

Holly-Jane Rahlens



Summary:

Easy Reader *One Fine Day*

Anything can happen one fine day — especially if you’re thirteen years old and in love for the very first time. Mark, the handsome and popular captain of the school basketball team, is the object of the narrator’s desire. But more than anything else our narrator hopes to get rid of her ugly orthopedic shoes. She’s pigeon-toed. If she only learned to walk straight she might win Mark and maybe even become a cheerleader. The day arrives on which it seems as if the narrator’s dreams will come true, but as luck has it, disaster strikes.

Extract:

Easy Reader *One Fine Day*

The cooking timer in the kitchen rings and my mother yells, “Supper’s ready. Come on, girls, set the table!”

“What are you sulking about?” my father asks me over dinner.

“She wouldn’t help me with my math,” Joycey says.

My mother looks at me with concern. “Princess, is there something wrong?”

“Oh Mommy,” I cry out. “Oh Mommy, can’t I get high-heels? All the girls are *gonna* be wearing them to the Thanksgiving Day dance.”

“How many times do we have to say no!” shouts my father.

“Jerry,” my mother shouts back at my father, “don’t scream at her!”

“You’re killing my ears!” shouts Joycey.

“Sweetheart,” says my mother to me in a softer tone, “Dr. Friedman said you can’t wear high-heels until your *arches* strengthen. You know that.”

“He also said she’d grow out of it,” my father *snaps* at me. “What’s taking so long? What does it take to walk straight? Why can’t my daughter walk straight? Do you know how much money -----we’re *dish-ing out* to that doctor?”

“Oh, how could you be so cruel?” my mother cries out. “It’s not her fault. If you finally got a decent job maybe we could move into an apartment where the trains don’t always come crashing through the bedroom window, and maybe we could finally buy her a new pair of orthopedic shoes.”

“I don’t want orthopedic shoes!” I yell at the top of my lungs. “I want high-heels! High-heels!”

Peppy, our crazy salt-and-pepper schnauzer. Barks hysterically. Joycey *chokes* on a lamb chop and I run into the bathroom, lock myself in tight and cry my eyes out!

gonna, in good language: going to

arch, here: the curve in the bottom of the foot

snap, here: to speak suddenly in a violent way

dish out: (slang) spend a lot of money

Choke what happens when something gets caught in your throat