

Princess Heaven

Marcie Adams was cleaning the room of her son, Josh, whilst he was at school. She had finished all the dusting and hovering. Cleaning Josh's room didn't take long as he was a tidy, thoughtful boy. It was a pity her daughter Ellen didn't take after him. Her room usually took ages to do.

As she was about to leave and do Ellen's room, she noticed a pair of underpants underneath Josh's dresser. They must have fallen out of the drawer when Josh was getting dressed. Shrugging, Marcie picked them up, opened up the drawer and plopped them in and turned to leave.

Then her mind registered that something was not quite right. Opening up the drawer again, she scanned its contents. Her eye caught sight of an object that should not be there and her hand pulled the offending item out.

Marcie was confused and perplexed by what she held in her hands. A pair of girls' knickers in virginal white, with frills at the waist and legs and a pink bow at the waistband. What did this mean?

Marcie sat down on her son's bed and began thinking. They did not belong to her or her daughter Ellen, the only females in the house. They were for a girl not a grown woman and Ellen had long eschewed the frilly undergarments usually worn by other girls in favour of sportswear. Other than friends of Ellen, who stopped by to talk to Ellen only and who did not even know Josh, no other girl had been in the house.

Marcie stuffed the knickers into her apron. She would have to talk to Josh alone when he got home. Something was not right here. Marcie carried on with her normal routine, keeping house for a successful, but mainly absent husband.

Ellen and Josh arrived home straight after school and as she prepared their dinner she reflected that her children could hardly have been more different. Ellen, the elder by two years, was emerging into something of a sports star and captained the school basketball team. She was tall and strong for a girl, and also brash and confident. Her grades at school were average. She was a clever enough girl, but not likely to excel academically. In sports, however, she had already picked up a host of trophies, not just for basketball but for field events.

Josh was ten. He was smaller and weaker than his sister but once he reached puberty that would change. He was a very bright boy, consistently top of the class in math and sciences and good at all other subjects. He could absorb knowledge like a sponge. He was quiet and reflective and tended to be shy. He was more sensitive than his sister and Marcie was dreading the conversation she would have to have with him but she needed to know what was going on in his mind.

Luckily, Marcie would have Josh to herself as Ellen was going out with friends. Marcie grew more uneasy with each passing hour as Ellen got ready to go out and was almost willing her not to go so as to give her an excuse not to have to speak to her son. But the dreaded hour finally came and Ellen left, leaving Marcie and Josh alone.

Josh was about to retreat to his room, but Marcie motioned for him to stay "I need to have a private conversation with you Josh. Come, sit beside me here" she said, indicating the couch in which she now sat.

With a puzzled expression, Josh slid down to sit beside her "What is it Mom?"

Steeling herself Marcie said "Josh, I was cleaning your room today and I....found something....something which has caused me great concern". Marcie reached into her apron pocket and pulled out the knickers "This is what I found, in your underwear drawer. Can you explain how they got there?"

Josh had gone white and was shaking with fright. The look in his eyes gave Marcie the answer.

Sighing, she ploughed on, "These are yours, aren't they? You wear them in private".

Josh had tears in his eyes but nodded.

"But why? Why would a big boy like you want to wear girls' things?"

"Because I like them" Josh answered "They're pretty and soft and I just want to wear them Mom".

Marcie sighed again "You can't wear things like this. If anyone found out you would be ridiculed"

"But I want to! I can't help it" Josh began sobbing and Marcie took him into her arms, her mind whirling, thinking and then a solution came to her. Once Josh had regained control over himself, Marcie looked him in the eye and spoke to him.

“Josh, I want to help you and I have thought of a way. If you can’t control the urge to wear girls’ clothes I will find a way to allow you do so but you need to promise me that you will never do so in this house or outside the times when I am able to help you dress up. Will you make a solemn promise never to wear girls’ things unless I say you can?”.

Josh nodded “I promise Mom – but how can you help me?”

Marcie said “I’m not sure yet but give me some time and I will find a way and that is my promise to you” Marcie kissed her son and let him leave.

The next day, it was as if the episode never happened. Ellen and Josh went to school and Marcie did her chores and then scoured the internet for a way to help her son. Several hours of research later and some phone calls and Marcie had found a way.

At dinner that evening Marcie announced that she would be taking Josh away for a day next Saturday and Ellen would need to take care of herself for a few hours. Ellen was puzzled, said nothing. Josh was puzzled too.

On Saturday morning, Marcie roused Josh early and gave him his breakfast. Then they drove out to a neighbouring town and Marcie parked up in a car park on an obscure retail park. During the hour long drive, Josh kept asking where they were going to which Marcie replied “You’ll see”.

Marcie left the car in the car park and bade Josh to walk with her to a large, colourful building which had “Princess Heaven” emblazoned upon it, along with dummies of little girls dressed in pretty ballgowns in the windows. Josh gaped.

Marcie and Josh entered the building and waiting for them was a young woman in smart business dress “Welcome to Princess Heaven! We hope you have a lovely time here! Is this Josh?”

“This is my son, Josh” Marcie confirmed and then spoke to her son “Josh this nice lady is going to look after you and make sure you are happy. I am going away for a while but I will be back soon, so don’t worry, OK?” Marcie kissed him and then pushed him towards the greeter.

The greeter took Josh’s hand “Hi there Josh, my name is Kimberley and my job is to make sure you have a lovely time here. Come along with me and we’ll take care of you. Mommy will be back soon”. Kimberley winked at Marcie and led Josh out of sight.

Kimberley took Josh past the reception area and to a room decorated in pastel and floral colours and filled with the pictures of little girls dressed as fairy tale princesses. Kimberley knelt down so that she could speak to Josh.

“Dear Josh, you are very welcome here, to Princess Heaven, where it is our pleasure to make you happy. Mommy tells me that, although you are a handsome and clever boy, you secretly like to dress as a girl don’t you?” Josh nodded “Well Josh, would you be surprised to learn that we have a lot of boys here like you and that we are very happy to turn them into pretty girls and that I think you will look adorable once we get you dressed”

“Other boys dress as girls?” said Josh

“Oh, yes! They love it and I sense that you will too. You DO want to be dressed as a girl here don’t you?”

“Oh yes please!” said Josh excitedly.

“Well Josh, we will make you so pretty! But, before we do we have a couple of little rules here that you need to know and to respect. First of all, if you see someone you know here you must never talk about them being here to anyone else – are you OK with that rule?”. Josh nodded.

“Good, I can see we are going to get along nicely. The only other rule is that if we are going to let you be a girl, you need a girl’s name. After all, we can’t have a princess called Josh now can we? Have you ever thought about what girl’s name you like best?”

Josh shook his head “I dunno”

“Alright, not to worry because I have already thought of a name for you! How do you like Jasmine?”

Josh thought about it “That’s a pretty name!”

“Yes it is, isn’t it? That’s settled then. Your name is Jasmine. You will be called that whilst you are here from now on, OK Jasmine?”

“Yes Kimberley”

“Great. Now the next thing we need to do is get you out of your clothes so you are ready for the adorable clothes you will wear here. There’s cubicle just over there. Just take off your clothes and slip into the dressing gown and slippers that are in there”.

Five minutes later and Josh was standing in the room in a pink fluffy dressing gown and matching slippers.

“Now Jasmine, you need to select from this catalogue what clothes you want to wear. You can dress as anything you want! Or, if you like, we can decide for you!”

“Can you decide for me please? As long as it is pretty...”

“Of course we can”. Kimberley turned to another girl with the catalogue and told her what to bring. A few minutes later, the girl arrived back with a pink ballgown, petticoats and long lace drawers. “Will these do?” Kimberley asked “This is the Princess Tanya collection – very popular with most of our girls”

“They’re adorable” stammered Josh “I can put those on?”

“Of course you can. Go back in the cubicle and put these on” Kimberley handed him the silk underwear, a princess slip and the lacy drawers. Josh reappeared a minute later dressed in the silky garments “They feel nice”.

“You look lovely already! Come, let’s get you into your petticoats and gown!” Josh stepped into the layers of petticoats and these were brought up to his waist and then the pink shimmering gown cascaded down over his head until it moulded itself to his body.

Josh was in ecstasy, twirling about in the gown, almost swooning with pleasure.

“Jasmine, although you look very pretty in your gown, there are other things you need to have done to you to make you prettier! Come along with me please!” Kimberley took his hand and lead him out of the room and into a room that had been converted into a salon, staffed by smiling women. Kimberley handed Josh over to a pretty redheaded girl.

“Sally, this is a first timer, Jasmine, who wants so much to be made pretty, don’t you Jasmine? Please take care of her”.

“Hi Jasmine. My, that is a very lovely gown you are wearing! Come and sit here please!” Sally smiled with pleasure as Josh lowered himself into the salon chair “Now Jasmine, we are going to paint your nails for you, fix your hair and make up and let you wear some jewellery! Doesn’t that sound good?”.

Sally proceeded to manicure Josh’s fingernails and toenails and painted them bright pink, remarking on how small and dainty his hands and feet were. She then applied a light foundation, blusher, mascara, eyeliner and pink lipstick and fitted his head with a long blonde wig. Finally, a pair of clip on earrings and some bangles were added.

Sally brought out a gold necklace “This is our special present to you Jasmine. A necklace, engraved with your name, Jasmine”. Sally clipped it around Josh’s neck “You must wear this all the time you are here so that everyone knows you, OK? Now, you need to wear these shoes” said Sally, handing him a pair of pink high heels “I’d better teach you how to walk in them”.

Josh spent two hours learning how to walk in high heels, but took to it like a duck to water, along with the other unaccustomed feelings and sounds, the jangling of his earrings, the rustle of his skirts, the smell of the make up and the warmth of the wig.

Sally appeared "Jasmine. Your mom is here to see you! She will think you are so pretty!"

Marcie entered the room and was bowled over by what she saw. She had expected her son to be wearing girls' clothes obviously but found it hard to reconcile the figure in front of her as being her son. He was dressed in a pink ballgown, with long blonde hair, prancing about in high heels and his face looked so pretty and feminine that she almost failed to recognize him. But, she had to admit he made a lovely girl.

"Josh you look very beautiful. I can see that you make a convincing girl. Why, you look prettier than Ellen!". The vision in pink moved towards her and came into her arms "Thank you mom!" he whispered into her ear. Marcie took him into her arms and kissed him.

Kimberley appeared and asked "Jasmine, some of the other girls are playing. Would you like to join them? Mommy can watch if she likes".

"Oh, yes please!" gushed Josh, with girlish enthusiasm that astonished Marcie. She watched in amusement as Kimberley led him away by the hand. She had never suspected that her son had such a girlish nature. Marcie followed them and watched as her son played tea parties with some of the other girls. He makes such a sweet girl! Marcie thought.

Finally though, it was time to go home and reluctantly Josh had to put off his gown and resume his life as a boy. He was in tears as the car pulled away and Marcie realized that Princess Heaven would only be a temporary solution to a deep seated problem.

Marcie could easily afford to send Josh to Princess Heaven every week and Josh grew more and more excited each weekend came closer. For now, he was behaving as a normal boy and abiding by her rule not to adopt female dress or mannerisms, at least.

On their fourth trip, Kimberley greeted them as usual, as they were regular and valued customers now, but said "Jasmine, I need to speak to your mommy alone for a minute. Would you mind sitting over there? We will not be long". Kimberley motioned for Marcie to move away from Josh so he could not overhear "What's wrong?" Marcie asked.

"Oh nothing, Marcie. I just need to speak to you because we are holding a beauty pageant here today and we both know that Jasmine will want to take part".

"But he can't, he's still a boy!" Marcie blurted out "He can't take part in a beauty pageant".

“But of course he can! Listen, we have had a lot of boys here and your son is the most convincing as a girl I’ve ever seen. As soon as the dress goes on he IS a girl! The rules don’t say you have to be a girl to take part and he is a customer here. It’s up to you though. No child can be entered without parental consent. It’ll break his heart if he’s not allowed to take part, we both know that”.

“I know. I’ll have to agree or he’ll be so miserable! He won’t win, but he’ll want to take part anyway. Alright I agree”.

“Thank you Marcie, Jasmine will be so happy!” Kimberley rushed off towards Josh, who moments later let out a squeal of delight.

Marcie watched as her son was prepared for his entry into a beauty pageant. He was too young to have much body hair but what little that was there was removed by waxing. Josh’s body was perfumed and inserted into a pink swimsuit with white hearts all over it. Josh’s nails were filed and painted and his feet put into a pair of pink kitten heels. Josh’s hair was permed and dyed blonde and his face had make up applied to it. He looked so adorable and feminine that he was undistinguishable from the real little girls who were going through the same treatments.

Marcie sat in the audience and saw Josh walk down the runway with a poise and confidence a professional model would envy. For his second walk, Josh wore a lilac evening gown and carried it off as well as any real girl. Despite her discomfort at seeing her son parading in a swimsuit and evening gown, she was proud of her son for his poise and elegance.

The results were announced and Marcie stood with Josh as they were read out. “In third place, Elinore Buxby!”. Elinore moved to collect her prize and her sash. The announcer continued “In second place, Brittany Cox!”. A disappointed Brittany collected her rewards and stood beside Elinore. “In first place.....Jasmine Adams! Congratulations!”.

Marcie was stunned. He’d gone and beaten thirty real girls in a beauty contest. Josh of course was in ecstasy, bouncing up and down with joy. He rushed up to the stage and was adorned with his sash, tiara and prize. Then he and the runners up were photographed and asked to do another runway walk as a trio.

Marcie though was not pleased. She was proud of Josh but she wished he hadn’t won. No good can come of this, she thought. She and Josh needed to retain anonymity and had just lost it.

Marcie spent nearly an hour convincing him that he would have to leave his sash and tiara at PH. There was no way they were coming home. Kimberley promised to look after them and he could see them any time he wanted she assured him. Marcie was relieved when they finally got home but Josh was still in seventh heaven and Ellen was puzzled by his behavior. Marcie had to take him aside and warn him to calm down.

A picture of Josh and the runners up appeared in the local paper. Marcie was terrified that someone would recognize Josh but Ellen saw the picture and did not recognize her brother.

The trips to PH continued, which caused Ellen to ask what exactly Marcie and Josh got up on their weekend trips and asking if she could come too. Her sports training had been moved to mid week which meant that Ellen was free at weekends. Marcie had to refuse her, saying she wanted quality time with her son. To her surprise, Ellen became tearful and said she was her child too and it was unfair that Marcie was spending all her time with Josh before storming off to her room. Marcie wished she could tell Ellen the truth but dared not, for Josh's sake.

Marcie realized that behind the sportswoman's façade, Ellen was as every bit as sensitive as her brother.

On the next trip, Marcie and Josh were leaving PH as usual and were about to get into the car when, to Marcie's horror, Ellen came running towards them.

"Ellen, what are you doing here?"

"I could ask you the same question!" Ellen shot back "I got one of the jocks to pick me up and tail you. Princess Heaven, what sort of place is that to go to with your son?"

Marcie was close to tears. Ellen was clearly so hurt at being left out to have gone to such lengths to find out what they did. She had no choice but to come clean. She turned towards her son, who was oblivious to what was happening.

"Josh, I need you to go back to Princess Heaven and ask Kimberley to look after you until I return. Your sister and I need to talk alone, OK?" Josh nodded and disappeared inside PH. Marcie took Ellen to a nearby café and got them drinks. Once they were settled Ellen asked "What is going on here mom?"

Marcie sighed. She did not want to talk about this but had no choice "Ellen, Josh is a very bright and clever boy"

"I know that. He makes me look like a dunce and I'm two years older than him!"

Marcie continued "Yes, but he has a problem. His dearest wish is to dress up as a girl. Believe me, he has got it bad. He cannot wait to get into a dress"

Ellen's jaw dropped "He dresses up like those girls in those pictures outside Princess Heaven? I don't believe it!"

"It's true I'm afraid. I wish it wasn't, it would sure make life a lot easier. He makes a very convincing girl by the way and loves dressing up as a princess. He actually won a beauty pageant last month – the only boy amongst thirty odd contestants and he won! He has the tiara to prove it".

Ellen giggled, something she did so rarely that Marcie was glad to see it "My brother, the beauty queen! I win sports trophies and my brother wins beauty contests! Talk about role reversal. Oh my god!, was that him in the paper – Jasmine Adams?"

"Yes"

"I hate to admit it, but he looks prettier than me!"

"You are the girl in this family and I adore you for your achievements! But, I don't know what to do Ellen. He is never happier than when he is dressed as a princess and as a mother my duty is to love him and want him to be happy, so I can't refuse him. He has an adorable nature when he is dressed up – he really becomes a girl! Princess Heaven is the answer for now, but what happens when he gets older?"

"I know" said Ellen "We should let him be a girl at home. When he gets back from school he goes straight into girls' things and becomes a girl. I've always wanted a sister to do girl things with! We redecorate his room. Then we seek counseling"

"I don't know...but its better than anything I can come up with. Let's do it!". Mother and daughter left the café and picked up Josh from PH.

"Jasmine" said Marcie, addressing her son by his femme name for the first time outside PH "your sister and I want you to become a girl at home. We both love you and want you to be happy and if that means you becoming a girl out of school then that's what's going to happen. You will have to go to school dressed as a boy but when you are home you will wear girls' things and be treated as my daughter. Are you happy with that?"

Josh did not speak but the joy in his eyes spoke for him.

Ellen hugged him "You will make a lovely girl....sis. When I get married will you be my Maid of Honor?". Josh hugged her back as his answer.

Marcie spoke "Girls, before we go home, we have some shopping to do. Jasmine needs clothes and underwear after all and oh yes, we must visit Princess Heaven again and pick up Jasmine's tiara..."