at the house Linda told Bee that she and Two would be joining them on the flight Saturday.

Avril called home arranging with Danni to pick them up at the airport. She didn't mention that Linda and Two would with them. Danni would drop Bee off at her house on the way from the airport and Bee and her family and Avril's family would come out to the farm Sunday — as they always did for Sunday dinner.

At the terminal they were ushered to the VIP Lounge and provided breakfast while they waited to board the airplane. As VIPs they boarded first. When the plane landed an airline employee boarded and came to where Linda was seated. "Miss Daniels?" she asked.

"Yes."

"I'm Helen Avery. Please let me have your baggage checks. I'll have the baggage picked up and taken to the front entrance for you. You and your party may wait in the VIP Lounge if you wish. Please follow me."

They followed Helen to the lounge and asked her to have Danielle paged to the lounge. Danni arrived in a few minutes, impressed by the treatment her big sisters were receiving, asked, "How do you two manage all this special treatment?"

Avril smiled, "Danni, it isn't for us it's for Linda. I'd like you to meet Linda Daniels and her son Courtney."

Linda, hiding behind her huge "owleye" glasses, smiled and kissed Danni on the cheek saying, "Hello Danni. This my son, Two." She turned to Two and said, "Two, this is your Aunt Danni."

"Hi." He said holding out his hand.

"Hi, yourself. God, you look just like your father. Where's Court?" She asked the three women.

"We'll talk about that later," Avril said. "Why don't you go get the car? We'll meet you out front."

They dropped Bee off in town at her office and started toward the farm. Danni said, "Pop's at the football game and won't

be home until about five. Mom's out at one of her bridge games and won't be home until who knows when. Linda, I hope you're ready to meet the horde."

"Horde?"

"Yes, the whole family. We have a reunion of both sides of the family every year on this Sunday. There'll be fifty people, at least, here tomorrow."

"Oh Lord, I forgot about that," Avril said. "I'm sorry Linda."

Shaken at the thought of seeing, and being seen, by all the relatives Linda smiled saying, "That's alright. Two will be able to meet all of this this side of his family at one time. He'll love that. Won't you baby?"

"Aw, Mom. Don't call me baby."

At the farm Linda gazed over the serene open fields and listened to the trees rustling in the soft breeze. Home! It was never so lovely as it was today. Danni took Linda and Two upstairs in the huge old house and gave him Court's old room saying, "This is your Dad's old room. He lived here until he went off to college. I'll bet there's a lot of neat boy stuff in here."

Linda unpacked Two's small suitcase placing the clothes in the antique dresser. Leaving a pair of jeans, an old shirt and a pair of old shoes out she suggested he change so he could go outside and see what a farm was really like. "You coming with, Mom?"

Ruffling his hair she said, "Of course. You get changed and we'll go for a hike."

She followed Danni into Bee's old room and unpacked her clothes while Danni sat on the bed. Linda stepped out of her skirt, removed her suit coat and blouse and attired only in panties and bra hung the traveling clothing away, then stepped into a pair of loose jeans, put on a plaid blouse and a comfortable pair of old loafers. "Well," she said, "I guess this will do for tramping around the farm."

"You don't look like a star," Danni said.

"Oh honey, thank you. After all, I'm really just a thirty year old housewife most of the time. I just happen to have a job which seems glamorous. Really, my job is one hell of a lot of work and long hours. Mostly it boring. We go to the sound stage and spend hours doing nothing until we're

on. Or, if it's a play we rehearse for weeks and the thing may bomb. It isn't all glamor. Mostly it dull and boring. But, television is a little better. Concerts are the greatest though. When I'm on, I'm on."

They spent the rest of the afternoon wandering around the farm; splashing in the creek after tiny fish; picking a few wild berries to munch; watching the birds in the woods; visiting the animals. Two loved climbing the hay mow ladder and dropping through the air onto the piles of straw. They collected a dozen or so eggs from the hen house and were just walking toward the house when Grandpa's car turned into the drive. Danni waved, calling, "Hi Dad." As he got out of the car and walked toward them Linda watched as he recognized the little boy beside her as his own son at the same age so many years ago.

"Go introduce yourself to Grandpa." she said to her son and watched as Two ran to his grandfather. They were just out of earshot but Linda saw Two hold out his hand and Grandpa shake it. Then she saw her father kneel beside the little boy and hug him. She felt tears welling up in her eyes at the sight of her father and son chatting on the lawn of her childhood home. She turned and walked into the kitchen to busy herself with something while she recovered from the bout of nostalgia.

Linda was making Two a sandwich when he and his grandfather walked in. Her father crossed the room to her and said, "So, you're Little Court's mother. I'm happy to meet you."

"Thank you, but we don't call him 'Little Court' we call him 'Two'. May I make you something?"

"Coffee's fine. I'll eat later. Now, tell me about my son," he said sitting down at the kitchen table, waiting while Linda poured and served his coffee.

"Later Pop. When Mom gets home," Avril said.

When Mom got home they were all in the living-room watching an old movie on television "Hi everyone," She called as she passed by the enterance to the living-room on her way to the kitchen. "I see Avril got back. What time will — Oh my God!" She said catching sight of the little boy seated on the floor near his mother. Linda stood, watching her mother cross the room and

hug the little boy to her. She looked at Linda and then Avril. "Avril?" she asked.

"Mother, this is Linda Daniels. The boy's mother. Obviously Court was the father. We'll explain later. Now, why don't I make you a cup of tea."

"How about you little boy? Would you like some tea and a cookie?"

"Sure. I'd rather have milk though."

While Linda was putting Two to bed after supper - it was always supper on the farm with dinner at noon, Grandma and Grandpa Davis and Avril were seated around the kitchen table with their ever present cup of tea.

"I suppose I should start this," Avril said. "Mother, Dad, I know you're bursting with questions but let me get what I have to say out of the way first and then let Linda tell her side.

"Bee and I found Linda and Two quite by accident. You know one of the things we wanted to do while we were on the coast was try and find someone who might know where Court was or at least what happened to him." She went on to recount how she and Bee had found Linda and Two. While she was talking Linda entered the kitchen, poured a cup of tea and took a place at the table.

Finished Avril turned to Linda, asking, "Linda?"

Linda, still in the plaid blouse, but with her hair tightly drawn back in a single long braid crowning her head said, "I'm going to tell you what happened to your son. When I'm done you'll understand why we never married and you'll also understand why I have custody of Two and, of course, why I love him so much. Now," she paused to light a cigarette and remove the huge glasses covering so much of her face. Her mother interrupted with, "My God you're Court."

"No Mother. Not any more. I'm Linda Daniels. Please, let me continue. As I was saying, if you feel I'll make the reunion tomorrow awkward for you or anyone else, I'll understand and make it a point not to be here although I would like Two to be here and meet all his relatives. Originally I'd to stay a week, but if my being here makes you uncomfortable, I'll leave sooner. Tomorrow in fact. Avril or you can put Two on the flight back and I'll meet him on the other end. Now, let me get started

while I still can."

Linda began telling them of the events that lead to her presence and Court's disappearence. Linda talked for the next four hours telling them of Court's high spots and his low ones. Occasionally laughter filled the room; occasionally tears dropped onto the table. Avril, acting as hostess and dutiful daughter refilled the cups several times as they absently consumed the tea.

When Linda finally completed her story her mother took her hand, squeezed it saying, "Of course you'll stay. You'll have to give your father and I a little time to get used to having a new daughter." Looking Avril she asked, "Does Danni know?"

"No Mother," Avril responded, "we expected to tell all of you at once, but Danni's out with Jim. Do you think anyone will recognize Linda tomorrow?"

"Not as Court. I'm sure some will recognize her from television or maybe the movies. I suspect the men will be too distracted looking at her to recognize her. And the women will be busy worrying about looking like her. Besides, with those huge glasses and not having seen the face for so long I doubt anyone will realize who Linda is or rather was. What do you think Charles?" She looked at her husband.

"If I weren't her father I wouldn't have recognize her with those glasses. I mean, she looked familiar but I never thought she was my daughter. Although she does resemble the other girls."

"Good. We'll simply introduce her as Linda, our grandson's mother. Naturally everyone knows we have a son so they'll assume she's our daughter-in-law. Some of the old dames I play bridge with may know her from television or movies. Well, we'll see what happens at church tomorrow morning."

Sunday, after church, a proud Grandpa introduced his only son's son to his many friends while Grandma introduced Linda as Two's mother and of course let the fact that she was a movie star drop easily to her friends.

Linda and Two left for home at the end of the week with the promise that she and Two would return for Christmas and that Two could spend a few weeks at the farm during the summer if he wished.



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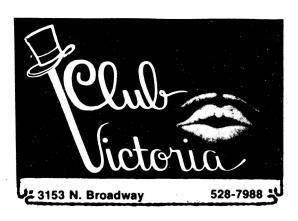
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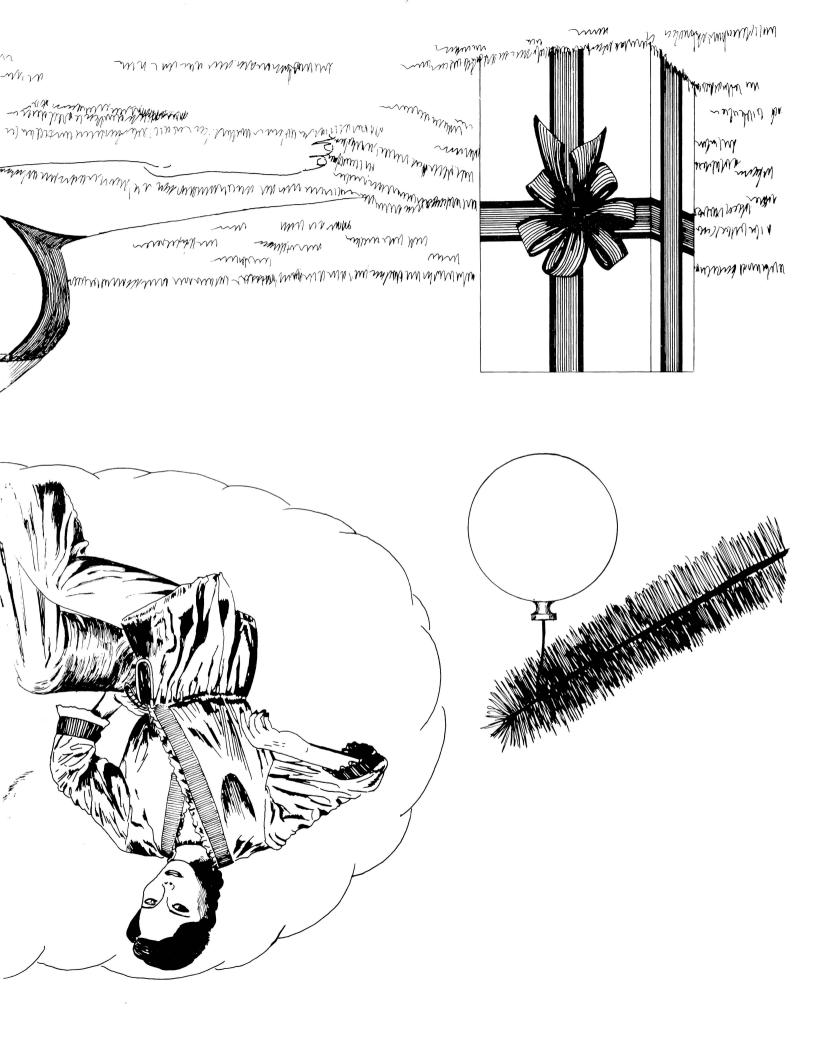
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