

## It's Always the Little Things

By Cheryl Lynn

In retrospect, why is it always the little things you failed to do or identify at the time that brought you to where you are today? There are a lot of major decisions made during a life time. Some are very good and some very bad. Looking back at the very bad, it was some little thing you overlooked that made the decision unwise.

Robert Martin

Robert Martin was five foot six with shoulder length brown hair worn in a low ponytail. Robert lived with his widowed mother and older sister near the Haight-Ashbury district in San Francisco. In 1963 the Hippie generation was just beginning and he wanted to be a part of it. His mother and sister both hated his long hair long hair but tolerated it. Otherwise he was a typical teenager with a fondness for practical jokes. His decision to put itching powder in his older sister's panty drawer was a very bad one. Janet, his older sister by two years had a very bad reaction to the powder. Their mother, June, had to take Janet to the hospital. When they came back home, both women were beyond furious. Janet because of the humiliation of having her intimate area inflamed and examined by the emergency room doctor. June because it was expensive and ate up a good portion of her monthly budget.

"Robert Martin get your sorry butt down here immediately," June screamed on arriving home.

June only used his full name when he was in deep dodo. For a moment, Robert considered just locking his door with the hope she would calm down. When he heard her scream out his name a second time, decided to comply.

"She sounds really mad. It was just a darn joke. I didn't know Janet would have to go to the hospital. Guess I'd better go and face the music and apologize. If I sound sincere enough that should cool her down," he thought.

"Robert what the hell has gotten into you. For the past year you have been nothing but trouble. You've been expelled from school five times this year. Once for fighting and four times for your stupid jokes. Principal Edgar threatened to permanently expel you after that last one you pulled. I can't imagine why on earth you thought putting shrimp in her hubcaps was funny. I had to reimburse her for the expense of a mechanic to find out what made that horrible smell. You know we have a limited budget. Now this! Have you any idea how much your stupid joke traumatized your sister? I've had it with you! Go to your room and forget about supper. I'll have to think about a proper punishment. This isn't over yet," June reprimanded.

"Mom, I'm really sorry. I didn't know she would have to go to the hospital. I swear I'll never do that again. Janet, I'm...", he started but interrupted by his mother.

"No more! I've had it with your lame excuses and irresponsibility. I said go to your room!" June commanded.

"She's really pissed," he thought heading back to his room.

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The next day while having lunch with some of her co-workers asked for advice. A good spanking was the majority recommendation. Evelyn's idea of petticoat punishment was shocking. She explained that her mother had done that to her brother making him a much nicer person.

**“He was so embarrassed having to wear a dress, he didn’t dare go out of the house or not do what either I or Mother said. The very idea of Mother taking him outside wearing one of my dresses really changed his attitude. I’ll admit with his short hair he did look ridiculous but it worked. I missed it when mother gave him back his pants though. It was nice having someone do my chores for me,” Evelyn explained.**

**“I’ve given him plenty of spankings but their effect didn’t last long,” June said. “Evelyn’s idea though sounds interesting. Robert would positively hate that. I’ll have to give that some thought.”**

**On the way home June stopped at the library and found some books about petticoat punishment. Based on her readings, she discovered that it had been a recommended practice in England during the 1800’s. Apparently, some of the boys punished liked it so much they never went back to wearing pants. Then there were occasions when the mother decided to have a daughter was better than an unruly son and kept him in full female regalia. The texts added that boys receiving such punishment were always behaved and obedient afterwards.**

**“Even the unruliest boy, after a short time in tight corsetry will become well-mannered and obedient,” she read then thought, “I’m going to do this but he has his father’s stubbornness. Too bad corsets have pretty much gone out of style and expensive. That would be the thing to break that stubborn streak he has. It’s going to take more than just wearing a dress to make him change. It’s a good thing he’s almost Janet’s size. I have a lot of her old clothing stored in the attic. I’m going to have to tell June about this. I’ll need her help for this to work,” she thought.**

**“Wow mother, you’re serious about this. I can tell from the expression on your face. Sure, I’ll be more than happy to help. It will be a pleasure after all he’s done to me over the past two years; especially after this last one. When do we start and how long are we going to do this?” she replied enthusiastically.**

**“We start next week. School’s out for the summer. As far as how long, I haven’t decided yet. He’s stubborn so it may take all summer. Definitely until his whole attitude changes for the better. Let’s go up into the attic and sort through your old clothing,” she answered.**

**“Oh he’s going to absolutely hate this but I’m going to love every minute of it. You know mother now that I think about it, if you’re going to do this over the summer, it could be very embarrassing for all of us. You know my friends are going to be coming over. I’d wouldn’t like it if they found out I had a sissy brother though. What if they stop being my friends? That and you can’t keep him inside the house all the time. What will the neighbors say?” June said as they headed to the attic.**

**“I hadn’t thought about that. It’s not likely you can keep your friends from coming over either. It would be only a matter of time before they found out. The same goes for his friends popping in. I want to teach him a strong lasting lesson not totally humiliate him or us. You’re right about not keeping him in the house too. Mrs. Benson across the street would make sure everyone in the neighborhood found out. She’s been a pain in my backside for years. Guess we need to find another way to punish Robert,” she answered with a sigh.**

**“Maybe not. His hair is more than long enough and other than a hairy lip doesn’t have much facial hair. With a little work, I think he could make a passable girl. We could say Robert won a free summer camp to explain his absence. That would keep his friends from coming over. As far as another girl showing up, we..we could...yeah, Robert could be a relative coming to visit for the summer. Your sister in New York has a**

daughter, Amanda? She could be visiting for the summer. We won't have to do much. You know like dying his hair and teaching him how to act like a girl," June said after a little thought.

"Darling I think that will do perfectly. For once I'm happy he let his hair grow out. However I must go to work, so it will be your responsibility to teach him all about being a girl. You think you can do that?" Janet said smiling broadly.

"That's a no brainer Mother. I'm sure I can handle him and he will do what I say," Janet replied. "I'm going to get my revenge. I'll teach him not to mess with me. He likes to play mean jokes maybe he'll like this one I play on him," she thought.

##

Robert's school let out for the summer on Friday and he was looking forward to going to summer camp. His mother told him she had won an exclusive trip to a fancy summer camp for the entire summer. Said she won it in a radio contest and gave the prize to him. It had to be a great trip as it was located on the Monterey Peninsula so there had to be surfing and other great water sports. He made sure to rub it in the faces of all his friends.

Saturday morning Robert woke up to a rude awakening. His mother and sister came into his bedroom as the sun was coming up. Janet gave his upturned butt a sound swat with her belt waking him up.

"What the....what was that for and why so early?" he complained loudly turning over in the bed.

"That's enough! Today you will begin your punishment for what you did to your sister and getting expelled so many times this past school year. Now get out of bed, we have your morning bath ready," Janet stated swinging the belt in front of her.

Robert was addled but seeing the unvoiced threat of the belt, got out of bed.

"Punishment? That was over a week ago. So why punish me now? Did she say bath? I'm still sleepy and must have heard wrong," he thought.

"All right already. I'm up. Just don't hit me with that belt again," he said.

"If you behave and do everything we say, I won't.... but you defy us, I promise you won't sit for a week," she responded.

Robert was surprised when they followed him into the bathroom across the hall. "Hey, give me some privacy here," he said only to feel the sting of his mother's belt on his thigh.

"You need to learn a whole new morning routine and we're here to teach you. Now strip!" June demanded.

Sitting to pee was embarrassing but having to take some tissue and wipe demeaning. Wiping was unnecessary and affront to his masculinity. That was the least of the injuries to his ego that morning. Having his body hair shaved off, his mother trimming then shaping his pubes into a small inverted triangle mortifying. Wearing a ruffled pink shower cap in a very floral smelling bubble bath while his mother bathed him, humiliating. Having his sister watching, giggling unbearable.

By the time his morning routine in the bath ended, a notch had been carved out of Robert's ego. Blushing, he was led naked except for the pink towel turban covering his shampooed hair to his mother's bedroom. There a much bigger notch was sliced out of what male ego was left. What he would be wearing was laid out on the king-sized bed.

**“Time to get you dressed,” his mother said picking up a pair of sheer emerald green full cut nylon panties. “Janet while I’m helping your brother get ready, why don’t you begin doing what we talked about earlier.”**

**“Wha....what? You don’t expect me to wear those. Those are girl’s clothes. Is this some kind of joke you’re pulling on me?” Robert gasped in fear.**

**“Of course I do and a lot more to boot. It’s no sick practical joke like the ones you’re always doing. This is going to be a very real experience for you. I’ve decided that you will be my niece, Amanda Blythe Jordan until such time you learn to be a better, kinder person. As of today, you will happily do whatever I or your sister tell you. I don’t want to humiliate you but teach you a life lesson. That’s why I told you that you had won a free summer camp. None of your friends will be coming by now and won’t know how you spent your summer. When June’s girlfriends visit and if, you behave properly they won’t know either. You will be wearing girl’s clothing no matter what. So, unless you want this to turn into a horrible practical joke, better do your best to act and behave like one. You either do this the right way or everyone will soon know that you’re my son in a dress. Now put these on,” she explained.**

**“Okay, okay. I’ve learned my lesson. I swear I won’t do any more practical jokes and truly sorry for what I did to Janet. I’ll behave, I swear. Can I go to my room and get dressed now?” he responded hoping to end this nightmare.**

**“Didn’t you hear anything I just said? This is no joke and you will be wearing dresses and lingerie until I decide otherwise. You can try to fight me on this but you will be my niece never-the-less. Like I said, you look and behave like a girl or everyone will know the truth. What do you think your friends will say when they find out? Now put these on!” June said angrily handing him the panties.**

**In shock, Robert fingered the material in his hands. It was so alien to his senses and something no boy would wear. Slowly he stepped into them, drawing them up his hairless legs and snapped the thin waistband in place. His mind numb as his mother slid the matching bullet bra around his chest and adjusted the straps. It was a 32-B with spiral stitched pointed cups. She then inserted two pink satin pads filling out the cups. A green panty girdle with sparkling emerald green with silver floral patterned embroidery diamond panel was next. A pair of semi-sheer ecru hose were kneaded up his legs and attached to the girdle’s garter tabs. A shimmering emerald green camisole with delicate lace at the bodice and hem followed by the matching half-slip with three inches of floral lace hemming. A pair of white patent leather sandals with a slightly raised heel and rhinestone decoration were put on his feet.**

**During the entire process Robert’s mind was trying to cope with his new reality. Each new alien sensation coming from the bra, panty girdle and hosiery, felt like a knife slicing through his masculine image and ego. Seeing his reflection as his mother helped him dress was even more destructive to his sense of self.**

**“Mom, please, I’ve learned my lesson. No more. This isn’t right,” he plead.**

**“That’s Auntie to you Amanda Blythe! Don’t forget that and no, not until your actions speak louder than your words. Go sit at my vanity. It’s time to begin teaching AMANDA how to apply HER makeup,” she retorted stressing his new name and gender.**

**Sitting at the vanity Janet removed the turban and combed out his long hair. “You know I hated your long hair but now I’m happy. It will make things so much easier now,” she said picking up a bristle curler from the vanity.**

**“What are you doing?” he blurted as she began rolling it up to his scalp and pinning it in place.**

**“Just putting some curl in your hair Amanda. I would love to get you a perm but not today. Later I’m taking you to my beauty shop and having it dyed. I’m thinking auburn or maybe strawberry blond. You know, something totally different than your natural brown color. Quite squirming and let me get this done,” June stated.**

**With Robert’s hair covered in rollers, Janet began applying makeup after she neatened up his brows. She told him what kind of makeup and its purpose as she proceeded. Foundation to conceal blemishes, powder to set it, green eyeshadow to highlight the eyes along with black mascara, eyeliner and eyebrow pencil. June finished with a bright red glistening lipstick.**

**“Janet will be teaching you how to do this yourself. If you don’t want anybody to discover who you are better pay close attention. Girls your age should always be wearing makeup from the time they leave their room in the morning until they take it off before bed. Okay, now you’re ready to put on your crinolines and dress,” she informed him.**

**She had Robert step into two white stiff net petticoats with nylon yokes then helped him with his dress. It was a green and white checked gingham full skirted knee length. The white collar was wide and rounded. The three quarter short sleeves had white cuffs and it zipped up the back. Fully dressed it was time to remove the curlers.**

**At the vanity stool June told him how to brush his hands behind the skirt, then slowly sit, not plop down and to keep his knees pressed together. Checking his hair decided it was still too damp. Taking a white with blue flower imprinted dryer bonnet placed it carefully over his hair and turned on the portable dryer.**

**“I can’t believe they’re doing this to me. With all this gunk on my face and dressed this way I look like some stupid girl. Why? I’ve told her a dozen times I was sorry. I don’t want to look like this or learn to act like a girl. I even cried when she started putting this stuff on my face. I never cry. All I got was a stinging slap to my thigh from her belt. I can only hope this is a onetime thing,” he thought as the hair drier did its work.**

**His head was becoming uncomfortably hot when his mother turned off the dryer and removed the bonnet. It didn’t take her long to remove the curlers and begin brushing it out. Getting a pair of scissors, parted the hair across his forehead and cut it into cute bangs. With a final brushing his hair flowed in gentle waves down to his shoulders.**

**“There all we need are a few accessories and we’re ready to go to my salon,” she said clipping a pair of round green earrings on his ear lobes and a white and green block bracelet for his right wrist.**

**“Wha....what? You’re not taking me out of the house looking like this!” he said shocked at the very idea of going outside.**

**“Well Amanda, I could try to do it here but it might come out pink or some other weird color. Home coloring kits aren’t that reliable. Or, we can let a professional do it. It’s your choice dear but look into the mirror first. I see a pretty young lady there that if she keeps her mouth shut and her knees together won’t be mistaken for a boy in a dress. In any case, you’re getting your hair colored today,” she calmly replied.**

**“Why do I have to have it colored? I like the color of my hair as it is,” he pouted.**

**“Robert has brown hair. If you want to make sure you’re not discovered, coloring your hair will be a big help. Even with makeup I would know who you are if I really looked. Changing it into something totally different, people won’t look as closely at your face and see Robert hiding there. So what’s it going to be?” she answered.**

**##**

Robert was scared and nervous as his mother pulled into The Cut and Curl beauty salon's parking lot. "Okay we're here Amanda. Now it's important that you always respond when you hear that name. Remember to keep your knees together. If you must say anything, do it in a whisper. I'll tell them you have laryngitis. One other thing, keep a happy smile on your face and there won't be any problems," Janet cautioned him.

The Cut and Curl was a typical 1960's women's beauty salon but to Robert looked more like a medieval torture dungeon. As soon as he walked into the salon the smell hit him like a punch. Ammonia, acetone, mixed with perfume with an overtone of burnt hair. Then there were the big metal domed hairdryers, barber chairs and wash basins. There were no men in the place just women. For several moments he just stood there frozen in place, scared to death.

"Don't dawdle Amanda," his mother whispered taking his arm. "You'll draw unwanted attention."

"Hi there, I'm June Martin and this is my niece Amanda. We have an appointment to get her hair colored and styled," she greeted the receptionist.

Almost three hours later they left the salon with Robert's hair strawberry blond, styled in a big hair tucked under page boy. His finger and toe nails varnished a very vivid red. The heavy peach fuzz on his upper lip waxed away and his brows tweezed into high arches. He did manage to keep a smile on his face and only forgot to keep his knees pressed tight while getting a pedicure. That quickly got a rebuke from his mother while she explained Amanda was coming out of her tomboy phase.

"Amanda if you must spread your feet then do it from the knees dear," she admonished then turning to the pedicurist added, "Amanda is my niece visiting for the summer. She's grown up with three brothers and is coming out of her tomboy phase. I'm doing my best to teach her more lady like ways."

"Mom," he started to complain when back in the car but stopped.

"That's Auntie! Amanda is my niece until I say otherwise. Don't forget that if you want to keep your secret," she hissed.

Back at the house Robert had another big surprise. It was his room but not. Janet had completely rearranged it. His closet was filled with dresses, blouses, skirts and shoes. His dresser overflowing with panties, bras, slips, girdles and garter belts. The only drawer not filled contained some girls socks and a few pairs of hosiery. On top of the dresser was a large bowl of fragrant potpourri. Gone were his posters, books and anything boyish. In their place were a poster that came with one of June's romance novels, a cork board with some of her girly keepsakes tacked on, several dolls were on his book shelf. His bed was different with pink sheets and a white pillowed satin spread. Sitting by the pillow was a large Raggedy Ann doll. His bedside table was covered with a white lace doily and a princess lamp with a pink shade.

Robert stood in the middle of his room stunned and upset by what his sister did while he was gone. "Isn't it enough you got me looking and dressing like a girl? Can't I least get my room back?" he begged as tears began to flow.

"Amanda, do you honestly believe Robert's old room would help you keep your secret? Eventually you'll be having your girlfriends over and Janet's will see it as well," his mother asked.

"Like I'll ever have a girlfriend looking like this," he wailed tears falling down his cheeks.

**“Stop being a drama queen dear. Of course in time you will have a lot of girlfriends, just like your cousin Janet. You will not be confined to the house Amanda. I expect you to do what all girls your age do during the summer. You will go to the pool with Janet, out shopping and such. You will be with a lot of other girls, so you best pay close attention to what Janet teaches you.”**

**“That’s not the kind of girlfriends I want an...and I’m no...not going out of the house,” he sobbed.**

**“You only have yourself to blame for that and you’ll be going out! Now dry those tears. Janet is waiting to teach you how to be a young lady in the living room,” June stated going to his closet and removing a pair of white leather pumps with a two-inch spike heel. “Here, take these,” she added handing them to him.**

**##**

**“So, how does it feel to be the butt of a practical joke AMANDA?” Janet said stressing the name and grinning ear to ear.**

**“It’s not funny. Look sis, you and mom have had your fun and I’m sorry about putting that powder in your panty drawer. You’ve got to believe me. I didn’t know you’d have to go to the hospital. I swear! Please forgive me and tell mom to stop this. I’m your brother,” he plead fresh tears beginning to flow.**

**“You think for one minute I believe anything you say? After all the mean things you’ve done to me? Now that is a joke. Stop crying! You’ve already run your mascara and look like a raccoon. Momma has given me permission to do whatever I must to make you presentable. You better pay attention and learn real fast. My friends will be coming over. Unless you want them to discover you’re not an Amanda but a sissy Robert, you’d better listen and do what I say. Now put those heels on. The first thing you’re going to learn is how to walk in them,” she stated.**

**By supper Robert was miserable and his feet, ankles and calves aching. Even then his lessons didn’t stop. “Back straight,” “Keep those knees together,” “Take smaller bites,” “Don’t use your lips to eat. You will smear your lipstick,” and similar instructions made eating a chore. Seeing his red lip imprint on his water glass disconcerting.**

**There was no respite for Robert after the meal. For the first time in his life required to help clear the table and clean the kitchen. Then back to the living room for more feminine instruction. He was greatly relieved when at nine June came in and said it was time for him to go to bed. All he wanted to do was get out of these horrible clothes and plop into bed. Another jolt as he was taught a night time beauty ritual and more humiliation.**

**He actually enjoyed the fragrant bubble bath though he wouldn’t admit it. Seeing the red indentations left by the bra and girdle bothersome. Having to brush his hair one hundred strokes then putting several large bristle curlers to keep the under curl and a frilly bonnet aggravating. Putting a bra back on, and a baby doll nightie with his mother and sister watching humiliating.**

**“Auntie,” he began as over the evening corrected enough to remember, “Please, at least let me wear my regular pajamas?” he asked looking at the ultra-feminine baby doll.**

**The nightie was double layered, thigh length with a nylon under layer of dark chocolate and overskirt of crème chiffon. The rounded neckline had a wide white floral lace applique and an even wider band hemming the flare skirt. The full cut panties were**

dark chocolate nylon with six rows of ruffled white lace on the back.

“Amanda every girl your age would love to wear that nightie and you will be no exception. Now get it through that thick head of yours that you’re a girl until I say otherwise. Get into bed. It’s been a long day,” June replied.

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June woke Robert early the next morning. “It’s Sunday. Why so early?” he said still groggy from a bad night’s sleep. Between the bra tugging at his chest and the nightie riding up he was constantly reminded of his situation. When sleep finally came it was filled with nightmares. Nightmares where his friends recognized him and different humiliations they would heap on him or worse.

“We’re going to church at eleven and there’s little enough time to get you ready Amanda. Once you can groom and dress yourself, you can sleep a bit more,” she replied.

“Church? I don’t go there. It’s just you and Janet. Besides, I can dress myself,” he answered shocked.

“Yes, I said church and unless you can apply your own makeup and pick out a proper dress, you need my help,” she said.

“Please tell me this is just another bad joke. You can’t really expect me to go out in public dressed like a girl?” he asked terrified by the thought.

“Amanda, we are going to church! Now get out of bed or do I have to get my belt?” she snapped.

“But mom,” he started to protest but she held up her hand with a very determined look on her face.

“Err...Auntie everyone will know I’m not a girl,” he finished.

“Like yesterday at the salon, don’t talk. Remember you have a bad case of laryngitis. If you remember your lessons from last night and behave, no one will guess. Now for the last time get out of bed,” she replied getting angry.

As he slid out of bed his nightie rose above his waist. He wasn’t aware that his morning woodie stood out rampant. From her position, June couldn’t help but see it.

“From the looks of it, I think someone loves her new panties,” she said with a giggle.

Robert looked down and turned red. He quickly pulled the nightie down but a bulge was still obvious. He thrust a hand down to his groin blushing harder. “This is so embarrassing,” he thought following his mother to the bathroom. “It’s not what you think. I...I...it’s like this every morning. I hate what you’re making me do,” he said to her back.

June stopped, turned to face him and looked down. With a sly smile said, “If you say so dear.”

“Oh gawd, how can things get any worse,” he thought.

##

As they entered the church, Robert felt like ants were crawling on his skin. He was wearing a powder pink wool blend sleeveless knee-length sheath dress, white cotton gloves, sheer ecru nylons, white leather pumps and a white wicker box hat with short veil. For accessories, a single thin gold chain with cross pendant, his sisters old charm bracelet, white plastic button clip-on earrings and carried a white wicker box purse. It was a major blow to his masculine pride seeing himself fully dressed wearing

makeup in the full-length mirror before they left. It was the image of a young teenage girl. The clip-on earrings hurt his lobes but the white long-line girdle and matching bullet bra were eating away at his ego. They were a constant reminder of his situation.

“I really look like a girl but I know I’m a guy. How can I look so convincing? I shouldn’t look like this,” he thought.

After the service June took the time to introduce Amanda as her visiting niece. “You’ll have to forgive her for not responding. Poor Amanda has a very bad case of laryngitis. She’ll be here for the summer though. She’s two years younger than my Janet and wanted to introduce her to some girls her age,” she told them.

“Oh no! This can’t be happening,” his mind screamed while doing his best to smile as instructed.

Three girls about his age were standing in front of him. “Hi Amanda, I’m Leslie. This is Betty and Sue,” Leslie said in a preppy voice. “I’m sure we can become best friends and can have lots of fun showing you around during the summer. We’re having a pool party over at my place this afternoon. If you don’t have other plans would be glad if you could come over.”

“That’s very nice of you Leslie but until Amanda gets over her laryngitis, we’ll take a rain check. Maybe in a week or two,” Janet replied easing Robert’s growing panic.

“Okay. You have my number Mrs. Martin. Just give me a call when Amanda’s feeling better. Bye Amanda, it was nice to meet you. I can tell we’re going to be great friends,” Leslie replied smiling brightly.

Janet couldn’t stop giggling as they walked to the car. “Oh, Amanda you and Leslie are going to be such great friends. She’s such a girly-girl you can learn a lot from her,” she teased.

“Shut up Janet! Mo..Auntie why did you humiliate me like this. I wouldn’t last two minutes with those girls,” he complained.

“Amanda, like I said before, you will not stay cooped up in the house all summer. Those are very nice girls unlike those delinquents you hang out with in school. You have two weeks to get your act together before I call Leslie and invite her over along with her friends. Understand? As soon as we get home it will be practice, practice if you don’t want them to find out,” June stated then turned her attention to Janet, “Don’t tease your cousin and you, Amanda, will do everything Janet tells you when I go to work. Is that understood?”

With that hanging over his head and his mother’s threat, Robert could only do one thing, “Yes Auntie, I’ll try.”

“You’ll have to do better than just try young lady,” Janet snapped. “You will be having your new girlfriends over or going to that pool party in two weeks.”

It was a grueling two weeks for Robert as he was put through the process of becoming a girl. When he wasn’t practicing mannerisms and poise, Janet had him reading teen girl magazines and romance novels. He was required to read them aloud using a softer higher pitched voice. Once he had the right resonance and tonal quality to her satisfaction, made him use it all the time. She spent two hours every morning teaching him all about cosmetics, their uses and how to apply them. Being young Robert didn’t need a lot of makeup and by the end of the week could do it himself. Learning to walk and hold his arms and hands in a feminine manner still needed work. She wanted him to do it without having to think. Reacting like a young girl was harder and using their

vocabulary even harder. A lot of times he broke out in tears of frustration and anger at being transformed. Janet was a tough taskmaster and used a leather belt to get his full attention. His mother wasn't any easier on him when she got home from work. June used her limited time with Robert teaching him about women's apparel, how to coordinate his clothing and how to dress for different occasions. The only good thing for Robert was that he was so exhausted he slept like a baby most nights.

That next Sunday June and Janet were pleased enough with Robert's feminine voice. June told him that he had to speak as necessary. "Amanda this morning if we meet anyone or your new friend Leslie, I expect you to make the proper reply. Speak just above a whisper as you're still recuperating."

Robert was a little more confident but still anxious as they entered the church. He wasn't happy about the clothing his mother put out for him today. It was a baby blue lightweight cotton A-line with short puffed sleeves trimmed in a frill of white floral lace. It had a sweetheart neckline and knee-length flare skirt. The skirt was held out by four white net petticoats. For undergarments wore a blue bullet bra which gave the bodice of the dress a crisp V, blue panty girdle, blue lace frilled half-slip and nude nylons. He wore the same white pumps, carried the same purse and wore the same box hat as before. The only change in his jewelry were the blue clip-on earrings.

He was introduced to some more people after the service. He remembered his lessons, kept a smile on his face and just above a whisper made the "pleased to meet you" response. Of course, June had to explain the whisper and that Amanda was her niece visiting for the summer.

"Crud! Now even more people know me as Amanda. Dang, here comes Leslie and her friends. I don't want to be around them though I wouldn't mind dating Leslie. Fat chance of that ever happening," he thought.

As the three girls approached Janet leaned down and whispered in his ear, "Remember act really happy to see them. Make sure you compliment them on how pretty they're dresses are or you like their hair. It's expected behavior and if you don't, they just might suspect your secret," she cautioned.

"Hello Mrs. Martin and Amanda," the three girls said at almost the same time then giggled.

"Hello girls. It's nice to see you too," June said.

"Hi," Robert replied in a whisper.

"Oh, you're getting your voice back," squealed Leslie with a broad smile.

"Yes, some of it's back anyway. That's a pretty dress you have on Leslie, I love your hair with that cute ribbon Betty and Sue that pearl bracelet is to die for," Robert whispered remembering some of the girly responses Janet had drilled into him.

"You have to remember Amanda girls use a more expressive vocabulary than guys. The seldom ever say the word nice or like. Instead they use cute, precious, lovely and darling to describe something. If they really like something they will say to die for," were just some of what she drilled into him.

In turn the girls complimented him. Then Leslie piped up, "Look I'm having another pool party this coming Sunday after church. Promise you'll come then."

The absolute last place Robert wanted to be but before he could say anything June said, "Of course she will be delighted to go."

Robert saw the look his mother gave him and knew he had no choice but to respond

happily. "Oh, thank you. I would love to come next Sunday," he said while clapping his hands with a little skip and smiling ear to ear.

They chatted a bit longer until Janet said it was time to go find June and head home. Once the girls couldn't hear, he complained, "Auntie, please don't make me go. I can't be around a bunch of girls."

"Nonsense Amanda. You'll do just fine if you remember your lessons and the articles in those magazines you've been reading. Besides it gives you another week to perfect your mannerisms and voice. Look there's Janet," June said.

Janet was with two other girls and three boys when they approached. "Hi momma. You know my girlfriends Jo and Brenda but this is Roy, David and Michael. Guys, this is my mother and my cousin Amanda."

"Nice to meet you boys. I hate to break this up but Janet we have to go," June stated.

"Okay momma but can Becky and Brenda come over later. We haven't had a chance to get together all week," Janet replied.

June started to say not today but Janet had worked so hard all week teaching Amanda relented. "Sure, why not. Just for a few hours, okay darling?"

As all this was going on Robert was getting very uncomfortable. He didn't like the way the boys were looking at him. "They're gonna see I'm a guy wearing a dress," he thought. If he had known what they were really thinking, would have been hysterical. Amanda wasn't a knock-out beauty but a solid seven on some boys ten-point scale.

Sunday was laundry day and Robert spent most of the afternoon learning what was required. Sorting colors from whites, washer and dryer settings. How to hand wash and dry lingerie and hosiery. The laundry part didn't bother him so much as having to learn the tedious process of ironing.

"I didn't realize woman's work could be so hard but at least I don't have to be around Janet and her friends," he thought.

##

While Robert was helping with the laundry Janet had Jo and Brenda in her room.

"Girls, I've got a big secret and could use your help but you have to pinky swear not to tell anybody. I need you to make this solemn promise or I can't tell you," Janet said excitedly.

Once they pinky swore Janet was satisfied they could be trusted. They were her very best friends going all the way back to elementary school. "My bratty brother, Robert, didn't go to summer camp like everyone thinks. Momma is punishing him for all the mean things he's done this past year," she began but the girls interrupted.

"He's the one who put the cherry bomb in the girl's bathroom toilet. We all had to use the only other one for a week before they repaired the damage. I peed my pants having to wait in line once because of him," Jo exclaimed.

"Yeah, whatever your mother does won't be harsh enough; especially after what he did to you. So what did she do?" Brenda exclaimed.

"Now, don't scream. I don't want Momma coming up here to find out what's going on. Robert is my cousin Amanda for the summer," Janet said with a satisfied smile. Janet knew she was going against her mother's orders but had to tell someone. What was happening to her brother was just too delicious not to share. Besides Janet wanted their ideas of how to make his situation worse. She needed more payback for what he did to her than mother did.

Janet didn't have to worry about the girls screaming. They were both staring at her in shock and disbelief for a few moments. Then they broke out in a fit of giggles.

"You're kidding? Right?" Jo was the first to respond.

"No way," Brenda added. "We saw her at church."

"Serious as a heart attack. Robert is Amanda and I need your help to make his punishment as miserable as he made my life. I want him to become so girly that by the end of summer, he won't ever think about pulling stupid pranks again. So any ideas?" she stated.

"Well we all know what makes us miserable. Having our periods. Too bad he can't have one along with the cramps and everything else," Brenda piped up.

"Yeah, that and being dumped," Jo added.

"What makes you think he can't have one Brenda? He's can't of course but we can make him go through all the motions of one. Like making him wear a pad or tampon," Janet exclaimed.

"That and making him douche too," Jo said giggling.

"I knew you guys would come up with some good ideas. Making Amanda have a period will drive Robert up the wall. He'll positively hate it," Janet said. Then after a pause added, "Still I want more. What else can we do?"

"Make him keep a diary so he'll remember his punishment," Brenda suggested.

"Yeah, but make him write like what a real girl would," Jo added.

"He'd hate that too. I have a new one Momma gave me last Christmas I haven't used yet. I'll give it to him," Janet said. "Any more ideas?"

"Nothing now but I think we can come up with some more later," both girls said giggling.

##

Monday morning Robert was putting on his makeup after his mother left for work. He wasn't surprised when Janet walked into the bathroom as she had been doing that. He was embarrassed seeing Brenda and Jo come in with her. Robert was only wearing his scarlet bullet bra, matching sheer panties, panty girdle and full slip.

He was about to protest when Janet said much to his dismay, "Relax little brother. Jo and Brenda know all about you and your punishment. They're sworn to secrecy but...but if you give us any trouble and I mean any...they'll tell all your friends. You're not going to give us any trouble, are you?"

"Oh shit! I can't let that happen," he thought. "Why is she doing this? I've been practicing hard so Leslie and her friends won't guess my secret. Whatever it is, I'm sure I will not like it if she's taking that attitude. I'll tell Auntie..I mean mom that she snitched."

"Auntie, I mean mom, made you promise not to tell anyone. I'm going to tell her as soon as she gets home," he spat.

"Go ahead ROBERT!" Brenda snapped back stressing his name. "Your mother can't control us! You do that and just see what happens when your friends catch up with you."

"You wouldn't dare," he said frightened now.

"Try us," both girls said at the same time.

**“Alright, alright I’ll do whatever but you have to promise not to tell anyone,” he complied in defeat.**

**“Deal,” Janet replied.**

**“So what do you want?” he asked afraid of the answer.**

**“Oh nothing from you little brother, we need to teach Amanda an important lesson about being a woman. Something only women talk about and never with men around. That’s all,” Janet said as Brenda left for the master bathroom that Janet also used. In that era there were things boys were kept in the dark about. A woman’s menstrual cycle was a big one.**

**An hour later Robert came out of the bathroom flushed red. He found out more than he ever wanted to know and wearing a thick pad between his legs. The girls still grinning and giggling followed behind. Jo got her purse off the bed and digging into it came out with a small calendar.**

**“I got you something to keep track of when your periods are due Amanda,” she said handing it to him. “Go ahead and put an x on today’s date and the next four. Okay, now count off twenty-eight days and mark five x’s and every twenty-eight days thereafter. That way you won’t be caught off guard when your monthly visitor arrives but always have a pad or tampon in your purse just in case it comes early.”**

**“You just remember not to tell mother about this or my friends might get real talkative and I’ll be checking to make sure you’re protected. Get dressed and meet us in the living room to begin practice,” Janet said.**

**“Do...do they..they have to watch?” he asked near tears.**

**“Of course they do. They might see something I missed or have a good suggestion,” Janet replied.**

**“That was so humiliating. I thought I was going to die from embarrassment when they made me douche. I should have punched them all in the nose for that. I would have too but I can’t risk them talking,” he thought removing the red and white checked gingham dress and three white petticoats from the closet.**

**##**

**As he was putting on his nightie Janet walked into his room grinning ear to ear. Seeing that smile, Robert shuttered knowing she was up to no good.**

**“What?” he said gruffly.**

**“Watch that tone Amanda. It’s neither girly or polite. I have something for you. It a diary so you can write your girly experiences and expectations down. They will be memories you can cherish forever. However, before you write anything down in your diary you will first do it on a piece of notebook paper so I can approve it. Get over to your desk and we can bring your diary up to date,” she explained.**

**Putting over two weeks of experience into his diary took Robert almost two hours. What was worse all the entries were total lies. Janet made him title the diary as: Robert Martin A.K.A. Amanda Blythe Jordan. She also dictated what he put into the diary. The first few entries were almost true but each succeeding entry made it sound like he was enjoying being a girl. The entry about having his first period nearly made him vomit.**

**“Dear diary: Today I decided if I’m pretending to be a girl I should experience what all girls do. I read an article in my “Teen Girl” magazine about a menstrual cycle. Gee that sounded gross but it’s part of a girl’s life. I guess I should at least try it though I can’t have a real one. Wearing a pad for a few days shouldn’t be that bad just to see**

what it's like. Not sure what to do about a tampon though."

##

The day he was dreading finally arrived and he was getting ready for his auntie to take him to Leslie's house. June had given him a bright pink spandex/nylon bathing suit to wear. Under the suit he wore a pink panty girdle making the crotch look smooth. With its molded foam cups, it would look like he had breasts with the help of some cotton padding. Plus it had a wide white ruffled bodice providing additional illusion. Over the bathing suit he wore a pair of denim short shorts and a balloon sleeved sand colored cotton peasant blouse.

Robert, in desperation plead, "Auntie, please, don't make me do this. They'll find out for sure before the party is over. Please call Leslie and tell her I'm still too sick."

"Amanda you look adorable, so stop fretting. You've been studying your magazines and have come a long way with your feminine behavior. Just relax and everything will be fine but you will be going. You need to be around other young girls your age now. Follow along, watch what they say and do," she replied.

Becoming frantic by his mother's demands, tried once more to change her mind. "But Auntie they'll ask me a million personal questions I can't answer. We've only been to Aunt Susan's place once and that was years and years ago. I don't know nothing about Albany or New York for that matter. How am I going to answer any questions about where I live or go to school? I'll be doomed."

"I hadn't thought about that and you have a valid point. However most of what they will ask can easily be answered as they probably don't know any more than you do. As for what school, that's easy. Just make up a name....a name like St. Mary's. Tell them it's a small private girl's school. If they ask you about boyfriends, tell them your mother won't let you date yet. As for any background questions about New York, you have time to read about it in your encyclopedia. It won't hurt to be a little late for the party. All us girls like to make a grand entrance," she ended with a laugh.

"Boys....I hadn't thought about that! I hope she hasn't invited any boys to the party, shit!" he thought.

To Be Continued...

## IT'S ALWAYS THE LITTLE THINGS

### Part Two

By Cheryl Lynn

Arriving at Leslie's house June parked the car. "I'm going to talk to Elizabeth for a bit. Now remember your lessons, speak softly and try to have fun dear."

Robert was nervous but grabbed his tote and followed his mother to the door. Elizabeth, Leslie's mom, answered the doorbell and greeted them warmly. "The girls are all out at the pool Amanda. June it's been awhile, please come in and join me in a cup of coffee," she greeted.

Going out the backdoor Robert saw the girls and went over to them. Leslie as soon as she saw Amanda rushed over to greet her. "Amanda, you made it. I'm so glad you are

feeling well enough to come. Come on, I want you to meet all my friends," she said.

Robert was feeling better after the introductions and all the personal questions answered. His fears of being discovered evaporated as they accepted him as Amanda. The girls settled down on the lounge chairs to gossip and tan. A couple of the them were wearing bathing suits but all the others in bikinis. The ones wearing bikinis were better developed than the ones not and Robert felt a stirring in his panty girdle. When two of them took off their tops to put on baby oil and tan, he almost lost it. His penis trapped between his legs throbbed painfully. Thankfully Elizabeth brought out snacks and drinks and made the girls put there tops back on.

"Girls, I know it's just us here but my son and his friends are due home at any moment. I think you had best put those tops back on," she advised.

"Did she just say her son was coming with his friends? Oh shit! I hope they don't come out here," Robert thought bringing him back down to earth. His imagination had been working overtime dreaming up fantasies involving the topless girls.

It was less than an hour later when three boys came out to the pool. Robert grabbed his magazine, opened it up randomly and held it up to his face. He was hoping to be ignored. "Don't come over here, don't come over here," his mind kept repeating.

"Hey Amanda, I want you to meet my brother David and his friends Bobby and Calvin," Leslie said. "Amanda is visiting for the summer and she came all the way out here from New York."

"Oh Shit," Robert thought putting the magazine down.

The boys were seniors at his school. He recognized Calvin by his copper red hair. Everyone called him Copper and was the Drum Major for the band. He didn't know the other two. Seeing Copper though sent a shiver up Robert's spine. He had taken band last year but dropped out. He wanted to learn to play rock on the guitar but given a wind instrument. His lack of enthusiasm and failure to learn how to play the clarinet had gotten both the teacher and Copper's attention. Copper had spent some class time trying to teach Robert how to play the instrument.

David was tall and lanky with black hair while Bobby was brown haired and built like most boys his age. David was more mature looking as he had a thick mat of black chest hair. It was bad enough that they went to his school but the way they were looking at him sent chills up his spine. It was the same "fresh meat" look Robert had when meeting a pretty girl.

Soon the boys decided to play pool volleyball. David paired up with Sue and Bobby with Leslie. Amanda became Copper's partner and would play the winner of the first pairing. The other girls would act as cheer teams. Amanda wasn't happy about this turn in events. He had reluctantly agreed after Leslie made a big deal out of it. Robert didn't need any more attention than he was already getting.

"Amanda if you want to keep your secret, you best follow along with whatever the other girls decide. Girls are much more socially connected than boys and love to do things together. Understand?" his mother had told him.

Like all the others Robert sat at the edge of the pool, feet dangling in the water to watch. Copper sat beside him and as the game progressed chatted with Amanda. Remembering his sister's lessons about boys, got him talking about himself. Robert really wasn't listening but smiled occasionally as Copper rattled on. He was scared and nervous being so close to Copper. His mind preoccupied over Copper recognizing who he really was. Somewhere during the conversation, Copper draped his arm

around Amanda's shoulders.

Pulling Amanda in close whispered, "Did you ever learn to play that clarinet?"

Robert, hearing that panicked. "Oh my gawd! He knows! He knows," Robert thought. He tried to get up and run but Copper held him in place.

"Settle down Robert. I'll keep your secret for now but we're going to have a talk later," Copper said giving his shoulder a squeeze.

"If he blabs, I'm so dead," Robert thought terrified.

##

Later, off in a corner, Copper confronted Robert. "Okay, so what gives?"

"Momma is punishing me for the summer for pulling a joke on my sister. She's making me do this. I hate it! Please, you can't tell anybody. My life will be ruined," Robert plead shivering.

"You pulled some pretty bad jokes on the band last year. I particularly remember the one where you loosened the back seat on my uniform. I thought it was a humiliating accident until I heard you were bragging about it. You ever hear about karma Robert? You know, what goes around comes around. I'll keep your secret only on one condition. You're going to be my steady girlfriend for the rest of the summer. It's either that...or..." Copper replied leaving the rest unsaid.

"But...but," Robert sputtered taken totally by surprise by the demand. He was expecting having to pay blackmail but not this.

"It's either a 'yes' or 'no' Robert. So, what's it gonna be?" Copper said putting hands on hips.

"I'm not that way!" Robert gasped.

"You're the one who got the rumors started. Yes, I'm really that way and what better way to put rumors to rest than by dating a girl. You made my last year very difficult for me," came his smug reply. "Now I've got you bitch. Embarrass me on the field with my pink panties on full display before the student body. Now it's your turn," he thought.

That little thing, Robert had thought at the time one of his better practical jokes. He only expected to see the high and mighty Drum Major parading around in his tidy whites brought down a peg or two. Catching him wearing pink panties was a bonus. Robert couldn't help bragging about it to his friends. He realized what a big mistake that was now. He didn't want to be any boy's girlfriend much less an admitted gay one but had no choice. If Copper let his secret out, especially after today, he may as well be dead."

"Okay, okay I'll do...do it bu...but you have to promise no..no funny stuff," Robert replied.

"Of course Amanda. We're both teenagers in love since we're going steady. Aren't we?" Copper answered with a lude grin.

Nodding his head Robert said just above a whisper, "Yes."

"Now that we got that settled, let's get back over to the others," Copper replied putting his arm around Robert's waist.

Robert didn't like that and tried to remove it. What he managed was to move Copper's hand down to his butt cheek. Copper gave it a hard squeeze making Robert gasp.

**“Like I said Robert...We’re going steady now....so act like you’re a girl in love or else. Put your arm around my waist like a good girl and a big smile so everyone can see how happy you are. After I tell everybody the good news, put your arms around my neck and give me a good kiss on the lips. I don’t give a damn if you like it or not but you better put on a good show,” Copper stated.**

**“What the....he wants me to kiss him! On the lips! That’s sick! If mother hadn’t made me dress this way I’d kick the shit out of the pervert’s ass but...but damn, he’d tell. My life wouldn’t be worth two cents if that got out. Everyone would soon know and make my life a living hell. I’d have no friends much less get a girl to date me. Shit!” he thought.**

**##**

**“Hey guys, we have something to tell you,” Copper yelled as they reached the pool. “Amanda and I really hit it off, so Amanda will you go steady with me?” he added handing her his senior ring.**

**Robert was surprised by that and the ring felt heavy in his palm. Copper was standing very close staring him in the eyes. “Go ahead and kiss me like I said,” he whispered.**

**With no choice Robert stood on tip toe, put his arms around Copper’s neck but couldn’t bring himself to initiate the kiss. Seeing the hesitation, Copper put his arms around Robert’s waist, pulled their bodies close and kissed him soundly on the lips.**

**As Copper forced his tongue into Robert’s mouth, he wanted to gag but gulped it down. He could hear the others clapping and yelling their approval. Leslie’s voice, “Oh how sweet,” made him shudder. It took all his will power not to rub his arm across his lips when the kiss finally ended.**

**If the kiss wasn’t horrible enough Leslie and the other girls cornered him. “That was some kiss Amanda. I thought you two swapped tongues too. What was it like?” Leslie asked.**

**“Wow Amanda, you’re actually going steady with Copper? I heard he didn’t like girls but guess that’s wrong from the way he kissed you,” Betsey pipped up.**

**“Come on Amanda tell us. Was it love at first sight?” Sue wanted to know.**

**“Let’s see Copper’s ring. It’s way too big to wear on your finger. You know I have the perfect necklace so you can wear it around your neck. I’ll get it for you,” Leslie said skipping off before Robert could react.**

**“Crap! Now I’m going to have to wear that awful thing. I knew I should never have come here today. This is the worst day of my life,” he thought near tears.**

**It was a major strain but Robert managed to keep a smile on his face as Leslie handed him a chrome necklace with Copper’s senior ring dangling from it. Pulling it over his head, the ring bounced on his chest. That hurt but not nearly as painful as the wound to his masculine ego. An ego already diminished by his forced femininization.**

**“I may have to wear this whenever I go out but I’m not wearing it a minute longer. Now, I just need to figure out how to explain this to Momma, I mean Auntie. No way I can keep her from finding out,” he thought.**

**Robert was broken away from his thoughts as Copper grasped his hand and pulled him away from the girls. “Alright Robert, enough time chatting with your girlfriends. Remember you’re a love-struck girl, so you want to spend every minute with your steady boyfriend, me. Now prove it to your friends. Give me a kiss and not one on the cheek,” he said loudly enough so only Robert could hear.**

Copper didn't wait for Robert to respond. He pulled them close claspings Robert around the waist, hands gripping his butt. Having no choice Robert put his arms around Copper's neck but again hesitated to initiate the kiss.

As Copper finally broke the tongue twisting kiss, hissed, "You better start kissing me like you love it. It just might keep my hand from discovering your hidden parts. Now kiss me like you mean it!"

Driven by fear there was no hesitation this time. Robert pressed his body into Copper's as he did his best to comply. Unfortunately, June and Janet walked into the back yard and saw them. They froze in mid-step, both shocked at the display.

"Oh my, what have I done!" June exclaimed.

Janet while shocked, smiled. "Wow! This is totally awesome. I've really got you now little brother. While Jo said getting dumped was one of the worst feelings being a girl, that is one thing you won't. I know a few things about Copper no one else knows and he's not going to dump you," she thought.

"I'm going to put a stop on this right here and now," June exclaimed. "This has gone too far."

"Mom! You can't!" Janet said grabbing her mother's arm. "Stop and think for a moment. If you expose Amanda's secret in front of all these people now, what do you think will happen? Our whole family will be condemned and ostracized. Not to mention that Robert will be called a homosexual, queer or faggot by everyone. The only place he would be welcomed is in that part of town. Just wait until he has a chance to explain, okay."

"You're right dear. I let my emotions get in the way of my good judgement. You get your brother and I'll be in the car. I need some time to settle down," June replied agitated.

Walking over to the couple Janet noted the ring resting on Robert's sternum. "Oh, this is too much. I dated Copper enough to know he's not into girls. I also know what Robert did to him when he was in band last year. Copper must have guessed his secret. Well, if he likes girly boys then I certainly won't discourage it," she thought.

"Hey Amanda, Copper. I see you two have really hit it off big time. Even going steady. My, my I don't know what June will have to say about you two but I'm thrilled for my cousin Amanda. I'll do my best with Momma to see that she lets you two love birds stay together. Amanda let's get your things so tell your boyfriend goodbye. We'll have a little chat before we meet Momma whose waiting in the car," she said giving Copper a wink and mouthing, "I'll call."

"Look you little twerp, Momma saw you deep throating Copper as well as everyone else. To say she was shocked would be an understatement. Now she's probably going to stop punishing you. Something will come up and Amanda will have to go back home but we don't want that to happen, do we?" she stated.

"What? She wants to stop all this. Of course I want it to stop and the sooner the better. This has been the worst day of my life," he said exhaling in relief.

"You're not listening Amanda. I'm not finished with you for all the mean things you've done to me and my friends. Oh no, Amanda is going to stay around and you're going to do it!" Janet hissed.

"You can't make me! I hate this," Robert stated getting angry.

"Okay, do it your way but...but remember, Momma can't control what my friends do or

say. Brenda even has a few pictures of you when you were learning about feminine hygiene and mincing about in the living room. What do you think will happen if those pictures get developed and shown around school?" she retorted.

"Shit! I think I remember seeing Brenda had that little Kodak pocket instamatic camera but didn't know she took pictures. Shit! Shit! What am I gonna do?" he thought scared by the implications.

"From the look on your face, I can guess what you're thinking and yes, everyone will know the truth. So you're going to cooperate with me, do what I tell you without question or Brenda does her thing. The very first thing you are going to do is make damn sure Momma doesn't stop your punishment. I don't care how you do it but you better stay Amanda for the summer. As for Copper, he'll get his reputation back and have a steady girlfriend as payback for what you did to him. Is that understood, Amanda!" Janet stated.

##

June decided not to say anything until they got back to the house but she did notice the ring around Robert's neck. "He's wearing a boy's senior ring around his neck? Have I turned my boy into...into...no, I don't want to think about that right now. Those books didn't say anything about doing that. Well they did say some boys stayed in dresses after the punishment but I've got to put a stop to all this," she thought.

As they were driving home, Robert was deep in thought. He and his older sister had never gotten along mainly because of his practical jokes. Now he regretted them but it was too late to change anything. He knew she was very serious about revealing his punishment with horrible pictures to boot. If that got out, the consequences would be devastating. Robert had to figure out a way, as much as he would hate every single second, to stay Amanda for the summer.

"Auntie..I mean Mom. I've been calling her auntie for so long I almost forget she's my mother. She'll probably say Amanda had to go home because of some illness or accident. That's logical but...but how will she explain the sudden reappearance of Robert or that he has strawberry colored hair? Janet and her friends have been drilling me so hard to move and act like a girl, it won't be easy to act like a boy either. I guess I'll have to use those arguments to convince her to let Amanda stay. I only hope I can make it until summer ends," he thought.

As soon as they entered the house June said, "Aman...I mean Robert what were you thinking kissing that..that boy like that? Have you lost your mind? I hope you only did it to get out of your punishment. If that was the reason, well you win. All right, this has gone on long enough. Your boy clothes are in the attic. Get them and change immediately. While you're doing that, I'll figure out a way to explain Amanda's going home."

"Uh..Auntie you can't do that," Robert began. "Amanda can't go home yet. Just where is Robert going to live when she leaves? I can't just reappear after everyone knows I'm away at summer camp. Much less show up with strawberry blond hair and plucked eyebrows. I don't want too but I have to stay as Amanda till then. It's the only way no one will find out."

"I can't believe I just said that. I don't want to be Amanda for another second but Janet has me between a rock and a very hard place. At least she thinks I only kissed Copper to get out of being Amanda. She's seen the ring around my neck but hasn't mentioned it yet. It's only a matter of time though, so I better come up with a good explanation. No way I could tell her the truth that's for sure," he thought.

**“Oh dear, I hadn’t thought of that. I could cut your hair and dye it back...,” June started to respond but Janet cut in.**

**“Momma, if Robert shows back up just as Amanda disappears, it will raise all kinds of questions. People will get really suspicious and eventually put two and two together. I don’t think I want to be around when that happens. The humiliation would be too great.”**

**“Damn!” June yelled in exasperation surprising both kids. She never used a cuss word in front of them before. “Okay, okay. I don’t like it and sorry I ever considered this punishment. I never thought it would go this far. Now I have a migraine. Go to your rooms while I think some more about this.”**

**Robert headed to his room but Janet stopped him. “Okay cousin Amanda into my room. I want to hear all about your fabulous pool party, every single detail.”**

**“Please Janet, I’ve been through enough already. Give me a break. All I want is to lay down and try to forget all this,” he replied.**

**“Alright this time but get out your notebook and write your diary entry so I can proof it later,” she said while thinking, “I can’t wait to revise whatever he puts down to make him look like a love starved girl. I can’t keep this to myself. I’ve got to call Jo and Brenda while Momma is taking care of her headache. They’re going to go ballistic when they hear Amanda is going steady with Copper. I can’t believe how great this day turned out.”**

**##**

**“Brenda you’ll never guess what happened today!” exclaimed an excited Janet. “Amanda is going steady! Yeah, she has a steady boyfriend. No, really. The best part, he’s going steady with Copper! Yeah, him. Yeah, I dated him until I found out he isn’t into girls. We’re still sorta friends and no I didn’t tell him about Amanda. I think he figured it out by himself. Robert was in band last year and from what I hear was the one who ripped Copper’s uniform pants. I swear. It’s the truth. Guess we’re not the only ones wanting to get even. I think it’s hilarious in a way. I can’t really talk now. Come over tomorrow after Momma leaves for work. Okay and call Jo. Momma’s coming now and I have to go. Bye.”**

**“Janet there you are. I’ve been thinking about what you and your brother said. I don’t like it but I can’t come up with an alternative. He’ll just have to stay Amanda until it’s time for Robert to come home. However, I’m concerned about what we saw at the pool today. Do...do you think..errr...think my punishment errr....might have..have changed Robert. Errrr..you know that way?” she hesitantly asked.**

**“I can’t believe I’m talking to my daughter about homosexuality. Much less thinking my son may be like that but I’m worried. Homosexuals are treated horribly and I don’t want him to face such cruelty,” she thought.**

**“Momma does wearing pants make you a guy? Clothes are clothes. They don’t change who you are. Putting Robert in lingerie and dresses won’t change who Robert is on the inside. Maybe he’s been that way all along or maybe he was just trying to get out of his punishment by kissing Copper. Although how he knew we’d see him is beyond me,” Janet replied.**

**“I hope you’re right dear. I’m still not sure though. Wasn’t he wearing that boy, Copper’s senior ring? I don’t understand that at all,” June responded worried.**

**“Momma, Amanda probably had a good reason. Going steady means that you’re only seeing one boy. Maybe Amanda feels safer if other boys aren’t trying to get into her**

panties. If you're worried though, you could put her on the Pill," Janet answered smiling.

"Janet! How could you say such a thing!" June gasped blushing.

##

Dear Diary: Today Leslie invited me over for a pool party. I was so scared but they made me feel totally welcome. No one suspected my secret and I loved being just one of the girls. I wish I had boobies so I could wear one of those fabulous bikinis like the other girls were wearing.

It was just us girls until Leslie's brother and some of his friends joined us. Having boys around bothered me at first. I was afraid they might recognize me as they all go to my school but they treated me just like any other girl. I didn't want to but I was paired up with this really cute boy, Copper for a game of water volleyball. Copper is not his real name, it's Calvin Johnson. He has copper red hair and gorgeous green eyes you could just fall into. While we were waiting our turn to play, he was very charming. He made me feel good inside and I forgot about being punished.

Dear Diary, I think for the first time I really felt like I was Amanda. We didn't win the game but he kissed me. I was startled but his lips felt so velvety pressing on mine, I couldn't help but let him. I felt so feminine being held in his strong arms and pressing into his hard body while he kissed me. I was surprised at how much I enjoyed being close to him. I've been so scared someone would guess my secret but Copper made me feel protected. He made me forget I had something extra. We kissed a lot and I couldn't help but melt at his touch. He's so hot! When he asked me to go steady I almost fainted. Can you believe that diary? Me, fainting but it was such a surprise. I know I'm a guy and shouldn't feel this way about another boy but I do. Copper is just so sweet I couldn't refuse especially with everyone watching and applauding. If I refused it would be so embarrassing. I couldn't bring myself to do it. I said yes and he gave me a toe curling kiss I'll never forget.

"You've got to be kidding me Janet! I can't write this garbage into my diary!" Robert protested looking at the paper she had handed to him.

"Amanda of course you can. It's exactly what any other girl would put into hers. Consider your diary to be another girly lesson. You need to start thinking like a girl if you want to keep your secret safe. Keeping a girl's diary is a great way for you to learn. Now go ahead and start writing," she demanded.

"This is so much bull shit," he mumbled as he picked up the pen and began his diary entry.

"Dig your grave a little deeper little brother. If momma has any doubts about keeping you as Amanda that diary will convince her. She'd know your handwriting and why a girl keeps one," Janet thought.

##

The next morning Jo and Brenda showed up just after June left for work. Both started chatting like magpies wanting to know all the juicy details.

"Hold on a minute you two. Let's go into the kitchen where Amanda can't hear us. She's still sleeping but keep it down," Janet said.

There she told them everything she managed to get out of Robert about the party and Copper. "I was right about Copper guessing Amanda's little secret. Poor Amanda looked so distraught telling me how he was forced to accept that ring. Why she even

cried. It was all I could do to keep from laughing. I wanted to ask him how did it feel having a nasty joke pulled on him but I didn't. When we arrived to pick Amanda up, she was deep throating Copper. Momma about had a conniption fit and went back to the car to calm down. I never expected to see Copper and Amanda like that but...after what happened last year...I think it's great payback. Besides, I've decided I'd much rather have a little sister to boss around than an asshole brother. Momma of course wanted to stop his punishment but we convinced her it couldn't happen. There just wasn't anyway to explain Robert's sudden reappearance," she explained.

"You mean Robert went along with that? He hates having to be Amanda," Jo asked.

"I convinced him that if he suddenly showed up everyone would soon figure out his deception. Plus I let him believe it was only for the summer," she answered smiling before continuing. "If I have my way, he's going to stay Amanda a lot longer. I don't want Robert back. He's such a loser anyway."

"How you going to do that?" Brenda wanted to know.

"That's where you come in. I need your ideas on how to keep Amanda around," she replied.

"What about Copper? Have you talked to him. You're still friends, aren't you?" Brenda added.

"No, not yet but I will soon. I do need to congratulate him on getting a steady girlfriend," Janet said with a smirk.

"Oh you're mean girl. From that look on your face, you're going to encourage him," Jo responded.

"Wha....what if..if Copper wants sex? You're not going to..to let that happen, are you?" Brenda timidly asked.

"Well, they are going steady...and you all know what we do to keep our steady boyfriends happy. I'll make sure Copper will only do something if Amanda agrees. Besides, I think they only give each other oral and that's not such a big deal. I mean, we do it when our boyfriends are especially nice to us. Why shouldn't Amanda?" Janet replied.

"It's a good thing we can't get pregnant doing that. My mom has me on the Pill just in case though. My Ralph is getting pretty rowdy lately now that we decided to get married right after we graduate. I don't know if I can refuse him much longer though. He's such a pussy cat and I love him so," Brenda said giggling.

"Yeah, I made Momma blush when I jokingly told her to put Amanda on it," Janet added giggling.

"It would be a real kick in the pants if we could get her on it," Brenda said laughing at the idea of a boy taking birth control pills.

"Yeah, too bad you can only get them by prescription," Janet laughed along with the others.

"You know when my grandmother passed, she had a big bottle of similar pills she had to take. Maw Maw told me it was a new treatment for menopause and like The Pill. I think they're still in the medicine cabinet," Jo said.

"Really?" both Janet and Brenda responded.

"Yeah, they're bigger pills though. Why?" Jo replied.

"I can make Amanda take them, that's why," Janet answered.

**“He’s a boy! They won’t do anything to him. He can’t get preggers,” Brenda added.**

**“No, but it’s the idea. Just imagine how Robert will like having to take them knowing what they’re for,” Janet responded.**

**“Well, I could get them for you if you really want,” Jo said.**

**“Neat! Jo, go get them and we’ll all have some fun making him take his first one. I can’t wait to see the expression on his face,” Janet exclaimed smiling ear to ear.**

**##**

**Robert sat up in bed and rubbed his eyes. “I don’t think I got ten minutes of sleep last night. All I could think about was what happened at that damn party and telling Auntie I wanted to stay as Amanda. I just wish I could come up with a good excuse to get me back being me. This dang nightie is all twisted up around my waist and I’ve got a morning Woodie. I hate having to wear this and pretend I’m a silly girl. This is going to be a very long summer and can’t wait for it to end. Why or why did I tell all my friends I’d be gone all summer. I’d gladly break a leg if it would get me out of this mess but it would be as Amanda,” he thought getting out of bed and heading to the bathroom.**

**Later he was sitting at his desk, now a vanity, applying his makeup as the girls entered. “What are they doing here? The last thing I need is those harpies barging in on me while I’m only wearing lingerie,” he thought.**

**“Hey Amanda,” Jo and Brenda greeted smiling devilishly. “We heard the great news that you’re going steady with Copper. That is just so sweet,” Brenda added.**

**“Yeah Amanda let’s see your ring,” Jo piped up.**

**“Crud! That’s all I needed reminding of,” he thought then said, “It’s over there on the nightstand.”**

**“You know when you’re going steady you really should be wearing it all the time. Especially when you go to bed so you can have lovely dreams about your beau,” Brenda admonished picking up the ring. “Here, let me fasten it around your neck where it belongs.”**

**“For Christ’s sake Brenda, I don’t want to wear that thing. Just let me be,” an agitated Robert replied.**

**“Now don’t be like that Amanda. You’re a girl, you’re going steady and you will promise me to wear it always. Otherwise, I will have to get some pictures I took developed for your friends to see,” Brenda threatened.**

**“Okay, alright already. I’ll do it just don’t get any pictures,” he spat.**

**“Now Amanda don’t take that tone with me. Let me hear you say, just like the girl you are, how much you love wearing Copper’s ring,” Brenda demanded.**

**“Shit! Just do it and get this over with,” he thought then said, “Please Brenda, would you hook Copper’s ring around my neck. I can’t bear being without it.”**

**“There, now don’t you feel really girly wearing your boyfriend’s token of love,” she said stepping back.**

**“Guess what Amanda dear, we have something else for you now that you’re going steady. It’s another secret only girls share like with our periods. We got you your very own pills. You know our emotions can get the better of us when we’re with our boyfriends. So we have to take precautions, you know. Pregnant unmarried girls are just not accepted. Fortunately they have a pill that prevents that and we got you your very own,” Janet gleefully said approaching with a large bottle and a glass of water.**

**“You’re kidding? I can’t get pregnant,” he gasped seeing the serious look on his sister’s face. “No, no way I’m taking that.”**

**“Are you forgetting Brenda’s little camera? These are for girls, so it won’t hurt you to take one like we do every morning. Consider it another way to blend in with all the other girls,” Janet stated handing him the purple pill and glass of water.**

**For a long moment Robert just stared at the pill before asking, “Are you sure this won’t do anything to me?”**

**“Can you get pregnant? That pill only works to stop unwanted pregnancy. Go ahead, take it and one every morning from now on,” Janet reassured him.**

**“Like she said, it only stops getting pregnant so I guess I’ll do it. Maybe then they’ll get out of my room and leave me alone,” he thought screwing up his face and swallowing the pill.**

**“Don’t you feel more confident Amana. You can now safely have sex with your boyfriend and have no more worries,” Jo said laughing.**

**“No! I don’t and I’m not having any sex,” Robert exclaimed getting exasperated.**

**“There’s Amanda and Copper sitting in a tree, k.i.s.s.i.n.g. First comes love then comes marriage then a baby carriage,” Brenda sang out as Robert’s face flushed scarlet.**

**“Okay, you’ve had your fun. Now get out of my room and leave me alone,” he screamed.**

**“Be nice Amanda. We’re only here to help. Go on, get dressed and come into the living room. You have to practice more,” Janet said as they turned leaving him alone.**

**Robert looked at the bottle of pills Janet had left on his desk with disgust. Picking it up, just glancing at the label stuck it into the desk drawer. “She’s doing this just to embarrass the shit out of me. Having to kiss Copper turns my stomach. How could they suggest such a thing? More lessons? They already have me acting and talking like a girl. What more is there?” he thought getting up and going to his closet.**

**“Man I wish I could just slip on a pair of jeans and tee but I don’t have any. All I have to choose from are dresses or skirts and blouses. Supposed to be hot today, so I guess I’ll wear this violet with white daisy print sun dress. The violet matches my lingerie like Auntie told me,” he mused.**

## **IT’S ALWAYS THE LITTLE THINGS**

### **Part Three**

**By Cheryl Lynn**

**Robert carefully entered the living room. He was wearing the new four-inch spike heeled pumps Janet had given him. They forced him to take short mincing steps while making his tush swish seductively. That in turn made his petticoats and skirt swish against his thighs. After a little over three weeks, Robert was getting used to the bra and girdles but not so wearing petticoats. The stiff starched net fabric rubbing against**

his nylon clad legs tickled. It was irritating.

Janet, Jo and Brenda were waiting for him with big smiles on their faces. "This is going to be so much fun," Jo giggled in anticipation.

"I never thought I would be teaching some boy to flirt like we do to get a boy's attention. He'll absolutely hate it," Brenda added.

"Okay, here he comes expecting more poise and mannerisms, so don't spoil our surprise. We'll let him walk around a bit first. He's not used to those new heels I got for him," Janet said.

"You got some great legs there Amanda. Those heels really make your calves look scrumptious," Jo announced when he walked in.

Robert was taken aback by her complement. He wasn't expecting that. "Err thanks, I guess," he replied.

"Now Amanda, what did I tell you to do whenever another girl gives you a compliment?" Janet snapped.

"Oh, errr...thank you but I'm sure they're not as nice as yours are Jo."

"Better but you need to work on your complimenting skills. Now, just walk around for a bit. You still are a bit wobbly in those heels. Remember chin up, elbows in, wrists loose and rotate that butt," Janet instructed.

As he walked around in circles, Brenda noticed something. "Janet something is missing. Amanda needs to be carrying a purse and you notice he, I mean she, never looks into the mirror when she passes by. That's not normal. We all check ourselves out in any mirror we pass," she said.

"You're right. I'll get her one. While I'm doing that, make sure Amanda pauses in front of the mirror every time she goes by," Janet said getting up.

"Amanda listen up. You should know by now no matter how much hairspray you use there is always some strays. So when you pass any mirror remember to stop, check and repair. It's a mantra we all follow. You can never be too careful about your appearance. Guys might not always notice, but we girls do," Brenda instructed.

Once Janet gave him his purse, checking his makeup was added to his new mantra. All Robert could do was follow their directions and inwardly groan. "It's only been about half an hour and my legs are killing me. Having to stand still in front of the mirror only makes them hurt more," he thought.

"That's enough prancing around Amanda. Come over here and sit on the couch except this time, as you cross your legs don't be in a rush to pull your skirt down. Guys find it sexy when they see a hint of lace on our petticoats or slips. Unlike guys, girls can't be obvious. We have to be subtle. Like showing a bit of lace, toss our head or pout our lips. Just putting a fingernail between your teeth or slowly putting on lipstick can drive some guys wild. So today's lessons are going to teach you how to flirt with guys," Janet informed him.

"Despite all this," Robert said indicating his dress with his hands, "I don't want to flirt with any guys."

"It doesn't matter what you want or like Amanda. It's a matter that you learn so you can keep your little secrets. All girls flirt, some better than others but you will learn. You will also learn because we want you too," Janet sharply replied.

"Now first thing to remember, you can never be too touchy/feely when you're with a

**guy. When you're talking to him keep touching him on the arm or shoulder. If your hair is in a ponytail, pull it loose and brush your hand through it as it falls about your face. That always gets a guy's attention. If you're sitting, cross your legs and slowly rotate your top foot and if your heel is loose enough, let it dangle from your toes. That and a bit of lace works pretty good too," Brenda instructed.**

**"Yeah but remember to never overdo it Amanda. Always make a guy feel he's doing all the work and he'll show more of an interest," Jo added.**

**"When you're on a date whisper something in his ear making sure your lips touch the lobe. That drives them wild; especially if you exhale while doing it," Janet said.**

**"Well, that and rubbing his thigh while you're sitting close works even better," Brenda interjected.**

**"Okay enough talk. Amanda put your top foot down and slip your heel out. We'll practice that foot rotation first," Janet ordered.**

**##**

**It was a long session and didn't end until lunch. Robert's head was spinning from all they taught and made him practice. In a way it was indeed educational. He had never suspected all the things girls dreamed up to get a boy's attention.**

**After lunch Jo and Brenda went home while Amanda spent the rest of the day doing what used to be Janet's chores. When his mother came home she spent some time with him teaching more about fashions. Tonight it was all about how to mix and match different items to expand his wardrobe. While Janet had given him a lot of her hand-me-downs, it didn't come close to what was in her closet.**

**"I didn't really plan for this but I'm going to have to take you shopping. You need some more lingerie, dresses and shoes too. The budget is tight but I think we can manage it. The Memorial Day sales start then," June said as she looked through his wardrobe.**

**"But Auntie I have more than enough girl's clothing. We don't have to do that," Robert exclaimed.**

**"Now that you're definitely going to be here for the whole summer Amanda we do," June explained. "Janet's bras and girdles are a bit loose on you and some of these dresses frumpy. I want my niece to look nice while she's here. We'll go Saturday morning."**

**"I don't want to go shopping especially for that. I've been wearing Janet's old stuff and that makes my punishment seem temporary. The only reason I have so much, is mom has always made us wear our clothing until it wore out or outgrew. Getting my own girl's clothing seems more permanent. I'd better get that growth spurt like last summer this year. I don't want to wear this stuff any longer than I have too," he thought.**

**The rest of the week followed along the same lines. He'd get up, take a bubble bath, put on his makeup and get dressed. Janet would check to make sure he did everything right then make him take his pill. After a light breakfast, it was back to practicing mannerisms, poise with the addition of flirting techniques. Another light meal for lunch then do all the chores while Janet goofed off with her friends.**

**Thursday afternoon Janet said he had a phone call. "Who would be calling me?" he thought putting down the vacuum.**

**When he got to the phone Janet was talking to someone. Seeing him said, "Here she..he is. We'll talk more later," then handed the receiver to Robert.**

**"Hello," he tentatively said. "Oh fudge, it's Copper," he thought.**

**“Hello Robert dear. You been missing me? Well it doesn’t matter. I’m taking you to the Saturday matinee and picking you up at eleven. I expect a nice kiss, one that says you really missed seeing me, if you know what I mean. David and Sue will be in the car so make it look good,” Copper replied.**

**“Saturday? Auntie is taking me shopping. I can’t go,” Robert responded with relief.**

**“You saying that just to get out of our date? No, then put Janet on the phone. She’ll tell me if you’re lying or not. If you are, the next time we’re with my friends I’m going to expose you,” came Copper’s angry reply.**

**“He...he wants..wants to talk to you,” Robert said shivering in fright at the threat handing the phone to her.**

**“Yeah, Momma’s taking us to that new mall. They have some really great sales going on this weekend. I have a suggestion, why don’t you change your plans and take Amanda out Friday night instead. I’m sure she would love to go. Okay, I’ll tell her and yes, I’ll make sure she looks hot for you,” Janet said hanging up.**

**“Damn it Janet! Why did you say that. You know I don’t want to have anything more to do with him,” Robert yelled.**

**“Amanda! How dare you talk like that to your older cousin and what have I been teaching you about using cuss words. You just earned ten swats from my belt for that outburst. As far as you dating Copper...plan on being with him every week. He is your steady boyfriend after all,” Janet angrily snapped.**

**“Janet, please don’t punish me. It’s..it’s just I lost it there. You know I’m not the least bit like Copper. Even if he wasn’t that way, guys shouldn’t be dating other guys. That’s perverted,” he begged. From the first time she had heard him say “shit” Janet began spanking him.**

**“If you just have to express yourself using that word, use “fudge” instead,” she barked as she applied her leather belt to his bared pantied ass.**

**“That’s one of your biggest problems AMANDA! You’re a girl! Start thinking like one. You have to stop thinking that you were ever a stupid boy! If you don’t; then, it’s only a matter of time before someone else guesses your secret. Do you want to disgrace and humiliate your family? Especially what it would do to Momma. She could even lose her job and her friends. Have you even stopped and thought about what your discovery would do to us? No, you like always, only think about your sorry self! You and your so called practical jokes got you into this. Not us!” Janet screamed.**

**“I hate to say it but she’s right. I haven’t given any thought to what might happen to them. Still, it’s me that will suffer the most if anyone else figures out I’m Robert. I just can’t let that happen. I hate having to be Amanda but I should have listened to mom. If I had, I wouldn’t be like this now. Fudge! Now I have to start thinking like one,” Robert deliberated then said, “I’m sorry Janet but I don’t know how to think like a girl but I’ll try to do better.”**

**“Well the first step is to stop thinking about yourself and begin thinking about pleasing others,” she said. After a brief pause added, “Another thing. It’s obvious you hate being Amanda. Whenever I or my friends try to teach you anything we can tell. From now on take pride in being Amanda and being a girl. You need to stop thinking you are Robert and male. Right now, I want you to stand in front of the mirror. Take a good hard look at yourself and repeat one hundred times, ‘I’m Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda.’ Don’t just say the words. Believe them. Every morning once you’re dressed, you will repeat this.”**

**“I don’t know if that will help but it can’t hurt. He’s so afraid someone else will discover his secret, if he says it long enough, it will help. Then I’ll have him right where I want him,” she thought.**

**##**

**Friday morning after he had dressed, taken his pill and said his new mantra before the full-length mirror, Janet said they were going to the salon.**

**“Amanda you have your first real date tonight. You’re going to want to look your best, so Momma got you an appointment. A color touchup, hairstyle and manicure/pedicure in exchange for you working part time there Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for the summer. She said Betty would pay you minimum wage, 65 cents an hour too,” Janet said with a giggle.**

**“Tell me you’re kidding me Janet. I can’t work in a beauty salon,” Robert said.**

**“Nope, no joke it’s all set up. All you have to do is sign the employment forms as Amanda Blythe Jordan. Momma said you’d need the money to buy new clothes and your own stuff,” Janet responded.**

**“How come she didn’t make you get a summer job?” he pouted.**

**“You’re forgetting I worked every summer at Sears for the past three years little sister. I’ve saved my money. Now it’s your turn,” she replied laughing. “If he knew I was the one to talk Momma into doing this, he’d have a hissy fit,” she thought.**

**A couple of hours later they left Betty’s Cut and Curl with Amanda carrying a garment bag. The bag contained two iridescent pink bell sleeved smocks and two pair of skin tight black stirrup pants, the salon’s employee uniform. In Amanda’s purse was his name tag, AMANDA, a rectangular piece of black plastic surrounded by a fluff of floral lace. When Amanda tried on the pants for fit, hated them immediately. Not only were they like a second skin but the rear seam dug deep into his butt crack, lifting and separating them in a very girlish manner. The smock was full cut and the flaring hem just reached his crotch. Thanks to the panty girdle, his front was smooth and flat. It wasn’t until a few weeks later when he received Amanda Blythe Jordan’s social security card in the mail, it hit him. He was now legally recognized as Amanda and female.**

**He didn’t leave the salon with just a job but new hairstyle as well. Betty had put his hair into what she called a Bee Hive. It was a heavily backcombed, rounded cone and lacquered mountain of hair. To create the mountain, a cotton pad was used to wind the hair around and support it. As long as it didn’t get wet would last with a few tweaks for weeks. Amanda’s hair wasn’t quite long enough to create the style. Betty used some clip-on hair extensions to get the volume needed. His nails were varnished a bright cherry red.**

**“Now honey, don’t forget to wear a shower cap. You don’t want to get your hair wet. As you can see my employees have theirs in a similar style, so I want to see you Tuesday looking like it is now. I also recommend you use a neck pillow for bed time. Here are some cans of Aqua Net. You’ll need to spray it frequently. If you do what I say, that set will last a week or so. Jean is taking off for a few weeks’ vacation, so you will be my new shampoo girl. See you promptly at 8:00 Tuesday morning,” Betty had said with a broad smile and wink.**

**“Shampoo girl! I can’t think of a more girly job than that,” Robert thought leaving the salon.**

**What Robert didn’t know, other than his sister and mother had their hair done every**

month, was that Betty knew who he was. Over the years, tending to June and Janet's hair, they never mentioned having another daughter or sister much less a niece. Robert's behavior was mentioned on more than one occasion though.

When they brought Amanda in to get her hair dyed without any heavy makeup, Betty quickly figured what was going on. First, he resembled his mother and sister but the deciding factor was how he acted sitting in her styling chair. Like he had never been in a salon before. Then there was the laryngitis excuse. Betty never liked men and didn't raise any objections. As far as she was concerned, turning him into a well-mannered girl was the perfect solution. Her only regret was not being able to do more.

"When June asked me if I had any part time job openings, I was curious. When she said her niece Amanda needed one, I had to jump on that. I've been wanting to get my hands on an obnoxious male for years. One of the first things I'm going to do is dye his hair brassy blond, then give him a wild and curly big hair look. It's easy enough and super girly. Roll the front forward in my orange shapers, do the sides and back with my orange and green ones, then finish off with the white shapers at the nape. Use plenty of my shaper solution to saturate, wait a few minutes and do that again. After he comes out of the dryer and I give it a good spraying, he'll have big balloon hair with a lot of tight curls," she thought.

##

When Robert came out of the bath to get ready for his date, Janet was waiting.

"I talked to Copper. He's taking you to the drive-in to see a double feature. So I picked out something appropriate. Go ahead and get dressed. While you're doing that, I'll give you some pointers since this is your first date with a boy."

"Uh, Janet you forgot to get out my panty girdle. I thought Auntie said we always had to wear one," Robert interrupted not all that happy with the clothing on his bed.

Scarlet brief cut semi-sheer nylon panties, matching bullet bra with cotton bunting in the cups, embroidered garter belt, scarlet half-slip with three inches of floral lace hemming and sheer black nylons. A knee length wool blend gray poodle flare skirt and black satin shell blouse were laid out on the bed. On the floor were a pair of black patent leather spike heeled pumps.

"You're going to the drive-in silly. He's not taking you there to watch the movies," she replied laughing.

"What?" he gasped.

"Think about it for a second Amanda. It's just the two of you love birds alone. In the dark. What do you think is going to happen. It's the perfect opportunity for some heavy petting. Since you're in a car and space is tight, getting out of a girdle; especially wearing hose is very difficult," Janet answered enjoying the look of horror on Robert's face.

"I'm not going!" he shouted.

"Oh yes you are! You don't have any choice. If you don't, Copper will tell everyone who Amanda really is. We can't let that happen," she yelled back.

"Bu...but I...I don't even want to kiss him...much..much less anything else," he stammered as tears began to flow.

"Look, it probably won't come to that. Of course he will expect a lot of tongue twisting kisses but you've already done that. So how hard could that be? Heck, it might even be pleasant for you. I understand that boys like Copper do oral. It's not like you can

do anything else. That's the worst that can happen and likely it won't go that far. So you come home with smeared lipstick and maybe a few hickies, no big deal," she tried to reassure him.

Janet had dated Copper for a while. She had had a big crush on him a couple of years ago. It wasn't until he told her he wasn't into girls that she lost interest but they stayed friends. She didn't know anything about his kind of lifestyle or understand it but kept his secret. She thought that they just kissed and hugged other boys like on her dates. Since they didn't have boobs or the right plumbing didn't think they could do much else. She had given her boyfriend oral and seeing how much he liked it, figured boys like Copper could go that far. Sex was a taboo subject at that time, most of the knowledge came from the playground.

Once he was dressed and had his makeup on, Janet made him stand in front of the mirror and recite his mantra until dinner was ready. "I'm Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda," he began repeating as she left the room.

When he entered the dining room, June said, "Amanda you're looking really cute in that outfit and I love the hair but why are you so dressed up?"

"I thought you knew. I have a date with Copper tonight," he answered with a blush.

"A date....with that boy?" she said surprised. "I don't like this but guess I have to go along with it. Janet said to expect it as we had to keep up pretenses or risk exposure. I just didn't expect to see it happen so soon," she thought.

"Yes Auntie, he's taking me to see a movie," he answered.

"Well, if it's to the movies. I guess I can let you go but next time let me know before you accept a date," she responded.

After dinner Janet followed Robert back to his room. As he was repairing his makeup, instructed, "Amanda, since you're going steady, when Copper comes you have to kiss him. Then when you get into his car, slide over to sit beside him. It's the proper thing for us girls to do."

"I'm not a girl," he replied. "I don't like the idea of sitting so close to him. I guess I can kiss him on the cheek though."

"Darn it Amanda, what have I told you. You have to stop thinking you were ever a boy if you want to keep your secret. You are Amanda, you are a pretty girl. You love being Amanda! Like I said, just don't say the words, believe them," she said getting upset at his stubbornness.

"Okay, okay I'll try harder," he said giving in to her reasoning although he wanted to cry. "I feel so down having to go out with another boy I want to cry. I never cry. I've been feeling like that for days now. Why do I feel this way?" he thought.

"Well you better do better than that Amanda unless you want to destroy this whole family," Janet responded.

##

Robert was spared the embarrassment of having to kiss Copper in front of Janet and June. He pulled into the drive and honked his horn and Amanda went out to meet him. Standing in the doorway, they did see him slide over and give Copper a kiss. Instead of on the cheek like he planned, Copper turned his head so the kiss was to the lips.

Seeing that June turned to Janet, "I don't like this Janet. It's not right. Maybe we should stop this before it goes any further."

**“Momma, no, we can’t. Besides if Amanda didn’t want to be with Copper, why would she have slid over to him and kiss him on the lips. I think Amanda likes becoming a girl and having a boyfriend,” Janet responded quickly.**

**“I’ve got to find some way to make Momma stop thinking about Robert. I need her to think of her niece Amanda instead. Got to remember to only refer to him as Amanda and use the right pronouns. If she says ‘Robert’ I’ll correct her to say Amanda or if she says ‘he’ I’ll say ‘she.’ I’ll make sure my girlfriends do the same,” she thought.**

**##**

**Robert had noticed June and Janet watching as he got into the car and what he did bringing a blush of embarrassment. He started to move away from Copper but his arm around Amanda’s shoulders stopped that.**

**“Remember Amanda, you’re my steady girlfriend, so act like it,” he said backing out of the driveway.**

**“Okay Copper, I’ll do my best but..but you have to promise...no funny stuff. I’m not like that,” Robert replied.**

**“Of course not Amanda. You’re a normal heterosexual teenaged girl full of raging hormones just like me. You just happen to have a few extra bits that I find very appealing, that’s all,” he said with a smirk.**

**“I’m so jealous of Robert. I’ve always felt like a girl on the inside. It makes me mad that it’s him in dresses instead of me. I could never look as good as he does either. Not with my build, square chin, big hands and Adam’s apple. Having Robert under my thumb, to make him do whatever I want is empowering though. Other than band, I’ve never had control of anyone. I’ve been too afraid of someone finding out I’m this way. What he did to me last year caused me a world of problems. Now, it’s my turn. With Robert, I don’t have to be scared and I’m in charge,” Copper thought.**

**“So if you don’t want anyone else knowing about your little extra bits, you’d better act like the head over heels in love girl I know you can be. Now put your hand on my thigh like a good girl,” he added making Robert shutter.**

**It was after seven and the sun was down as Copper pulled into a parking spot at the back of the drive-in theater. Robert saw that there were a lot of empty parking spaces before he saw another car. He gulped in fear realizing he was completely at the mercy of Copper now.**

**“I’ll get us some popcorn and sodas. Why don’t you sit here and think about how you can make your steady boyfriend happy,” he said getting out of the car.**

**Hearing that Robert’s stomach churned. He had been having bouts of nausea lately for no reason. At least this time he had a reason for feeling ill. “Fudge! Like I want to go there. Having to be on this date is sickening enough,” he thought.**

**Thankfully Robert was able to drag out the time by slowly eating his popcorn. Copper didn’t mind the delay. He was enjoying watching Amana squirm. “Janet said I should always call him Amanda and use the proper pronouns when talking to him. Said some nonsense about making him think he was a girl. I don’t care for girls but this one has extra parts that I do like. With a little more practice will make a good kisser too. I’m going to make sure he’ll get a lot more of that tonight. Janet told me to be nice but I’m going to get a taste of those extra bits. Since Janet is a friend I won’t make him do me, at least not tonight,” he thought.**

**Finishing the popcorn, Robert wanted to stall some more said, “I’ve got to use the**

restroom.”

“Yeah, sure. Just remember to use the lady’s,” Copper replied as Amanda slid over and opened the door.

“Fudge, I forgot about that but I certainly can’t go into the guy’s. Well I’m Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda,” he thought walking to the refreshment stand.

“Well here goes nothing,” he mumbled stepping into the girl’s restroom for the first time.

He was surprised to see girls standing in lines before the six cubicles. “There’s lines. Gosh, I have to go now but I can’t. I’ve never had to wait before. Hope this doesn’t take long,” he thought.

Robert just made it before he peed himself. Standing at the sink afterwards, he took his lipstick out of his purse and applied it. Checking his lipstick was something Janet had insisted upon and now it was ingrained habit. Seeing the scarlet lip print on the tissue didn’t bother him like it had before.

“Guess I can’t put it off any longer,” he thought heading back to the car.

Sliding back over to be next to Copper, the skirt rode up exposing the lacy hem of the half-slip. He wanted to adjust his skirt but Copper’s arm twisted him so they were facing each other. Before he could react, his lips were being invaded by Copper’s tongue. When the kiss broke, Robert was left gasping. More kissing as Copper seemed to be more aroused. Kisses to the lips, neck and ears. Each one sending strange but not unpleasant feelings into Robert’s brain.

Then another kiss, more passionate than the last as Copper pressed his body into his. Robert felt himself falling backwards with Copper’s body on top. He tried to struggle but Copper was too strong for him. He began to panic feeling Copper’s legs forcing themselves between his. Robert wanted to scream but the kiss prevented him. When the deep kiss broke, Robert felt his legs being pushed up around Copper’s shoulders. A hand pulled the gusset of his panties to the side and then a warm wetness engulfed his penis.

“What? Oh no, he’s....he’s....ohhhh...got..got to stop...ugh...ohhhh,” Robert gasped in surprise. “What are you doing?” he finally managed only to feel Copper’s tongue caressing the little eye and suction. “Plea...please stop. This..this isn’t right.”

No one had ever done this to him before. He had heard of girls doing this for their boyfriends but he never expected another boy doing it to him. Robert was surprised at just how good it felt and that he was getting an erection. Feeling guilty about responding to the sensations filling his brain, Robert balled his hands into fists prepared to smash Copper’s head. He got as far as raising his fists before realizing what might happen if he did. It was one thing to look and pretend to be a girl but he didn’t want his dick bitten off. The soft lips moving up and down his shaft felt so good too. Giving in to both the feelings and inability to do anything about it, closed his eyes and clinched his impotent fists harder. His eyes flew open as he began to have one of the best ejaculations ever. It was so much more intense than when he masturbated, he went into a daze.

Robert came out of his daze when he felt Copper’s hands holding his head, their lips pressing together. As their tongues twisted together Robert tasted something slightly salty and slimy. Realizing what it had to be, tried to break the kiss but Copper’s hands held his head steady. At last the kiss broke, the weight lifted and Robert was free to move.

Robert didn't know what to do. His emotions in a turmoil. He knew he couldn't beat up Copper so that option was out. Frustrated at not knowing what to do, cried. He had no idea how long he sat there, tears running his mascara and streaking his foundation. It could have been minutes or hours as his sobbing began to ease replaced by hiccups.

"You're a mess. Here, take my handkerchief," he heard Copper say as the overhead light came on.

As Robert began trying to repair the damage to his makeup, Copper said, "That wasn't so bad. I really enjoyed it. I know from the way you filled my mouth, you really got your rocks off. You be a good girl for me and there will be more of that. No, don't say anything! You just think about it. Finish fixing your face and I'll take you home."

It wasn't until they were half way home that Robert realized his dick and balls were exposed. Blushing, he reached a hand between his legs and pulled the wet gusset to cover them. The dampness made him shiver and he wanted to be sick. Sick because while he never would admit it, he more than enjoyed the experience.

Parked in the driveway, Copper forced some more tongue twisting kisses before he was satisfied. "Amanda your kisses are beginning to taste like honey. I'll see you next week. I think, in time, you just might like dating me," he said.

"Fat chance!" Robert said as he got out of the car hearing Copper's laughter. Even before he got to the front door, Robert was beginning to have doubts.

Both June and Janet were waiting for him as he entered the house. Seeing him, June frowned while Janet had an ear to ear smile. The smudged lipstick and two obvious hickies on his neck, telling them pretty much how the date went.

"I never expected my punishment would go this far. I wish I had never considered it. What have I done to my son?" June thought near tears. Gulping back the tears, said, "Amanda, it's late and we have a lot of shopping to do tomorrow. Go on and get to bed."

Considering what had happened, Robert didn't realize his lipstick was smeared or that he had the love bites. His mind preoccupied with his first sexual experience. At the moment he was happy that Auntie wasn't questioning him. Seeing Janet's big grin bothered him though.

"Come on cousin, I'll help you," Janet said taking his hand.

In his room Janet began giggling. "What's so funny?" Robert asked.

The look on Momma's face when you came in," she replied. "It like she was pole axed on the head."

"What?" he asked surprised.

"Well for one thing, you didn't fix your lipstick before you came in and secondly, you have two large hickies on your neck. She wasn't happy when I came home the first time with hickies and grilled me on every detail of my date. She even made me expose my breasts to make sure I didn't let Steven get that far. Tonight though, Momma was so upset, she didn't say a thing.

"I've got hickies?" he gasped and went over to the mirror.

"Don't worry Amanda. Just use plenty of concealer in the morning," she said giggling.

"But...how...how can I explain this to her in the morning? It was humiliating just having to go on that date. Now this!" he groaned as tears began to fall.

"It's just part of growing up Amanda. Get used to it. Every girl goes through it sooner

or later. Just don't say anything. Mothers always worry about their little girl but she'll get over it," Janet replied.

"But I'm not a girl!" he wailed as more tears ran down his cheeks.

"Amanda! What have I been telling you? Look into the mirror and say, 'I'm Amanda. I'm a pretty girl. I love being Amanda.' Believe what you are saying and everything will be fine," Janet scolded.

Looking into the mirror Robert didn't see a pretty face. The tears had ruined his mascara and eyeliner, there were streaks in his foundation and lipstick was smeared across the lips. However what he did see was the face of a distraught girl. Robert's face was hidden. He was even crying like a girl.

As he began repeating his mantra Robert began to actually believe it. "I'm Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda," he began. "If I really was Amanda then I wouldn't feel so guilty about enjoying what Copper did so much. I hate to admit it but kissing him isn't so bad either. Maybe Janet is right. If I think I'm Amanda then I wouldn't be..." he thought.

##

Saturday morning Robert woke with his morning woodie. It wasn't its normal ramrod stiff but still noticeable. He was nauseous but not enough to toss anything up. Robert figured he just needed some breakfast to settle his tummy ache. He reached up and absentmindedly scratched his right nipple. Getting out of bed headed to the bathroom.

Finished his bathing routine, went to get dressed. They were going shopping today and Janet told him to dress in shorts and blouse to make changing easier. At his bureau Robert selected a pair of yellow panties with a floral white lace applique on the front, matching bra and panty girdle. He had only one pair of shorts which until now had avoided. They were white cotton hip-hugger shorts with wide upper thigh legs. The shorts fitted tight against his butt and crotch but the legs flared out. Robert thought they looked more like a real short skirt and revealed way too much leg. A yellow light weight cotton shell blouse with floral embroidery across the bodice completed his dressing. Looking into the mirror tried to ignore the yellowish-brown hickies on his neck.

"Gross," he thought. "I hope Janet was right about using concealer. I don't want anyone seeing those."

As was her custom, Janet walked into his room without knocking while he was putting on his makeup. "Morning Amanda, how are you feeling this morning?" she greeted warmly.

She had every reason to be happy after last night. Momma was beginning to believe Robert was actually enjoying being a girl. Something she was more than happy to encourage. If he hadn't complained so much about being Amanda, she might believe it as well. He not only was surprisingly good with his impersonation but becoming more emotional like a girl too. Janet didn't understand it but didn't care. She was getting her revenge and the side benefit of him doing whatever she demanded.

Janet was content just watching Robert trying to cover up his hickies until she notice the little calendar. "Amanda, have you checked your calendar? I see a red x on today. You haven't forgotten about your monthly visitor have you?"

"What? No...errr..please Janet, don't make me do that again. It's too embarrassing," Robert answered shaken at the thought.

**“It’s all part of being a girl Amanda. As soon as you finish putting on your makeup, take care of it. Don’t forget to douche either. I’ll know if you don’t. When you finish, I’ll give you your pill,” she instructed.**

**To Be Continued**

## **IT’S ALWAYS THE LITTLE THINGS**

**Part Four**

**By Cheryl Lynn**

**“I can’t believe it’s just the end of May and I look and act so much like a girl. I even have to have a period and take those stupid pills girls take. Janet says I have to think like a girl too and that’s very hard. What’s going to happen to me by the end of August? I never wanted this but have to do my best. I try so hard sometimes my head hurts. My life would be over if anyone found out,” Robert’s mind wailed grabbing his purse.**

**“Come on Amanda, Momma’s waiting for us,” Janet said getting impatient but satisfied. She had checked and Amanda was wearing a thick pad. Seeing it gave her a thrill knowing how humiliating that had to be.**

**The shopping arena June took them to was new, called Ghirardelli Square, a collection of shops and restaurants located in the old chocolate factory. All the shops were having both grand opening and holiday sales that June couldn’t pass up.**

**“Alright kids. Listen up. It’s going to be very crowded so stick close. We have a lot of shopping to do for Amanda and I don’t want to have to chase you down. Amanda, I don’t have a big budget with Janet going to college. I expect you to reimburse me when Betty pays you. Janet, we’ll get something for you too,” June instructed.**

**As Robert was afraid, their first stop was a woman’s lingerie store. A store he would never have entered when he was a boy. To ease his nervousness, began silently reciting his mantra. I’m Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda. Doing that kept the smile on his face and helped calm the nerves. He almost lost it though when June took him into a changing room to measure him for a bra. June and Janet were surprised seeing Amanda was a thirty-two full A-cup. Robert had no idea of what that meant but gladly began to put his bra and blouse back on.**

**“He can’t be growing breasts. I must have measured wrong. Still his chest is puffy and I don’t remember his nipples being so pronounced,” June thought trying to dismiss the idea.**

**“Golly, he’s growing boobies. Must be from wearing bras all the time. Guys don’t have them,” Janet thought dismissively.**

**“Amanda, don’t put that back on. Janet and I are going to find you some better fitting bras,” June said seeing what Robert was doing. “You’ll be fine in here. We’ll be back shortly.”**

**“They want me to just stand here half naked? I hope they don’t take long. It would be embarrassing if someone came in here,” he thought covering his chest with his hands. For all his life, Robert had spent most of his summers topless but now felt naked.**

**Outside the changing room, June grabbed Janet’s arm to stop her. “Janet you saw Rob.”**

**“You mean Amanda, Momma?” Janet broke in.**

**“Yes, Amanda, you saw her chest? It’s puffy and the nipples are swollen. I swear it looks like he, I mean she is developing breasts,” June finished somewhat flustered.**

**“Momma, so it’s a little puffy but you know that can’t happen. It must be from wearing bras all the time. I wouldn’t worry about it. It’s not like she’s sprouting watermelons,” Janet replied.**

**“I guess you’re right darling. It’s that I’m worried about how far this has gone. Way beyond what I was planning,” June acknowledged.**

**“Well look on the bright side Momma. Amanda is so much nicer to be around and hasn’t given either one of us any problems. That’s got to count for something,” Janet said.**

**“You’re right about that. Still...,” June paused. “Never mind, let’s see if we can find something nice in a 32-A.”**

**“Momma my old bras were a B-cup. Amanda can’t suddenly have smaller ones,” Janet commented.**

**##**

**In a way Robert was happy with the three new Harlow bullet bras June had gotten him. They fit him snuggler and didn’t shift as much as Janet’s old ones did. He still didn’t like how they stuck out in a stiff V but June got him what she called, “enhancers.” It made him very self-conscious. The three new panty girdles were a different matter. They seemed a size too small and he had to use baby powder to get them on. Plus they crushed his boy parts.**

**June purchased two new dresses by Betty Bardan. They were similar in style with square necklines, fitted bodices, short sleeves with bell full skirts reaching just below the knees. One was a mint green with a pleated bodice, the other powder pink with three decorative large white buttons sewn on the bodice. Three knee length straight skirts and five poly blouses, two with ruffled lacy jabot ties. A shoe store provided three pairs of three-inch spike heeled pumps one with an open toe, the others pointed. Two dozen pairs of stockings in several shades and deniers completed his shopping.**

**On Sunday Robert wore the mint green dress with four white net petticoats. Along with the required white gloves and box hat. Leslie and her friends were impressed when they met up with Amanda after the service.**

**“Gee Amanda, with that new hairdo and dress you look so sophisticated. Where did you get it and who did your hair?” Sue asked.**

**“Thank you Sue. Auntie got it for me at that new place, Ghirardelli Square. Betty at the Cut and Curl styled it. Do you think it really makes me look older?”**

**“Yeah Amanda, if your boyfriend Copper could see you now, it’d make him drool. From the way David and Brandon couldn’t take their eyes off you during the entire service tells me they felt the same,” Leslie added with a giggle.**

Robert wanted to say, "He's not my boyfriend" but bit his tongue. Though in a way, was pleased hearing that he could make other boys drool.

Back at the house Robert changed into a skirt and blouse then began his chores. Sunday was laundry day and use to be Janet's job but now his along with the ironing. The best thing about this day was that he was left alone. It also gave him time to think.

"Leslie said I looked pretty enough to make Copper drool. What a laugh. Like I could ever make a boy drool. I'm still a guy under all this fluff. Yet Leslie said so and for some reason that pleases me. Weird, and the way they complimented me made me feel pretty too. I never felt pretty before. I still don't like it but today I feel better about it. If I have to be a girl at least I'm pretty," he thought.

##

Monday night June told Amanda to set her alarm for five-thirty. "Amanda I'm taking you to the Cut and Curl. Remember, you have a job now and will need the extra time to get ready. I have to be at the office by eight, so I'm going to drop you off a little early," she said.

"I forgot all about that Auntie. Do I have too?" Robert whined.

"Of course, you also have to pay me back for your new clothing and you really need to get more. A lot more," June responded.

"Fudge! Like everything else I don't have a choice. Shampoo girl! At least she's not going to have me paint anyone's nails or toes," he thought.

Tuesday morning Robert had to rush. He had taken more time in the bath than he planned. As he went back into his room wearing a pink quilted shorty robe, mumbled, "Dang periods. If I hadn't had to douche and fumble with that pillow stuck between my legs I'd be dressed already. Only one more day of that, thank goodness."

He was finishing putting on his makeup when he heard June yell, "Amanda hurry up! We need to leave."

"Be right there. I just need to get my purse," he yelled back. "These stirrup pants make my butt look big and I can see girdle lines. The only good thing about these pants is I don't have to wear nylons," he thought grabbing his purse.

"Amanda do a good job and whatever Betty tells you. You know we live on a tight budget and I can't keep providing you with clothing, makeup and other essentials. Betty closes at seven on week days and I'll pick you up then. Have a good day dear," June said as she pulled into the Cut and Curl parking lot.

##

Betty saw them pull up into the parking lot and smiled. "Good, Amanda is early. We have a slack day today so I can go ahead and dye his hair that real brassy blond. I should be able to give him that wild and curly perm by Thursday. When Greta gets here, I'll have her do his makeup and Tina can give him nail extensions. If he complains, I'll tell him it's part of the job. What better way to advertise our services," she thought.

Robert was staring at his reflection not quite believing what he was seeing. According to his magazines, all the latest styles from fashions to makeup were trending to the minimalistic look. Yet he looked like someone out of the fifties. His hair was styled in a big hair bouffant flip in a very brassy color. His makeup way over done. His face was layered in foundation, the brows into higher thinner black arches, the lids covered in green eyeshadow, red blusher on his cheeks and even a brighter wet red on his lips.

Tina had applied half-inch nail extensions on his fingers, filed into ovals with four coats of matching red varnish. He hated what they did but it was a job requirement. It also made him look older.

“Amanda that’s enough time gazing into the mirror. Come with me. I’m going to show you how to properly shampoo and rinse. For now you’re my shampoo girl until Linda gets back. If you do a good job, I’ll put you with Tina then. You’re the new girl, so address me and the staff as ‘Miss’ and customers as “Ma’am,” understood? While I’m at it, wear at least three-inch heels for work. You’ll need the height to properly do your job,” Betty instructed.

“I’m going to have to do something nice for Greta and Tina. They did exactly what I wanted. If he’s going to be a girl, it might as well be a campy, high maintenance one,” she thought.

Hearing that he would have to wear high heels for work, Robert groaned. He had worn flats, knowing he would be on his feet all day. Having to wear heels would be a killer. He didn’t need the extra height but Betty had her reasons. What she said next was worse.

“Amanda I want you to get with Greta between customers. You must learn to apply your makeup just like it is now. Like your uniforms, I’ll deduct the cost of your makeup and cleansing lotions from your paycheck each week. Cosmetics are expensive but I charge only my wholesale costs. The styling and coloring are free. It gives my hairdressers more experience.”

“Yes Miss. Betty,” he dutifully replied. “Golly, I didn’t know I’d have to pay for any of that. I don’t use that much but I know it’s not cheap. I’m beginning to wonder if I’ll make any money now with all this gunk I have to wear. At least it’s only for three days but that’s still a lot of makeup,” he thought.

By the time his Auntie showed up, Robert was more than ready. He was mentally and physically exhausted. When he wasn’t washing hair, he was practicing makeup application or running errands for the staff. It’s not that the staff was being unfriendly, it was simply that he was the new girl. Greta was curious why Betty wanted the heavy fifties look but she was the boss.

##

“Amanda what in the world are you doing with that much makeup on and that..that hair color?” June asked startled by the dramatic change as soon as he got into the car.

“Miss. Betty...she said I have to look like this so she could increase sales,” he replied. “I don’t like it but she said I have too.”

“I think she’s gone too far. You’re just a teenager after all,” June replied. “I’ll have a talk with her.”

If June was surprised, Janet when she saw him was shocked and amused. “Oh my gawd! Amanda looks like a street walker with all that makeup slathered on and brassy hair. I can’t wait to find out what’s going on,” she thought following him to his room.

While Janet was visiting with Amanda, June was on the phone. “Betty, it’s me June. I want to know why did you do that outrageous makeover on Amanda,” she said when Betty answered.

“Calm down June. I did it for you and Janet’s sake. What do I mean? It’s simple, from the first time you brought Amanda to see me, I knew Amanda was your son Robert though we’ve never met. From what you told me how misbehaved he was, I figured out

what you were doing. Now, if I could tell so easily, how long before anyone who really knows him figures it out. Light makeup and wearing dresses won't stop them for long. His natural features can't be hidden like that. So, I decided to help you out and stop any possible humiliation your family might suffer from exposure. While this is a major metropolis and such behavior accepted in some parts, you don't move and live in those circles."

"The heavy makeup covers up his natural features and the hair color shouts female. While extreme, it offers safety from detection and he has the excuse of working here to answer any questions. He can tell his friends that he's learning to become a cosmetologist. Now, I can stop but you're running a major risk here. Let me do my thing and you won't have any worries. He'll still have to wear the makeup while he works in my salon in any case. I can't afford any of my customers discovering his secret, understand. I highly recommend you heed my advice and have him wearing heavy makeup from now on. Does that clear everything up?"

"You knew? Have you told anyone else?" June gasped caught off guard.

"Of course not. What are good friends for? As your friend, I hope you approve of what I've done. It is for the best," Betty replied.

"Amanda's come such a long way in just a month, I hadn't given any thought about what you said. So convincing I haven't even thought about Robert lately. I guess you're right though. The last thing I want is to humiliate him or you for that matter," she answered.

"I'm glad to hear that. Now you just let me do my thing and no one will know our little secrets. Another thing before I go, keep Amanda in at least three-inch heels all the time. It gives her legs a more feminine look. Call me anytime. I've got to go, bye," Betty said with a wide grin. "She bought that hook, line and sinker," she thought.

Thursday Betty had Robert in her styling chair. His entire head covered in tightly rolled different colored and sized curlers. The heady aroma of setting solution hung in the air making him wrinkle his nose.

"I'm giving you the latest style. It's called a wild and curly set. It's your basic Bee Hive, not as high but very curly. Once it's finished I'm going to use varnish to lacquer it in place but you'll still need to use hairspray. I'm sure you'll be getting a lot of compliments, make sure you tell them where you had it done," Betty instructed.

When Betty had finished, Robert had a large bubble of tightly wound spiral curls covering his head. When he touched it, thought, "It's stiff as a board. No wonder she said if I didn't get it wet, it should last a month or two. She even gave me a clear plastic hood to carry in my purse in case it rains."

##

Friday night Amanda had another date with Copper. It was one Robert was definitely not looking forward to. "Copper likes guys, so maybe with this big hair and all this gunk on my face won't want to do anything. If I'm lucky maybe refuse to take me out," Robert hoped.

Copper was shocked when Amanda got into the car. He didn't expect to see a big dome of brassy curls nor the heavy makeup. He could only stare wide eyed as she slid over to sit beside him while June and Janet watched.

"You've changed," he managed after they kissed.

"Yeah, I have to look like this for my new job at the beauty salon. I only work there

during the middle of the week but Auntie insists I wear heavy makeup all the time now. Auntie said it would help hide my real face so nobody would, you know, did what you did. I don't like it either but it's easier than arguing," Robert replied feeling more confident that Copper wouldn't want to go out with him anymore.

"Guess she's right about that. If you had worn that much gunk on your face at the pool party I certainly wouldn't," he answered putting the car in gear.

"Where are we going? You said it was a surprise on the phone," Robert asked.

"My place," came his curt reply.

"You're taking me to meet your parents?" he replied surprised.

"No, I have a small apartment near the community college I'm going to in the fall. I thought we could have some more fun that way. I got some Ripple and weed," he said with a big grin.

"What! I...I thought you wouldn't want to go out with me any more looking like this. I don't look anything like a guy now," Robert gasped as his hopes died.

"I don't but I still need you as Amanda. There's a party in two weeks and most of my friends will be there. A few of my enemies too. So you're going to help me dispel all those nasty rumors you started, understand. How humiliating would it be if your secret got out then?" he stated. In the meantime, you're going to entertain me.

"You....you can't do that. Yo...you'd expose your secret as well," Robert said.

"Well, if I didn't have a backup plan, you're right. Remember Cameron from band? We had a thing going for a while but she doesn't know about me. She'll be there. All I have to do is bitch slap you with your panties down and rush to her for comfort. She still has a big crush on me, you know. Then we'll be an item until the end of summer. You're much prettier than her but I'll do what I have to. No more vicious rumors to quell then," came his smug reply.

"Okay, okay. Let's just get this date over with," Robert answered blotting away newly formed tears.

##

Robert's first experience with marijuana didn't start off as a good one. The acrid smoke burned his throat and sinuses making him hack and cough. He grabbed the large glass filled with wine and gulped it down. Later, time seemed to be slowing down, he became very relaxed and had a case of the giggles. Seeing that the drug and wine were having their intended effect, Copper stripped naked and helped Robert do the same. For some reason Robert thought of them getting naked was funny and giggled.

"This is so weird. It's like everything is moving in slow motion and I can't seem to stop giggling. A bit fuzzy but the colors so bright. Like an awake dream," Robert thought as Copper had him sit on the floor and spread his legs. "Wow, this is getting weirder. It looks like Copper's legs are red snakes creeping up and over mine."

Once Copper arranged himself, their crotches touching, gave Robert a deep throat kiss. He was surprised as Robert for the first time reciprocated. Reaching his hand down between them, Copper grasped both of their penises and began slowly masturbating, maintaining the kiss. With both erect, Copper broke the kiss and pushed Robert down on his back. Sliding down Copper took Robert's shaft into his mouth and began sucking.

"Oh, oh," Robert said in reaction to the moist wetness engulfing him. The sensations

filling his dulled mind were overwhelming.

Copper shifted his body around until his legs were straddling Robert's head. His hardness touching, probing at Robert's lips. Copper let out a low moan as he felt Robert take him and begin sucking.

"Finally," Copper thought as he slid a hand under Robert's round ass and between the crack.

"Oh, oh, oooohhh," Robert screamed as he felt something enter and begin moving in and out of his rosebud. It didn't hurt but the tickling, tingling sensations radiating up his spine merging with those from his erection were overwhelming. Those feelings so delightful, he didn't realize he had Copper's penis in his mouth and sucking fiercely.

Copper hadn't taken but a few hits of the drug and one glass of wine. He was in total control. "Got you bitch. I prefer being the bottom but wow, I think I'm going to like being on top for a change. You might not remember much of tonight but you will in the morning," he thought sliding off and turning Robert onto his stomach.

Amanda was home a little after eleven, buzzed and disheveled. Fortunately only Janet was waiting up for him. June after that last date, couldn't bring herself to witness his return.

"What the heck Amanda? What did you do on your date? Are you drunk?" Janet asked.

"H...he made...made me smoke...smoke some weed...an..and I feel so..so.. mellow... right now," Robert slowly replied.

"Well, come on. Let me help you clean up and get to bed. You can tell me all about it," Janet said wondering what else she could find out in his drugged condition.

Like she guessed, Robert was in no condition to be of much help. Janet had to remove his smeared makeup and undress him. Stripping him down to his bra and panties went to get his nightie. Robert was standing on wobbly legs holding onto the vanity for dear life, the room was spinning. Returning with the nightie, Janet gasped. There was a large wet spot covering the bottom of his panties.

"He peed his panties! Well, I'm not going to clean that up," she thought pulling the nightie over his head.

##

Robert was as sick as a dog when he woke up in the morning. His usual morning nausea quickly turned into a bad case of the dry heaves. His head was pounding and spinning. The only thing he could do was sit on the commode, hold his cramping stomach and moan. Gradually he became aware of a burning pain coming from his bottom.

"I hurt everywhere this morning even my poor asshole. What happened last night? I don't remember much. I know I drank some sweet wine and smoked weed for the first time. I think I had fun though. Don't know why. I didn't want to go out or be with him. I'm going to be sick again," he thought getting back on his knees clutching his stomach with one hand, the other on his forehead.

It was late morning when he managed to leave his room. He was still a little queasy and figured it would go away once he had eaten. Janet saw him and smiled.

"Looks like Amanda isn't feeling so good this morning. I would love to know what went on last night. Must have been a wild one though," she thought.

**“How was your date last night Amanda? From the way you were last night and this morning, it must have been a great one,” she said.**

**“Not so loud Janet. My head is killing me and all clogged up,” he replied.**

**“Yeah, and your eyes are bloodshot. It’s a good thing Momma is out running errands and picking up the groceries. She’d have a fit seeing you like this,” she responded smiling at his discomfort. “So what happened?”**

**“I...I’m not sure. Don’t remember a lot, everything is all blurry. I think I had to kiss him a lot....he...hugged me,” he began then a clear image came to mind stopping him. “He was hugging me from behind an...and oh, nooo,” he thought remembering what happened as he began crying torrents.**

**“Come on, you can tell me,” Janet urged feeling sorry but curious about what started him crying so hard.**

**“Oh noooo, I...I wan...want..to..forget...,” he stuttered between sobs.**

**When he stopped crying, Janet said, “You’ve ruined your makeup and look like a drowned raccoon. Come on back to your room. I’ll help and give you your pill,” she said hoping to get some more information.**

**She didn’t get any more information and Robert stayed in his room for most of the day. When he finally emerged, it was late afternoon. He hadn’t eaten all day but wasn’t hungry. He was too upset over remembering what had happened. The most disconcerting was remembering how hard he had climaxed.**

**“I’m not like that! I’m not. I’m not,” he kept repeating over and over. Copper had given Robert his very first real kiss, first oral and anal. Those firsts plus unknowingly taking potent female hormones, had their effects on his libido. Wearing women’s clothing and behaving like a young woman also contributed to Robert’s awaking sexual desires and loss of his male image. Gradually over the morning his refusal became, I’m Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda. Saying that mantra seemed to ease the conflicts in his mind.**

**While Robert was coming to terms with what had happened, Copper was just as confused. “Last night was the best sex I’ve ever had. The few times I’ve done it was on our away band trips with Rodney. He was always the one in charge but I was in charge last night and it felt fantastic. I don’t care for girls that way but Robert is different. He can pass as one yet has those special bits I love. Rodney and I had to be so careful and I always felt scared the next morning. I know several football players that go out just to find, beat up and roll some guy like me. If they ever found out my life wouldn’t be worth a plug nickel. With Robert I don’t need to be afraid. I think I can really get into that. Now that I think about it, I don’t care how girly he dresses or acts, I’ll know what’s in her panties,” he mused.**

**##**

**Sunday after church Leslie and her friends gathered around Amanda while June and Janet were off talking to their friends. “Wow, Amanda I love what you’ve done to your hair, all those curls,” Sue said.**

**“Yeah, I do too Amanda. Where did you get it done? I’d like Mom to let me get one like it but not that color,” Leslie added.**

**“My Mother would never let me wear that much makeup. It does make you look older though, like a college girl,” Betty complimented.**

**When June and Janet came to get him, Robert was more than happy to get away.**

While his friends complimented him on his new look, felt like they weren't being real. It was the way they said them and acted. It was more like they were making fun of him.

Monday Janet had Amanda reading various teen magazines and listening to music. She was satisfied Amanda had enough training but wouldn't hurt to keep up with the latest gossip and fashion trends. She also wanted Amanda to become more attuned to what music and artists girls swooned over.

Tuesday through Thursday he spent at the Cut and Curl. Thursday, he was surprised to find himself humming while he shampooed a customer. "Golly, can I actually be liking this?" he thought when he realized what he was doing.

Friday Copper called. He didn't want to talk to him but Janet insisted. Taking the receiver, said, "I'm busy and can't go out with you."

"Look Amanda, you're going out with me tomorrow but I promise no funny stuff. I just want to talk to you, that's all. I'll pick you up at seven. We'll just talk," Copper said.

"Promise, nothing else?" Robert replied.

"Promise, cross my heart and hope to die. See you at seven, bye," came the response.

Normally Janet picked out what he would wear for his dates but not tonight. She had her own date to get ready for. "I'm wearing my tightest panty girdle tonight. There's no way I'm going to let him get into my panties again," Robert thought picking out the peach colored one with its bright peach satin front panel. He also selected his white linen with black square pattern, just below the knee sheath dress. Robert figured it would be harder to get above his hips than a full skirt if Copper became demanding.

June watched Amanda get into Copper's car with a frown as she saw them kiss. "I don't like this. Janet says Amanda has to keep up appearances but could have just kissed his cheek. I have to admit that maybe I was wrong about this whole punishment thing. That book did say some boys preferred to stay dressed. I just wish it had been made more clear that they dated men," she thought.

When Amanda got into the car, she had no intentions of sliding over next to Copper much less kissing him. "Amanda come over here and give me a kiss. Your Auntie is watching and I promise I'll do nothing else," Copper directed.

Amanda kissed him then started to move to her side of the car. Copper put an arm around her shoulders. "No, Amanda, stay. It'll be easier to talk this way," he said.

"Okay, where are we going" Amanda answered curtly.

"Thought we'd go to the drive-in," he replied.

"No way you're going to get me back to that place," came her quick reply.

"No, not that. We're going to the A & W drive-in to get burgers and root beer. Will you please just chill out? Besides a lot of people we know will be hanging there," he responded.

"Sounds good. Auntie hasn't let me have much in the way of fried food much less a juicy burger," Amanda agreed.

They circled the A & W four times, Copper honking his horn when passing someone he knew before pulling into a space. Burgers, fries and root beers ordered, Copper began the conversation.

"Look Amanda...err....Robert..I'm...I'm sorry about the last time. I can only blame the weed and wine. I hope you will forgive me. I've been doing a lot of thinking since then. I am the way I am but I've found myself..err...liking you as Amanda. Don't know

exactly why but I do. Probably because we're seen as a normal couple by everybody. I'm tired of having to sneak off to parts of town where I'm accepted. When I'm with you and you knowing how I am, it's so much easier. I guess what I'm trying to tell you is I want us to be friends. I won't force you to do anything you don't want to do except a kiss or two when we're around our friends. Can you do that until the end of summer?"

"What the h...e...double toothpicks? He took advantage of me and now wants to be friends? He did apologize though. I guess we were both messed up and he's promised not to do anything. The longer more people see us together, then he won't be able to rat on me. Dating me this long, our friends should realize he'd have discovered my secret by now," Robert thought.

"Okay but you pull something like that again, I don't care what you tell everybody. I'll do the same to you," Robert said.

"Deal, here come the burgers. I'm starved," he said rolling up the window a bit so the waitress could hang the tray.

They stayed there almost three hours talking before Copper took Amanda home. The conversation was a revelation for Robert. They discussed what happened on their last date. A subject he was very uncomfortable with at first. It was unsettling because it made him face the fact that he had enjoyed it. It wasn't the weed or wine though he'd enjoy those in moderation that he liked. It was the sex. Another revelation was that Copper was jealous of him. He confessed how much he would love being able to pass as a girl. That's why when his uniform pants split down the middle, he was wearing pink panties. He was crying when he confessed that aspect of his life.

The Amanda part of Robert took over and kissed Copper gently on the lips. "Now why did I do that? Maybe I'm beginning to think like a girl," Amanda thought.

"How was your date Amanda? Where did you go?" June asked when she came in. "At least her dress isn't wrinkled and lipstick only slightly smeared," she thought relieved.

"Oh just to the A & W for some burgers," Amanda replied.

"You know I don't want you eating fried foods. They'll ruin your skin and give you acne. Go get ready for bed, we have church in the morning. Good night dear," June said.

"I must be crazy," Robert thought once in bed. "I'm a guy and shouldn't want to go out with another one but...but for some crazy reason I like it. Copper, I know him better now but still...he was actually crying....I was forced to dress this way but he would love to be in my shoes. I actually felt sorry for him and kissed him, weird. Weird! All this is just plain weird."

## IT'S ALWAYS THE LITTLE THINGS

### Part Five

By Cheryl Lynn

Sunday after church, Amanda was invited to spend the afternoon at Leslie's pool. "Are there going to be any boys there?" Robert asked.

"No, my brother has a baseball game and my Daddy is going with him. They'll be gone all afternoon. It's just me, Sue, Betsey and you. Why are you asking? You're not

breaking up with Copper, are you?" Leslie responded.

"What? No, we're still dating. I...I was just curious you know," he replied. "I shouldn't have asked that. Now she's going to be asking a million questions this afternoon. Better think of something fast," he thought then said, "He's taking me to a party next Saturday. I can't wait to dance with him. If he dances as good as he kisses, it'll be fun."

"Oh goodie. I like Copper. He's nice and you two make a great couple. See you around two," Leslie said skipping off.

"Now why did I say dancing and us kissing? I don't know how to dance like a girl either. I'll have to get Janet to teach me. I already know how to kiss. I kinda like that," he thought.

Monday Amanda spent learning how to dance like a girl. He already knew a simple box step but doing it backward and in heels awkward. The hardest was doing the fast ones. It took most of the day before Janet was satisfied with how he shook his butt and shoulders. Most of the fast dance styles required the girl to stay in one spot, move up and down, side to side while shimmering and shaking their butts, shoulders and boobs.

"Amanda there's something wrong," Janet said. "Your boobs aren't moving right. Way too stiff. It must be those enhancers. We've got to do something about that if you want to look right. Keep practicing, I'll call Brenda, maybe she'll have an idea."

Later she came back smiling, carrying something in her hands. "Brenda had a brilliant idea. Open your blouse," she said.

"What?" Robert asked as she removed the enhancers.

"I cut the feet off a pair of hose and stuffed them with rice. Let me put them in and see what happens," Janet replied.

"They're heavy?" he commented.

"Yeah, I put a cup of rice in each one. Now start dancing. The weight should shift and make'em look real," she answered. "Oh, much better. I think you should use those in your bras from now on Amanda. You don't look so stiff now. It's amazing how little things like that make such a big difference," she added seeing him dance.

Tuesday, it was back to the Cut and Curl and a new assignment. Linda had returned from vacation and resumed being the shampoo girl. Amanda was made Tina's apprentice. Robert's new position was to give Tina's customers foot baths and messages in preparation for their pedicure. Robert couldn't think of a more demeaning position. Kneeling at some woman's feet, washing them then messaging. It made him feel like he was less of a person but he accepted it. Robert just didn't have the rebellious nature that drove him to grow his hair long or pull practical jokes like before. He was much more submissive and unlike the Robert of old.

Friday, it was back to dance practice. Only this time Janet demanded that he wear what he planned for the party. That didn't bother Robert so much but the scarlet patent leather four-inch spike heels did. Wearing those heels would be difficult but also put him face to face matching Copper's height. Three-inch heels didn't bother him as much having to wear them every day but that extra inch would.

"Janet, I don't think I want to wear these heels to the party. It's only been an hour and my toes, ankles and calves are burning," he complained taking a break.

"Amanda it's a price we girls have to pay to look our best. Get used to it. Besides, it

will only be for three or four hours,” she replied.

“I’m Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda,” ran through his mind as Janet grabbed his hands and began leading him around the room to the music. He didn’t know why he was thinking that but it did make what he was doing easier to accept.

Friday afternoon, Amanda along with Janet and her two girl friends were going shopping. Amanda got paid Thursday. The check was disappointing, netting only \$25 after deductions. Sixty-five cents an hour didn’t add up too much but the next check would include her cut of Tina’s tips. Auntie agreed to let Amanda pay her back over time, leaving a measly fifteen dollars. Seven went to buy a scarlet satin bra, three for the matching nylon panties and the rest to purchase a scarlet slinky full slip with heavily embroidered lace bodice and hem. Robert didn’t want to buy any of them but the girls insisted they were essential to coordinate with the dress and heels he was wearing to the party.

Saturday and time to get ready for his date. Janet told him to make sure there was no stubble on his legs and under arms. “This black with tea rose imprint Lanz cotton dress I gave you is perfect for the party Amanda. It was tight on me but one of my very favorites. It’s sleeveless with a cute pleated bodice but I just love the open lace-up back. You’re going to enjoy feeling Copper’s fingers running over the bared skin. I know I did the few times I wore it. The square neckline will keep your lack of cleavage covered too. I think one or two petticoats should flare out the skirt nicely. I’ll loan you my red sequined clutch and that red velvet cameo choker to go with it.”

##

The party turned out to be fun. It was at Melissa’s house. She played the lead saxophone in the band. Her house was in an upscale neighborhood with a large den. A large area in the den had been cleared off for dancing. Her mom and dad made sure there were plenty of snacks and refreshments. When Amanda was introduced to Cameron took an instant dislike. Robert had known her when he was in the band but never actually met Cameron. She wasn’t all that pretty but did have a large bust. Her best feature was probably her curly cinnamon colored hair Robert had thought. As soon as she walked up to them, gave Copper a quick kiss on the lips. Seeing that Amanda was upset.

“What’s she doing? She has to know he’s going steady with me,” Amanda thought while unconsciously fingering Copper’s ring hanging from her neck.

“Cameron, this is Amanda. She’s here for the summer and we’re going steady,” Copper said.

“Oh, really. I heard something like that,” Cameron responded. “Too BAD it’s only for the summer,” she added after a pause.

Her tone and emphasis on “Bad” for some reason really irritated Amanda. “Maybe, but he’s mine now,” Robert found himself replying coldly. “Why did I just say that? I shouldn’t even be dating him,” he thought confused.

Other than that Amanda enjoyed the party. Mixing with the other girls, chatting about fashions, makeup and other feminine interests came easily. Dancing with Copper fun and he kept his word. Well, other than more than a few deep kisses and a couple of grabs to the ass during the slow ones. There were even a few times when Amanda noticed Cameron staring, that made her initiated the kiss.

“I shouldn’t be kissing him but seeing that bitch looking pissed worth it,” Robert thought.

##

July pretty much followed along the same routine as June's. Amanda got up, did her morning routine, taking the pill and had another period. When she wasn't at the Cut and Curl pretty much left to her own devices. Occasionally Janet would take her to the local public pool but Amanda preferred being dropped off at Leslie's house or her other girlfriends, Sue and Betsey. Amanda felt much more at ease with them than Janet's older friends. Janet's two friends knew Amanda's secret and often made comments that left him uncomfortable. Amanda also began going out more often with Copper. Other than some kissing, Copper minded his manners unless Amanda encouraged him.

Robert did have a few minor health issues during that month. He developed a low-grade fever a couple of times, then a rash across his stomach. One issue he didn't want to talk about was his chest. What had been bumps the month before were now more prominent. The nipples and areola still had that stem end of a pear look but under them were now round mounds. Occasionally they were painful but mostly itchy. Removing some of the rice each week eased the discomfort. By the end of the month, he wouldn't need the additional padding. His nipples looked like small pencil erasers, the areola the size of a half dollar and breasts navel oranges. Those developments were a big concern but in a way made his secret safer. He no longer had to worry about exposing his chest when his girlfriends were around. However, he was more apprehensive over his male appendages. It would no longer get ramrod stiff and his scrotum shrunken. Robert was scared of these physical changes but too embarrassed to discuss them with anybody.

"I don't know why my body is becoming so girly. I just hope it's reacting to me having to wear girl's clothing all the time and will go away once I have my boy's stuff back," he thought. Robert didn't really believe that but what other reason could there be.

Another thing Robert wasn't aware of was the mental changes. He didn't assert himself as Amanda's behavior became ingrained. Not having to think about walking, talking and other feminine things was a great relief for Robert. He let that part of his mind wander letting Amanda take over. It was getting to the point where Robert just went along for the ride. Life was just so much easier that way. Other than the Cut and Curl Amanda was having a great time. Much better than the one Robert would have had by far. Amanda was getting to see the latest movies, eating pizzas, burgers and some gifts courteously furnished by Copper. She was popular and had girlfriends to hang out with.

##

Otherwise, nothing stood out in the month of July except for the fourth. That day turned out to be a whopper. Copper was taking him to a beach party to celebrate the holiday. Amanda had to bring the food and Copper the drinks. Amanda wasn't sure what to make but Auntie stepped in. With Janet's encouragement and Robert's behavior, June was beginning to forget she had a son. There were no more arguments, the house was neat and clean, plus June enjoyed coming home from work. That was something she used to dread because of Robert's antics. Going out with Copper still caused a twinge of guilt but not nearly as strong.

"Amanda there will most likely be a fire. Just get a package of hotdogs and buns. Pack some mustard, ketchup, relish and you're done. I think I have a large bag of potato chips here somewhere unless Janet absconded with them," she suggested.

They got to the beach just before sundown. There were about two dozen teenagers

already there and they did have a small bonfire going. Amanda was happy to see two of her best friends Leslie and Sue there with their boyfriends, Bobby and David.

“Where’s Betsey and Danny?” she asked tossing a blanket on the sand.

“Betsey is really bummed out. Danny came down with a bad case of mono and she didn’t. Come sit with us and we’ll tell you all about it,” Leslie answered.

While the girls were gossiping the guys took off to get the rest of the supplies. When they returned, were carrying two ice chests. The largest contained beer and the other, food supplies and soft drinks.

It didn’t take the guys long to demolish the food. The girls were happy to just eat the salad Sue brought. By that time, it was dark but a big full moon filled the sky. The guys didn’t bring that many diet drinks so Amanda decided one beer wouldn’t hurt. She saw small cans almost half the size of the others and picked that one. Amanda didn’t know that malt liquor had a higher alcohol content than regular beer.

David suggested they all go for a swim. Everyone except Amanda decided that was a great idea. She was hesitant because of her bathing suit. Amanda and her girlfriends had gone shopping taking advantage of the holiday sales. One of the first stops was in the swim wear section. All the bathing suits were half off and her friends insisted Amanda had to have a bikini.

“Amanda I’m sick and tired of seeing you in that ugly bathing suit of yours. We all agree it’s high time you get a bikini,” Leslie stated grabbing her arm a pulling Amanda into the racks of swim suits.

Amanda settled on one that her friends reluctantly approved. The bottoms were full cut poly/spandex brief styled in black with pink diagonal stripping. The matching halter top didn’t reveal that much skin. Still Amanda wasn’t that pleased with the amount of skin that was on display. It was better than the skimpier bikinis the girls wanted to get. Plus, the elasticized bottoms held in his parts so no give away bulge showed.

“Don’t be a party pooper Amanda. Take off those cut-offs and blouse and come with us. I know you’re worried about getting that fancy hair-do wet but I promise we’ll only go in ankle deep,” Leslie demanded.

“Okay, okay. I’m coming,” Amanda replied. “Leslie is almost popping out of her top. In comparison, I’ll be fully clothed in my bikini,” she thought.

Back in May Robert would have been fully erect and in lust seeing Leslie in that skimpy bikini but not today. He just saw a pretty girl friend exposing more flesh than he thought proper. Robert’s mind had changed more than he realized.

##

The water was ice cold but that didn’t stop the guys from diving in. The girls ventured in only ankle deep and watched them. It wasn’t long before the blue lipped boys came out and they all rushed to the warmth of the fire. Beers were passed around and Copper gave Amanda another one of those small cans. Shortly, someone lit up some joints and passed them around. When one came to Amanda, took a drag.

“I don’t really want to do this but all the others are. A little puff or two won’t do much,” Amanda thought.

They partied until the fire died down and couples began getting up and moving away. Copper took Amanda’s hand, “Co..come on, let’s take a walk on the beach,” he said slightly slurred.

When they came to a stretch of beach between some large rocks, Copper tossed the blanket onto the sand. "Great place to lay back and watch the moon," he suggested.

Between the beer and weed Amanda was feeling high but not like that first time. This time, there was more control but the senses were delightfully tingling. Amanda gladly returned Copper's kisses. They were making her toes curl. Robert was aware of what was happening but looking at it from a whole new perspective. He didn't see it as perverse. After all he was Amanda now and Copper was sending shivers of pleasure running up and down his spine.

"I'm Amanda. I am a pretty girl. I love being Amanda. If I keep thinking like that, there's nothing wrong with what we're doing," Robert thought.

A final kiss and Copper began slowly moving down Amanda's body. On his knees between Amanda's legs, reached out and began pulling the bikini bottom down.

"I should stop this right now but I really like what he does down there. I don't care doing that to him although I feel that I should return the favor. I'm definitely not going to let him put it in my bottom tonight," Amanda thought as Robert let her take over.

When Copper's lips had a firm grip, he pulled off his swim suit and turned his body into the sixty-nine position. His was pleased when his own member was quickly sucked in. Slowly he began working his index finger into Amanda's bottom hole. Copper was hoping Amanda wouldn't object and he could insert something else there. He had brought a small bottle of baby oil in his bathing suit's pocket.

"I can't believe how much I like Amanda. I've always been so scared of being discovered but with Robert I don't have to worry anymore. I can have my cake and eat it too," he thought.

##

When Copper dropped Amanda off June was waiting. She was looking between the slats in the blinds as the car pulled to a stop in the driveway. "I don't have a son anymore from the way Amanda is kissing that boy. I never imagined he would get into a relationship with another boy. If I had known, never would have imposed petticoat punishment on him. But...those books did mention that some boys never went back to being boys. I don't have a choice now but to end this. End it tonight! I just hope I'm not too late. I want my son back and not a pretend girl who likes other boys," she thought.

"Alright Robert enough is enough. It's time you become a young man again. Up to your room, strip off all those girl's clothes while I get you your clothing," she said as soon as he walked into the house.

For a few seconds Robert stood frozen in place. He had let Amanda be in charge of his day to day life for so long, he wasn't sure what to do. He liked being Amanda. Then again, getting to standup to pee, much less wait in lines and not having a pretend period would be nice.

"She wants me to be me again! I thought she'd never give me my pants back. That's what I've wanted or at least I think I did. I'm not so sure I am now. Being Amanda, I had a great summer compared to what I would have as me. Copper won't date me either. I'm not sure I like that. He's made me feel..feel so different in a really nice way. My body is different now too but I'm still a guy even if I don't feel the same. I'll have to become Robert before school starts anyway so might as well go change. Hopefully these boobs go away by then," he thought then left to follow his Mother's command.

June went into Robert's room without knocking. Her arms were loaded with his

clothing. Stepping into the room, June paused. Robert had his back to her completely nude. He was staring into the full-length mirror. She could see the reflected image as well.

“He...he..has breasts! How on earth did that happen?” she thought as the clothing fell to the floor. “Robert what have you done!” June screamed.

Hearing that, Robert turned scarlet faced and immediately crossed one arm across his chest and his other hand to cover his groin. “Fudge, I didn’t hear her come in and I don’t have my robe on. Why the heck did she ask me what I’ve done. She’s the one that forced me to wear girl’s clothes and act like one,” he thought.

Janet was in the adjoining room asleep but hearing Momma scream, woke. “What’s going on? Had better get up and find out,” she thought getting out of bed.

“Momma what’s going on? I heard you,” Janet began, entering the room but stopped. She was shocked seeing her brother standing like September Morn. “He’s got breasts!” her mind shouted.

“Drop your arm and let me see!” June ordered stepping up to her son.

“Oh dear, they’re real and at least a B-cup. How could this have happened?” she thought stroking a nipple and seeing it erect.

“Alright, Robert tell me how you managed to do this?” she asked stepping back.

Robert recovering from his initial shock and embarrassment put on his robe.

“Momma, you’re the one who made me wear bras and all these girly things. I guess that’s why,” he answered.

“Don’t be ridiculous! You can’t develop breasts by wearing a bra. You didn’t go to some doctor, did you?” she replied.

“No, they...they just grew,” he stammered.

“Are you trying to tell me they just popped out overnight? Why didn’t you say something sooner?” June asked.

“I...I thought the bras....an..and I...I was..was too embarrassed,” he managed to answer.

“Well it’s too late to do anything tonight. I’m calling my gynecologist first thing in the morning. I hope she will be able to explain all this. Until then, I think it best if you stay Amanda. Go to bed. You too Janet,” she replied picking up the clothing she had dropped.

##

They were sitting in the waiting room. June was lucky that the nurse was able to work them in that morning. Amanda was fidgeting with the hem of her skirt and worried. June was pensive as she waited. Janet beginning to wonder if she might be responsible.

“I thought it would be funny making Robert take those pills but I’m worried about doing that now. It’s a little thing and shouldn’t have done much. After all, he’s a boy and can’t get pregnant. Still, I know a bra can’t create breasts so maybe those pills caused it,” Janet was thinking when the nurse called Amanda’s name.

After a thorough exam, the doctor was as puzzled as they were. “Physically Robert is healthy except for his genitals. His testicles are atrophied and incapable of producing functioning sperm. There can be a number of causes for this but I’ll know more once all the test results are back. Since there is significant breast growth, I believe it’s due

to ingesting large doses of female hormones. Robert, what medications are you taking?" the doctor said.

"Just those pills Janet gives me," he replied.

"Momma I swear I didn't know they would do anything. Boys can't get pregnant so me and my friends did it as a practical joke on him. We just wanted to embarrass him just like when we made him fake a period. That's all," Janet said beginning to cry.

"Janet were you giving him your birth control pills?" the doctor asked.

"N..No these..these were different. My friend Jo gave them to me. They were her grandmother's. Sh...she said they were the same as our pills. You know..to prevent getting pregnant. We..we didn't thi...think they wou...would do anything to..a..boy, honest," Janet tearfully replied.

"That confirms what I thought. June, as soon as you get home get those pills and call my nurse. Tell her exactly what's on that label. It will be a big help. I'll also put a rush on those blood and urine tests. Once I get the results back, I'll call you. Any questions?" the doctor said.

June afraid of the answer had to ask. "Do...do you think any of this is reversible?"

"I'm sorry but no. We can do some things but he will never be able to father children. Considering Robert's current development, you might think about letting Amanda stay around. From what little you've told me, it seems that she is accepted and enjoying being Amanda," the doctor advised.

"Guess I better start finding a plausible excuse why Robert isn't coming back and Amanda is staying," June ruefully thought.

##

"I am Amanda. I'm a pretty girl. I love being Amanda," ran through Robert's mind as he looked into the mirror. "From what the doctor said, I guess that's going to be true from now on. Trouble is, I'm not sure I want to be Amanda for the rest of my life. Momma told me it was my decision to make. I thought I would only have to be her for the summer. I turned it into my own personal practical joke. I thought it would be hilarious fooling everybody into thinking I was a real girl. It was the only way I could cope with Momma's punishment. Now the jokes on me thanks to my stupid sister giving me those pills. So, I have the choice of being either half a man with boobs or half a woman with a useless dick. I'm a freak either way. I'll never look manly with my features. I will never find a girl who would accept me either. I don't know if I can even act like a man anymore. As Amanda, I'm popular, accepted and have Copper. Still being a girl is complicated and takes a lot of work. Much more than I believed before Momma's punishment started. Guess I don't have a choice after all. I'd rather be accepted as Amanda than an outcast like Robert and my family would be. Guess I better go tell her she has another daughter."

"Janet, how are we going to explain why Robert isn't coming home and Amanda is staying? Your little joke on your brother has certainly complicated everything. You know you're going to be punished for that. I just haven't decided what I'm going to do yet. The appropriate punishment would be to have you take your brother's place. Unfortunately, that's impossible. You don't look anything like him. Now put your thinking cap on and help me figure this out," she said after Robert told her his decision.

"Well, we could say that he drowned while surfing and his body wasn't found. That happens you know," she tentatively replied.

**"And how are we going to prove that? We just can't say that," June responded.**

**"Why not? He was at summer camp miles from here and told all his friends he couldn't wait to learn how to surf. Everyone knows he's a lousy swimmer," she replied.**

**"True but we need a death certificate to prove it," June stated.**

**"I talked to Jo and Brenda about all that's happened and what the doctor said. They were really sorry but a big help. We came up with the idea of the drowning excuse. Jo mentioned something about proving it and needing a death certificate. Brenda's dad is an attorney and she asked him about it. According to him, you only need one if you're claiming benefits like insurance. We just tell everyone the sad news, have a mock funeral, do some mourning and go on from there. As far as Amanda staying that's easy. She's staying to give us comfort in our grief and be near all her new friends," Janet explained.**

**"Well I never knew you and your friends could be so conniving and devious. I hope for all our sakes nobody decides to dig into this fabrication. Still it's better than anything I can come up with. However, that brings up another problem. What about school?" June asked.**

**"Amanda doesn't want to go back. She has a job at the Cut and Curl and old enough to drop out. A lot of girls do that," Janet said after some thought.**

**"Okay, it's settled then. Let's go tell Amanda," June stated.**

**Amanda wasn't thrilled by the idea of working full time instead of school. Robert had wanted to attend his senior year, graduate and go to college but that was out now. He didn't mind having to work but not at the salon. His job he thought was demeaning with little reward for his efforts. Robert was surprised by his reaction when informed of his death. He started crying.**

**"I can believe I'm crying since I'm not dead but Amanda is real from now on. This is just so permanent. Yet at the same time I'm happy. How do women put up with these crazy mood swings? The doctor told me it was caused by those hormones and to just get used to them. Fudge, but I agreed to be Amanda," he thought.**

**"Momma," he started but stopped by June.**

**"Amanda I'm your Auntie and you're my niece. Don't forget that but remember I will always love you deeply and support you."**

**"Okay Auntie but do I have to work at the salon? I don't like it and there's no future in it for me," he asked.**

**"There's nothing wrong with a girl working in a beauty salon dear. I'll talk to Betty about you becoming a stylist. They make good money and job security. If that doesn't appeal to you, I could talk to my boss. We could use a trainee. It only pays minimum wage but in six months or so you could move up to secretary provided you learn to type fast and take dictation. I can teach you that. If you're really good, could advance to an executive secretary like me," she replied.**

**"Oh, great. Some choice. Being a stylist or secretary were not in my career plans. I was thinking more on the lines of being a lawyer or businessman. I've never even touched a typewriter and standing in heels all day, a pain," he thought.**

**"I don't know Auntie. Let me think about it," he said.**

**##**

**Monday June went to see Betty. Betty had already guessed Amanda's secret. So, June**

thought it best to tell her Amanda would be staying and Robert not coming back. Hopefully she would take Amanda on full time and train her to be a stylist.

“That’s our plan Betty. If you don’t need Amanda full time or want to train her to be a stylist, I can get her hired at my company,” June said.

“Your plan will probably work but have you given any thought of what would happen if your employer found out? Your company has offices all over the country. How long do you think it will take for that to spread? There would be few places you could go and maintain his secret. You’re only choice is to let Amanda stay working for me. I’m not promising you anything other than full time employment though. My full time employees are independent contractors. That means they are responsible for paying all taxes and sign a one year contract,” Betty replied.

“I hadn’t thought about that? He’s been so good being Amanda these past months, I sometimes forget I had a son. Still there is always the chance of accidental exposure. As small as that might be, I can’t take it. Betty, I appreciate your offer and Amanda will be happy to know she has a job,” June replied.

Amanda wasn’t thrilled hearing he would be working back at the salon. Betty hadn’t promised anything but hoped she would help him get his barber’s license. Spending the rest of his life on his knees washing women’s feet was a dismal thought. With that settled, Amanda called Copper to explain the situation. She was surprised at how happy he sounded.

“I guess I should say I’m sorry for what happened to you but I’m not. Actually, I’m very happy Amanda is staying. I think we make a great couple and I like you more than I thought possible. If you don’t want to date me, I understand and won’t rat you out. You’ve keep your end of the bargain,” he said.

“At first I thought you were mean and vindictive but I like you too Copper. I’d like it if we stayed friends. Just remember we date on my terms. No funny stuff if I say no,” Amanda replied.

“Yeah, sure, no problem. Like I said I really like you and come to respect you. I just want to keep seeing you Amanda,” Copper agreed.

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It’s been a full year since Amanda signed that contract with Betty. Last week Copper placed a diamond engagement ring on her finger. Amanda planned to move into his apartment soon. The only thing she found unpleasant in her new life was her job.

“Betty, my time’s up with having to work here. I’m moving in with Copper and I’m going to need more money. There’s a job opening at J.C. Penny’s cosmetic counter. It doesn’t pay any more than what I get here but I’m fed up with washing women’s feet. So, I’m giving you notice,” Amanda said when Betty approached with the new contract.

“I’m sorry to hear that Amanda but do what you must,” Betty reluctantly agreed. It was almost impossible to find a person willing to do that job.

The End