

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### Secret Number Ten Handle anger femininely

ANGELA felt like a new bride for the next few days.

At first Ted was reserved. But Friday evening, when Angela comforted him after he came home from work, he began to speak more freely, and to confide in her.

Ted spent all day Saturday catching up with the repairs around the home. He also fixed the lawn mower and mowed the lawns. Angela found several opportunities to admire his masculine skills. Ted gave a shy grin each time she did so.

On Sunday morning, Angela wondered if she should ask Ted to take her and the children to church. But she thought it best to wait a little longer, or wait until he offered.

He did not offer, but he did take them all around to visit Angela's mother in the afternoon.

On Monday, after work, Ted brought his laptop computer and printer home. Later that evening, he sat at the dining room table and began using the computer to do his business accounts. To Angela's surprise he seemed very much at ease and confident in what he was doing.

When she praised his ability, Ted became highly enthusiastic and spent a long time showing her all that he could do with the business program he was using.

Angela knew more about computers than she let on, but was still impressed with the way Ted had mastered the program.

She however made up her mind not to have anything to do with the business, unless Ted asked her. She would keep herself free from masculine business concerns so that Ted could come home each day to a feminine, cheerful wife and be comforted.



Angela began to find the intimate side of marriage better than it had been for years. Being free of resentment, she was able to respond freely to Ted. Nor did she mind if she became pregnant again.

Ted had always wanted more children, but Angela had resisted this in the past. She feared what her friends might say. She had also wanted to be free to go out to work if necessary.

But now that she understood her feminine role fully, and had seen the joy and fulfilment of the Fascinating Womanhood teacher and Elsie, with their large families in their mature years, she realised how short sighted she had been.

Wednesday evening was Angela's final Fascinating Womanhood class. It was raining. After the evening meal, as she was clearing the table and the children were lying on the carpet doing their homework, Ted offered to drive her to the class.

Angela was about to say, "It's OK Ted, I can drive myself," when she remembered how a man enjoys helping a dependant and appreciative woman.

So instead, she smiled at him and said, "That would be lovely Ted," Then she walked over to where he was sitting in his chair, reading the paper. She put her arm softly around his neck and kissed him on the cheek. Ted smiled.

As Angela kissed him, she felt the prickles of his evening beard growth. She was about to say, "You need a shave." Then she remembered Secret Number One, 'Accept him as he is' and said nothing.

As she finished clearing the table, she congratulated herself on how she was gaining a good understanding of the Fascinating Woman principles.

Feeling pleased with how everything was going, she hummed as she worked. Then she began to sing aloud a song she loved, 'My Favourite Things.'

*"Rain drops on roses, and whiskers on kittens."*

*"Bright copper kettles, and warm woollen mittens."*

*"Brown paper packages, tied up with strings."*

*"These are a few of my favourite things."*

Angela went into the kitchen and was still singing as she stacked the dishwasher. Suddenly she felt Ted's long arms encircle her from behind and hug her strongly. Then she felt him lift up her hair and kiss the back of her neck.

"I really do love you Angie," he whispered.

Angela turned her head and saw Ted's eyes full of warmth and tenderness.

Ted returned to the lounge and Angela's heart almost burst with happiness. A lump came to her throat and tears of joy trickled down her cheeks.

Ted always liked to be early for appointments, so he drove Angela to her class ahead of time. The rain had now become

a drizzle. They arrived just as the Fascinating Womanhood teacher was being dropped off by her husband.

Ted did not get out and open the door for his wife as the teacher's husband did, but Angela still felt proud and feminine, that Ted had brought her.

Angela entered the building and saw the teacher waiting for her inside the foyer. The teacher's eyes shone as she looked at Angela expectantly and asked, "Is it true? Is he home?"

Angela nodded her head, blinking back her tears. "Yes, he's come home."

The teacher squeezed Angela's hand, and together they went down the stairs. The teacher unlocked the door of the classroom and they went inside. There they hugged each other for a long time and wept freely.

"Oh Angela, I'm so proud of you. I'm so happy for you," the teacher said, and a beautiful smile shone through her tears.

Angela felt the now familiar lump in her throat return. She dabbed her tears away with a tissue and sat down.

Soon the other class members arrived.

Bev, who was looking noticeably slimmer, made a grand entrance, holding up the cream sponge she had promised to make. She looked much more confident than normal.

When the class were all seated the teacher said, "Well now, how did you get on with last week's Assignment, to ask your husband for something you need?"

Bev stood up and with an exaggerated air of nonchalance, walked out in front of the class and hitched up the ankle length dress she wore. She looked down at her feet and wriggled them. She was wearing a new pair of running shoes.

The class cheered and clapped.

"You got them," laughed the teacher. "Well, good on you Bev. Tell us how you did it."

"I just asked him sweetly, and with a smile. I said, "Aden, may I please have a pair of running shoes?"

"Yep. Of course you can," he said with a grin. So I acted delighted, which wasn't hard to do, because I was. I said, "Oh I'm so excited darling," and I kissed him."

"He gave me such a lovely smile. He looked years younger, and so handsome, even though he's nearly bald. The next morning he gave me a signed blank cheque and said, "Get yourself a good pair Mum." He always calls me Mum."

"Bev, you never fail to amaze me," said the teacher. "I am so very, very proud of you. And I really mean that."

Bev sat down. The teacher smiled directly at Angela and said, "Now I think someone else has an experience to share with us?"

Angela smiled and stood up.

A hush fell over the class as Angela shared her experience of asking Ted to come home, and the thrill of having him back.

Cherry, Helena and Elsie couldn't stop beaming. When Angela had finished speaking, she saw the eyes of every woman in the room glistening with tears. She tried to hold back her own tears, but failed and stood there weeping freely.

Angela was aware that she had never cried so much in her whole life, since taking the Fascinating Womanhood course.

As she returned to her seat, both Cherry and Elsie stood up and hugged her tightly.

The teacher's voice was full of emotion as she said to the class, "Fascinating Womanhood teaches us to enjoy our woman's role. Both as a mother, and as a companion to our husband. But it also encourages us to develop our spirituality. This is best done by using our God-given talents and reaching out to others. Sharing truths that we have learned."

"I do this by teaching these Fascinating Womanhood classes. I want to share with you that the joy I receive is overwhelming at times."

"I also want to encourage every one of you to develop your spirituality by reaching out to others. It is so richly rewarding, far more so than working for money."

"We have time for another experience."

Elsie raised her hand. "Can I say a few words about how Fascinating Womanhood has improved my marriage?"

"Certainly Elsie. Come on up."

### **Elsie. True Experience.**

**"I have always had a good marriage. I took this course to gain more self confidence."**

**"I had always accepted and admired my husband, but never told him so. I thought he must know it. It was hard for me to start saying these things, so I started writing him notes."**

**"Then I progressed to saying complimentary things. His response was so great that I realised his need to hear these things."**

**"He started telling me the ways I pleased him, and this gave me the self-confidence I have always lacked."**

**"His tenderness towards me is fantastic. I feel like a bride again."**

**"The greatest thing was when he said with tears, "I have come to realise that you are the sweetest, the most feminine woman in the world, and I love you so deeply I can't tell you how much. You are my whole life."**

"Oh Elsie," said the teacher, "What a lovely compliment to write in your Love Book."

"Now for our last secret. This secret teaches us how to handle an emotion that destroys many marriages. An emotion that usually bring out the worst in all of us. That emotion is anger, especially uncontrolled anger."

“When a person is angry, they can clearly know the right thing to do, but in the heat of their anger, that can do the exact opposite.”

Kathy raised her hand. “Yes Kathy?”

“Whose anger are we talking about? Ours or our husbands?”

“Both Kathy. This secret teaches us how to handle both our anger, and our husband’s anger.”

She then turned and wrote on the board:

## **SECRET NUMBER TEN**

### **Handle anger in a feminine and childlike manner**

The teacher turned back to the class and smiled. “Most of you look a little puzzled.”

She picked up her large black Bible off the table and opened it to a marked page and then said, “Marina, you shared with us some words of Jesus in our lesson on femininity. Can you read them for us again now?”

She handed the Bible to Marina who stood and read:

*Jesus called to his side a little child and set him in the midst of them, and said, “Truly I say to you, unless you repent and become like little children, you shall never enter the kingdom of heaven.”*

The teacher took back the Bible and then said, “In this scripture, Jesus is teaching us to become like little children again. What are the qualities of little children that Jesus wants us to return to?”

Marina raised her hand. “Yes Marina?”

“Little children are teachable.”

“Yes, a very important quality for us to have.”

“Anybody else?”

“They are humble and completely honest,” said Helena.

“Yes Helena, two very important qualities. Children are humble and honest, especially in the way they express their emotions.”

“So tonight we are going to learn from little children how to handle this emotion of anger. Both in ourselves and in our husbands.”

### **Men respect a spirited woman**

“First we look at how to handle our own anger. We do need to stand up to men for our rights sometimes. Fascinating Womanhood does not teach women to be doormats.”

“Men respect a spirited woman. One who’ll get angry and stand up for her rights, as long as she does it in a non-challenging, feminine way. Men find a spirited woman quite fascinating.”

### **When you have a right to be angry with your husband**

“So when do we have a right to be angry with our husband?”



*High spirited, ultra-feminine behaviour can distract a man when he’s being too serious, or acting flirtatious toward other women.*

Sonia raised her hand. “Yes Sonia?”

“I suppose when he has made a stupid mistake. Like if he loses a lot of money. Or when he’s been lazy and hasn’t mowed the lawn for weeks.”

“Well Sonia, those are both areas of male responsibility. We have to allow him to choose for himself what he does in those masculine roles. We can influence him, but we don’t have the right, and nor does it do any good to show anger toward him. It’s all part of living Secret Number One, ‘Accepting him as he is’. However there are limits, and we’ll talk about those shortly.

Helena raised her hand. “Yes Helena?”

“What about when he mistreats us?”

“Yes Helena, that’s when we can show anger toward our husband. When he mistreats us. Or when he insults us, or criticises us unfairly. Even if he overworks us, or ignores us.”

“We cannot be happy in our marriage if we allow our husband to mistreat us or take us for granted. I’m not talking about little things. It’s best to overlook those. Or to let them build up before speaking out.”

### **Express your anger in a childlike manner**

“So how do we express our anger in a way that doesn’t arouse our husband’s anger?”

“Let’s look at how a child expresses anger. Cherry, tell us how your little girl expresses her anger.”

Cherry laughed. “Well, sometimes she stamps her feet. And she has this cute way of folding her little arms, putting her chin in the air and going ‘humph’. Then if nobody takes enough notice, she tosses her curls and stomps out of the room, glancing back to see what effect it’s having. Tina’s real cute when she’s angry.”

“Wow. A perfect answer Cherry. Just what we needed to hear. Yes, this childlike way of handling anger IS cute. We women find it cute. Men find it even cuter, whether in little girls or grown up women. It makes them want to hug us.”

“Although some children, when they get angry, throw a tantrum and scream and yell and kick and say hurtful things. What happens then?”

“It arouses our own anger,” said Angela.

“Yes. Exactly. Angela is right. It arouses our own anger. But when a child or woman expresses anger the cute, childlike way that Cherry’s daughter does, it doesn’t arouse the another person’s anger. And more importantly, when a woman expresses her anger this way, it doesn’t challenge her husband’s masculinity.”

“But when we start shouting, or arguing, or worse still, swearing, we arouse our husband’s own anger. We instantly kill his affection for us. We just wither it up. Just like spraying a beautiful flower with weedkiller.”

“Why is this? Because when we direct our anger toward



*You have a right to show your anger when your husband mistreats you. But it must be done in a feminine way.*

him in this way, we demean his authority and his masculinity.”

“He becomes defensive, and tries and often succeeds in blaming us for the problem. We also fall from our pedestal in his eyes.”

“So we must always express our anger in a feminine, non-challenging way. Without any harshness or ugliness. Without losing our feminine charm. Just as Cherry’s daughter did.”

“When you show your anger in this feminine way, you are far removed from arousing your husband’s anger. In fact the opposite occurs. He sees you as cute and fascinating. You become adorable in his eyes. You actually enhance his love for you.”

“What are some of the ways we can do this?” asked Diane.

“Well Diane, there are many feminine ways to let off steam without challenging our husband’s masculinity. We can stamp our feet, or beat our fists on his chest, or put our hands on our hips and pout, or fold our arms and turn our back on him with our chin in the air.”

“With a ‘humpf’, said Cherry with a giggle.

“Yes, men find all these things fascinating. They feel manly and protective. We become more lovable in their eyes.”

### **How to speak to your husband when you’re angry**

“And when we speak, we can say things like, “I’ll never speak to you again.”

“We can even call them names if we like, but MAKE SURE THEY ARE MASCULINE NAMES, like “you hard-hearted brute” or “you stubborn, obstinate man” or “you beast.”

“Men don’t mind those kind of names because they enhance their masculinity. Men even smile when we call them names like these.”

“But NEVER, NEVER USE NAMES THAT Demean A MAN’S MASCULINITY, like “useless” or “little man” or “no hoper” or “dumb”. Those kind of names arouse deep resentment in a man. They can permanently destroy his love for you, especially if he believes you mean what you say.”

“This can be so serious that it’s right up there with unfaithfulness in marriage. It’s like your husband telling you to your face, “I have never loved you.”

### **Exaggerate your hurt**

“Now when you tell your husband HOW he’s mistreated you, it doesn’t hurt to exaggerate a little, as a child does.”

“You can say things like “How cruel” or “How mean” or “What a dreadful thing to do”.

“We must come across to our husband like an adorable and helpless child who has been cruelly mistreated. Do you understand what I’m trying to say?”



### **The poor little me approach**

“I can see Elsie looking horrified. Don’t worry Elsie, there are more reserved methods of showing anger for a quieter woman. There’s the ‘poor little me’ approach. This way of expressing our anger can be highly effective with any man. You know, the downcast eyes with our face in our hands. Or whatever comes naturally to your personality. Perhaps just a quiet “Oh dear”.

“Genuine tears add greatly to all these ways of showing our anger. Genuine tears usually soften any man’s heart.”

“So these are all natural, feminine ways of handling anger. And they don’t hurt our husband one little bit. Rather they increase his love for us. And they arouse in him a desire to make amends for our hurt.”

### **Release your anger as soon as it arises**

“Isn’t it better just to be serene and keep our anger to our selves?” asked Elsie.

“In minor matters Elsie, yes. We can work off mere annoyances by vigorous exercise, or complaining out loud to ourselves when nobody can hear us. But even God gets angry over major things.”

“Once strong anger has arisen, it’s best to release it, or diffuse it as soon as possible. Otherwise it can settle into resentment and smoulder for years.”

“Bottled up anger and the lack of forgiveness which usually goes along with it, can lead to depression and other illnesses.”

“So we should release our anger quickly, as little children do. They flare up and then a few minutes later they are serene again. Its really healthy.”

“But remember, we’re not talking about mere annoyances. We have to learn to take these in our stride. Usually a good night’s sleep is all we need to clear away these feelings.”

“But when our husband clearly mistreats us, we should show our upset feelings immediately. We should not wait. We need to express it straight away, in a childlike manner.”

“By letting him know as soon as we are hurt by his actions, a man can then immediately link his actions with the cause of our pain. He doesn’t have to try and think back to what he might have said and done.”

“Men like their us to be open and straight forward with them, as long as we do not challenge their masculinity or leadership.”

### **Other ways of releasing anger**

Kathy spoke, “I can see why we shouldn’t show anger toward a man when he’s failed in one of his masculine duties. But we’re still going to get angry at times. How do we handle those angry feelings without criticising him?”

“First of all by forgiveness Kathy. Remember, we women have faults too. We can also use the techniques taught in



*Genuine tears can soften almost any man’s heart.*

Secret Number Five, like writing out our angry thoughts.”

“Or we can work off our angry feelings by vigorous exercise. Aerobics are good, even a long brisk walk.”

“Some women just need to sit in a peaceful place for about an hour. That works for me. Would probably work for you too Elsie.”

“But we are all so different. One woman told me that she drives off in her car and screams with all the windows up.”

“I punch the bed,” said Kathy with a giggle.

“That’s OK Kathy. Just get it out. Don’t bury it. When we release our anger, as a child does we are much healthier, and happier.”

### **When your husband fails too often in an area of his responsibility**

“Now it could happen that your husband has failed too many times in one of his areas of responsibility. We’re talking of extreme cases here, where he has caused you so much distress, that it IS appropriate for you to express anger towards him.”

“But it still must be done in a feminine way. Vivian, one of our visitors is going to share with us later how she used feminine anger to get her husband to fix a roof that had leaked for ages.”

### **How to handle severe mistreatment**

“Now one final thing, in cases of very severe mistreatment, such as unfaithfulness, it can be most difficult for a woman to be childlike in her anger. But it is still the best approach.”

“Let me read you the experience of Belle, a woman who went through one of my other Fascinating Womanhood classes.”

#### **Belle. True Experience.**

**“One night my husband was out with another woman. As I waited in agony for him to come home in the early morning hours, I determined to act with childlikeness.”**

**“When he came home, I ran to the door to meet him, threw my arms around him weeping, and said, ‘Oh how could you do this to poor little me?’”**

**“My husband was aroused to compassion, and took me tenderly in his arms. This was the beginning of a new life for us.”**

### **How to handle your husband’s anger**

“Now class, we’re going to move on to the second part of this lesson, on how to handle our husband’s anger, when it’s directed towards us?”

“Cherry, you did so well last time. Tell us how your daughter acts when her Daddy gets angry at her.”

Again Cherry laughed. “It happened last Saturday. Tina had been playing with his chess set during the week and had lost one of his pieces.”

“John really growled her, poor thing. Well, her little lips

quivered and she looked down and rubbed her feet together. Then tears started to trickle down her cheeks. John couldn't stay angry with her for long. He ended up cuddling her and telling her how sorry he was for growling her."

"Thank you Cherry," said the teacher looked delighted. "Another perfect illustration of Fascinating Womanhood in action. Of course he couldn't stay angry with her. She was a picture of helplessness."

"And that's exactly the way we need to react to our husband's anger. With helplessness and vulnerability. Again, allowing our tears to show is most effective."

"Have you all heard the proverb of wise King Solomon? 'A soft answer turns away wrath.' I'm sure you have. It really does work."

"These feminine reactions are charming to men. It makes them feel wonderfully masculine. Their anger just melts away and tenderness and love take its place."

### **Hear him out before speaking**

"Now usually its best to let our husband pour out all his angry feelings before we say anything. But not always. Some men can say hurtful things when they're angry and the sooner we diffuse their anger the better. We need to decide for ourselves when it's best to speak. After all, we know our husbands best."

"But what if our husband is wrong?" said Beth.

"Well, even when we're innocent Beth, we should still hear him out. Before we say anything, we should allow all his angry feelings to come out."

"Then if we ARE INNOCENT, we just softly explain the truth without embarrassing him, or challenging him. Here again, let the tears come if you feel like doing so. But let him know that you understand how he made the mistake, and that you don't hold it against him."

"Now on the other hand, if we ARE GUILTY and he has a right to be angry, we must act helpless and vulnerable, as a little child would. Like Cherry's daughter did."

"Then we softly say something humble, like, 'You're right. That was stupid of me. I'm sorry. Will you forgive me?'"

"And what happens? His anger just melts away and his love for us increases. This increase in love might seem strange, but love seems to need emotional interaction to develop and grow. Even if it is anger."

"This feminine way of handling anger we learn in Secret Number Ten is just wonderful. It saves marriages. Really it does."

### **When your husband is niggly**

Helena spoke. "Yes, what you're teaching us sounds good to me too. But what about when our husband is just plain niggly toward us? You know how men get sometimes."

"Well Helena, niggliness in a man always responds to kindness and sympathy. Unless it's caused by resentment. If that's the case then we are not living all the four secrets



of Fascinating Womanhood. Or we haven't done all the lesson Assignments. They are so important."

### **When your husband ignores you or flirts**

"Now let's look at what to do if our husband ignores us, or flirts with another woman."

"The best way to handle that situation is by playfully teasing him. We should smile impudently and act ultra feminine, and also be a little saucy to distract him. Touch him in some way. Straighten his tie or smooth his hair, or sit on his knee. And we can also start talking about something frivolous."

"The same high spirited approach works when he's being too serious, or starts to lecture us."

"If he seems to be getting exasperated, we can pout adorably and give him cheeky glances that say, "You're not going to get angry with poor little me."

"In other words, we do what came naturally to most of us as young girls to get our father's attention, or to distract him when we thought he was going to scold us."

"This may be too much for some dignified women, but still, it works, and it's delightful and fascinating behaviour to a man."

"Well, that's the end of tonight's lesson class, and also the end of our Fascinating Womanhood Course."

"There are no assignments, except to complete any assignments you might not have done yet. Please don't put them off. They have proven over and over again to have powerful effects for good."

"Our visitors tonight are Vivian and Joy. Vivian's now going to share with us her funny story about how she used childlike anger to get her husband to fix a leaking roof."

"Then Joy will share how she brought out the tender, romantic side of her husband by handling her anger using the natural feminine principles we have learned tonight."

### **Vivian. True Experience.**

**"Fascinating Womanhood lets us stamp our feet and shake our heads. Oh this is fun!"**

**"Getting my husband to do things had been next to impossible, or so I thought. By being impatient and nagging I had accomplished nothing. I became the fix-it man in our home, mowing lawns, painting, moving furniture."**

**"After many days of rain, our living room roof leaked along a ten foot section. So, trying to let go the man's role, I got pots, pans and trays and lined them up along the floor to catch the leaks. It was hard for me not to complain or nag, and even harder not to go up and repair the roof myself. I bit my lip and held my tongue."**

**"That night I was awakened by a noise. I leapt out of bed in the dark and rushed into the living room. I trod**

on the edge of one of the pans of rain water, splashing cold water up my leg and all over my nightie.”

“I remembered Fascinating Womanhood and bit my lip. I went outside and finding nothing wrong I returned through the living room, where I stepped into another pan, splashing cold water up my other leg and again on my nightie.”

“That did it.”

“I carefully walked back to the bedroom and switched on the light. There lay my husband, peacefully asleep. After awakening him, I stamped my foot, shook my head and punched him on one shoulder and said, “This is for one wet leg,” then I punched him on the other shoulder and said, “This is for the other wet leg and a dripping nightie.”

“Startled he asked what was going on. In a pathetic, appealing voice, almost crying I said, ‘I’m dripping wet with rain water from a leaky roof.’ I said no more. He was too shocked to say anything.”

“In the morning I was awakened by footsteps on the roof. I peeped out and there on the roof was my husband making the necessary repairs. When he came in, I praised his muscles and how strong he was and said that I didn’t really know about repairs like he did. He had a delightful smile on his face.”

“About a week later, as I was driving down the road I noticed my husband’s truck overtaking me. He had been home and missed me. He presented me with a kiss and a gift, the most beautiful, gorgeous, white chrysanthemums with red satin hearts in the centre of each bloom.”

“I was so thrilled I could hardly say a word. He had not been in the practice of giving gifts, or remembering special days. The card attached had a lovely message.

“See dear, I don’t forget. Love, Ron.”

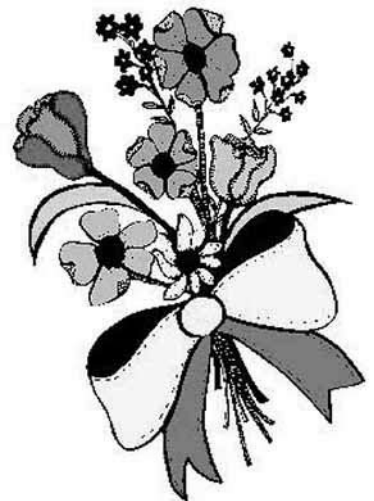
“We hold the keys to our happiness.”

**Joy. True Experience.**

“My marriage was like so many, an armed truce. We had vowed ‘for better or worse.’ My husband never wore his ring and spent little time with me or our two children. He made it clear that he didn’t need me at all. He seldom spoke and never touched me.”

“One lonely day I poured out my heart to a friend who had been through the Fascinating Womanhood course. I can’t count the times she said, “That isn’t the way to handle it.” I got mad at her, but she still persisted with Fascinating Womanhood.”

“Shortly after, my husband and I visited with a bachelor friend of his who desired to get married. While I was doing the dishes, my husband began saying things like, “So you want to get married. Boy, you don’t know



**when you're well off. Look at all the headaches a wife can bring."**

**"At first I took it as a joke, but soon it wasn't funny any more. I thought, "I know what Fascinating Womanhood says about anger. I'll give it a try."**

**"I turned around, stamped my foot, and said, "You big hairy beast. I'm never going to like you again, ever!" Then I walked out of the room, turning as I went to glance over my shoulder. He was grinning from ear to ear. "Did you hear what she called me?" he asked his friend, "Did you hear?"**

**"I found myself sitting in the bedroom thinking, "Great, but what now." My husband had never in eight years of marriage apologised. Yet, not two minutes later he entered the bedroom, sat down beside me and said, 'I'm sorry. I didn't mean to hurt your feelings. Will you forgive me?"**

**"I enrolled in a Fascinating Womanhood class."**

**"Two months later, I received my first birthday card from my husband. It was special, not only because he remembered it, but because he had selected a tiny card showing a cute little hairy beast. It said, 'Happy Birthday lovingly, from your Hairy Beast."**

**"He had actually looked for a special card."**

**"It's now five years later. They have been the best five years of my life. My third child was born by Caesarean section. My wonderful husband, who truly can't stand sickness or pain, was with me every minute he could be."**

**"The day I left hospital, the nurses told me that they, all of them, voted my husband the most tender, romantic husband they had ever met. And he is."**

**"My prayer is that every woman could know and accept Fascinating Womanhood."**

**"Thank you Joy, you certainly are doing your part to share the truths of Fascinating Womanhood with others."**

**"Thank you too Vivian for sharing the amusing feminine way you released your anger and motivated your husband to do his manly duty."**

The teacher paused and smiled. "We have now come to the end of this course. I have really loved being your teacher. And I've loved hearing your successes. We have now become friends. Let us all stay in touch with one another, and encourage each other in living these wonderful principles."

"Now before we enjoy Bev's delicious looking sponge cake, can I share just one last word of encouragement."

"Some of you have had great success already with Fascinating Womanhood, but it's only the beginning. Most women take about a year to master these principles. Please don't give up if you fail from time to time. Fascinating

Womanhood is a one way road. We must go forward. Only happiness lies ahead. All your heartaches lie behind you. Allow two years for the magic to work fully.”

“Some of you will have difficulty in accepting some parts of these teachings, especially acting childlike, and being dependent on your husbands, but these qualities are important to men, and they are a natural part of our feminine nature. We must be humble enough to accept all the teachings of Fascinating Womanhood. They have proved themselves over and over again, for years and years.”

“Forgive, Accept, Admire, Comfort your husband. Make him Number One. Allow him to fully take over the reins of leadership. Then relax, free of worry and allow your femininity to blossom.”

“Regain the carefree joy of your early childhood. When you do so, your husband will be fascinated with you. He will love you. He will cherish you. He will want to spoil you.”

“Enjoy your role as a mother and homemaker. Take your time and do it well. Develop your talents and never stop learning. Surround yourself with pleasant friends and meet together often during the daytime. Share each others difficulties. Keep your standards high and encourage one another to grow spiritually.”

“Comfort and pamper your husband when he comes home weary. Refresh him with your femininity. He will love you dearly and deeply. He will want to place you on a pedestal, so to speak. He will even worship you and treat you as his queen.”

“Always, always, be feminine. Just as you were as a young child. Childlike femininity and charm in a woman of any age is always appealing to a man.”

“Dresses, feminine hairstyles, hair ornaments, trim waistline, all these things delight men, and are important to them. But even these delights are no match for a woman’s loving smile, with nice teeth.

“Be joyful and exuberant in showing your appreciation to your husband. It gladdens his heart. Men’s tastes never change in these things.”

“Remember that opposites attract. Do the opposite of what men do. You will be noticed and smiled at and fussed over. Men love to be around a truly feminine woman.”

“And finally, remember God. Pray every morning and every night and nourish your spirit by reading good books, and the Bible. Set aside a certain time every day for this spiritual development. It will bring serenity into your life. Remember that your husband expects you to be a better person than him. So keep your standards high. Remain worthy of the pedestal that your man loves to place you on.”

Then the teacher handed Angela a small, white book, opened to a marked page.

“Angela, you have a lovely reading voice. Would you close our Fascinating Womanhood course by reading the words

of Ruth Stafford Peale.”

“Ruth was the wife and woman behind the great writer and pastor Dr Norman Vincent Peale. It was she who inspired him to write his famous classic *“The Power of Positive Thinking.”*”

Angela stood and faced the class and read:

*“No job, no hobby, no activity on earth can compare with the drama, and the exhilarating experience of living with a man, loving him, doing your best to understand his infinitely complex mechanism, and helping to make it hum, and sing, and soar, the way it was designed to do.”*

Ted had earlier asked Angela to phone him from the foyer that night, when she was ready for him to come and pick her up.

Cherry offered to take her home, but Angela thought it best to depend on Ted and let him come and get her.

When Ted answered the phone, Angela was about to say in a matter-of-fact voice, “You can come and get me now Ted.” Instead she quickly reconsidered and said in a cheerful, melodious voice “I’m ready darling.”

“OK Angie, I’ll be there in a few minutes.” Angela noticed that Ted’s voice was becoming deeper, more masculine, and more good natured. He also had a new confidence that thrilled her.

Angela waited outside. It had stopped raining and was a now a mild, clear night. The stars shone brightly.

Ted pulled up in his van, and for the first time since they were married, he leaned over and opened the door for Angela from the inside. She smiled her appreciation.

Angela chatted for a short time as they drove home, then, feeling content and loved, she softly started to sing *“The Loveliest Night of the Year.”*

*“When you are in love,”*

*“It’s the loveliest night of the year,”*

*“Stars twinkle above,”*

*“And you almost can touch them from here.”*

Angela felt Ted’s warm, strong hand take hold of her hand. As they drove homeward through the night, a street light briefly illuminated Ted’s face. Angela saw that he was smiling.



*Ruth Stafford Peale and her husband Dr Norman Vincent Peale, on their 25th wedding anniversary.*

The End