

Plain Jane
By ROSE MEREDITH

JANE DARE is the plain one of the family. People usually remark when the question of beauty arose. "Celia is lovely, Abigail is fascinating, Emma is a little witch—but poor Jane, with her brilliant hair and doll eyes is hopelessly plain!"

Jane knew it, and resented it, but kept her hurt feelings hushed to her own bosom. If no one cared enough about her to unlock the plain portals of her heart and soul—so be it! She was the middle one of the family of four motherless girls, and she was the housekeeper, the homemaker. The others had careers. Jane couldn't be spared for a career.

Celia had a voice—Celia was musical—she had worshippers by the dozen. Abigail was a high school teacher, and Emma was a trained nurse.

"Jane is a wonderful cook—a perfect housekeeper!" Celia would praise. "Wonderful! Abigail would echo. "Perfect!" chimed Emma.

Jane was happy most of the time, but she did long to do things—great things—meet interesting people; sometimes she thought wistfully she might have been a writer, if she had had a chance for development. However, she did sell some recipes and carefully prepared articles on home-making to one of the women's magazines, and her prestige rose in the family.

One winter Celia became engaged to the minister. Shortly after that Abigail attracted the attention of Fred, Esq., of a nearby college, and Emma might have married any one of her patients any day!

"Jane would make some man a splendid wife and housekeeper—she is wonderful," Celia would sigh. "Wonderful!" Abigail and her professor would echo.

"Perfect," Emma would add, thus placing her laurel wreath on Jane's jet hair.

"Rubbish!" Jane would groan distastefully.

Today Jane was in a state of inward revolt. Celia had telephoned that she would bring the minister home to dinner; Abigail had sent word that the professor would be there and would Jane please have a prune whip for dessert, and last of all, Emma called up to say that she was bringing some one with her.

"Have the best dinner in the world, darling," she had cooed. "You know how!"

Jane looked stormy. She wondered what her father would have said if he had been alive—he would have told her to be patient; it would come out all right in the end.

"I will cook the dinner," decided Jane, "and it will be a good dinner—then Rebecca can come down and serve it—I will run away. I can't stand the monotony any longer." All the afternoon she labored over the preparation of the dinner and the arrangement of the table. When everything was ready, only needing Rebecca's skilled hand in serving the meal, Jane bathed and dressed herself in a green linen, took a small, heavily laden basket and the latest book and left the house. She followed a narrow path through the orchard where apple blossoms fell like snow about her; where robins were thrashing at the evening song, down the little wood road to the edge of the sandy bluff overlooking the sound. The wind was cool and brought odors of apple blossoms and the salt sear of the sea.

"I feel wicked; but I am quite content," said Jane as she sat down on the edge of the overhanging cliff, with her possessions in her lap. She closed her eyes for a moment, they popped open at once, for she was in motion. The turf had broken under her weight, and she was gently, steadily sliding down the sand-faced cliff. Many a time had she done it as a child, sweating with delight to land among the sand dunes on the shore.

"O-mercy!" she gasped, as she gained speed. In a scurry of flying sand, clutching her basket, she rolled down the slope and ran plump into a solitary man who was sitting on the sands staring at the far horizon.

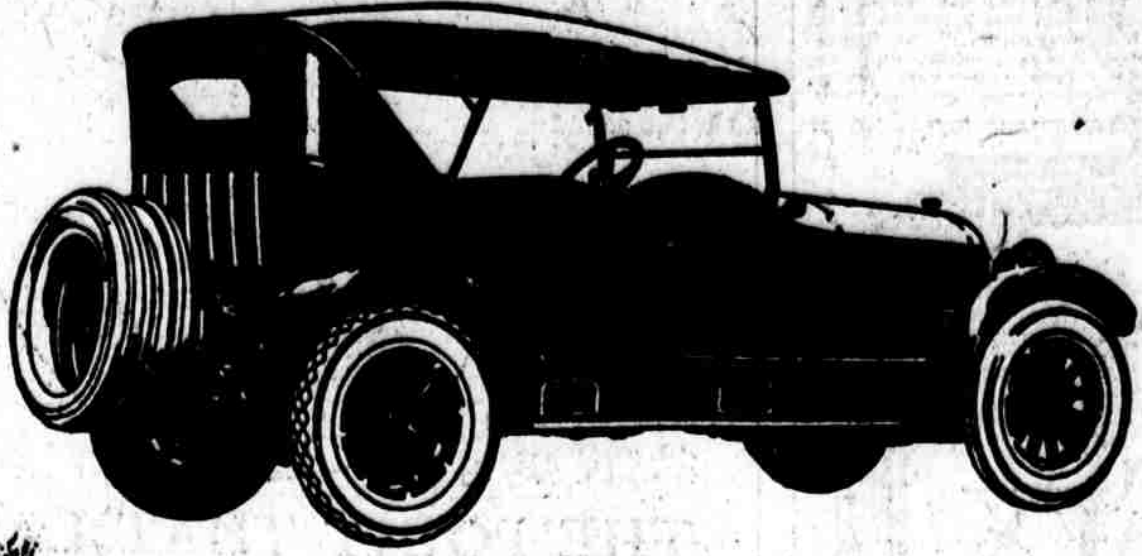
"Gracious—child—what do you mean, little girl?" He picked Jane up and shook her a little. "That's a dangerous thing to do. Once when I was a kid I was sliding down that bank and it dislodged a great boulder. The thing came down and crushed one of my little playmates—broke her arm."

"Dan Barton—oh, Dannie, do you remember that, and how you waited on my hand and foot until I was well again?" Jane was brilliantly alive now; her clear, pale skin was flushed like a rose, she shelled her loosened hair framed the exquisite oval of her face, and her green eyes were the color of her jade-green dress.

"Jane Dare! You have grown into— He paused breathlessly, as if searching her face for traces of the little playmate. "Has any one ever told you—? Again he stopped, and Jane flushed still deeper, wondering why he should that way when every one knew that she was just plain Jane Dare."

"Sit down and tell me all the news," he urged, and Jane did so, hardly able to meet his intense blue gaze. No man had ever looked at her in that way before, but she had seen the minister look at Celia, and Abigail's professor. "I must go home and serve dinner," she exclaimed penitently, and she told him the whole story while they enjoyed the lunch she had brought in. "Jane told her how he had planned to spend the summer with his mother in the old home and how he would commute to and from the city. "I shall see you often, Jane Dare," he told her as they went slowly through the old woodland path that wound up the cliff, and the woods were as ruddy like a bridal veil on "plain Jane's" ruddy hair. They came into the dining room, blissfully happy and all unaware that they were so. Everybody stared at Jane with the sparkling green eyes, and they saw that the minister had brought about this transformation.

"Never say 'plain Jane' again!" muttered the minister to his betrothed, and no one ever did!



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Oliver Twist model in plain tops, blue and tan pants. Sizes 3 to 8 years.

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Black and white cotton crash, tan khaki and striped washable materials. Sizes 6 to 18 years.

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H. and W., C. B. and Snellenburg Special makes—odd lots we are closing out.

\$3.50 Snellenburg Special Corsets \$1.59

Pink coutil, with medium bust and long hip lines.

\$1.50 Corset Brassieres 79c

Fancy material, with garters attached. SNELLENBURGS Economy Basement

Girls' & Juniors' \$10.00 to \$12.50 Charming Silk Dresses

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Crisp taffeta in a splendid assortment of becoming styles. Also a few pretty pongees in the lot. Sizes 7 to 16 years. One pictured.

Girls' \$5 Pon-gee Dresses \$2.95

Youthful one-piece models with Peter Pan collar neatly embroidered. Sizes 7 to 14 years. One style pictured. SNELLENBURGS Economy Basement

\$1.79 Winmore Bleached Seamless Sheets

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Size 54x90 inches. For cottage, bungalow or home use.

49c Scalloped Pillow Cases 39c

Stemstitched and Initial Pillow Cases. Size 45x36 inches. SNELLENBURGS Economy Basement

Big Thursday Special in June

Undermuslin Sale



Women's Two-Piece Pajamas at \$1.49

Dainty models of Windsor crepe and batista.

Women's Fruit-of-Loom Muslin Skirts at 89c

Finished with ruffle. Also gowns, envelope chemises and skirts of lingerie cloth, lace and embroidery trimmed.

Women's Undermuslins 98c

Gowns, envelope chemises and skirts, prettily trimmed and tailored. Also saten skirts finished with hip-line hem.

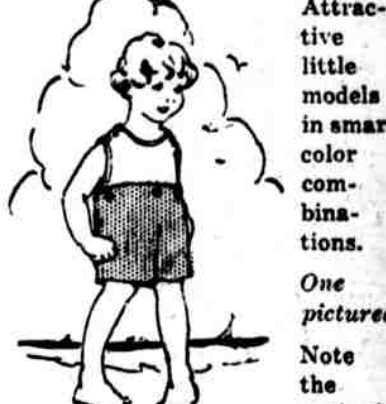
Women's Extra-Size Bloomers 79c

Tailored models of Windsor crepe.

Women's Extra-Size Gowns 98c

Lingerie cloth, finished with embroidery. SNELLENBURGS Economy Basement

Children's \$4 Bathing Suits at \$2.50



Attractive little models in smart color combinations. One pictured. Note the saving!

Women's \$3.00 Pure Worsted Slip-ons

at \$1.95



Tan, white, periwinkle, jade and Alice blue. Very becoming models. One pictured.

15c to \$1.25 Turkish Bath Towels at 5c to 49c

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White Duck Trousers at \$1.58
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Men's \$2 and \$2.50 Shirts

at \$1.10 each

These are seconds from a well-known maker. Excellent shirts for sports and vacation wear.

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Imperfections are very slight—nothing to impair wear or looks. Sizes 14 to 17. Mighty fine values!

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