

DRESSING UP GOD

Megan liked to play dress-up. It was one of her favorite games. It was a game you could play alone. Or it was a game you could play with friends. She liked to play alone because then nobody argued over who got to wear the brown suede cloak and who got to wear the black velvet one with the giant fuzzy buttons.

When Megan played dress-up, she could be anything she imagined. She could be a fairy princess, or the wicked stepmother if she was in a bad mood. Sometimes she was the wise wizard, even though wizards weren't supposed to be girls. But she could be anything she wanted to be.

Once she pretended to be God. But the grownups didn't understand, and they took her dress-up costumes away.

And then something quite amazing happened. Her body started to grow. And it grew and grew and grew until she was bigger than all the other children of her age. By the time she was 12, she was bigger than all the grown-up women around her, and even some of the men.

But it was okay, she finally decided. Because one day she discovered that she could still play dress-up. The only problem was that she was so big, she had trouble finding the right clothes.

Then the magic happened. She learned how to sew. And when she got to be a grownup herself, she moved to a big city where nearly EVERYbody still played dress-up --even the grownups -- and the stores were filled with wonderful clothes.

Megan filled her closet with flowered dresses and rainbow skirts and fluttery blouses. She found fabulous boots and outrageous umbrellas, and she dressed up to her heart's content. She went to a Halloween party dressed up as a witch who wasn't ugly! She went to another costume party dressed as Jesus, wearing the same dress she had worn when she was being a witch. She told parables and passed out blessings. But nobody guessed who she was.

Then one day she realized that she hadn't been mistaken when she'd dressed up as God. God was busy playing dress-up with all the people God had made, so it was all right to play dress-up as God. But it was more fun to play dress-up as Goddess. Goddess had prettier clothes.