

Clothes That Don't Fit

By Donna Bishop

Just what do you do with clothes that aren't right for you?

Long ago in a moment of time nearly forgotten I received a gift of clothing from a gentleman friend. It was a coat, as a matter of fact, a most elegant full length mink coat with a mandarin collar. The fur was a gorgeous brown lined with soft golden satin. My initials were stitched inside the coat in elaborate script. A beautiful coat fit for a sophisticated lady which I am not. This gentleman had struggled financially pending the outcome of a medical law suit. Once the suit was settled he chose to purchase this expensive gift for me. The excitement he expressed as I opened the box made it impossible for me to refuse the coat. It was lovely and I felt elegant in it. A few nights I slept with it next to me, it was soft and warm. As it hung in the closet I touched it frequently just because it felt good. A full length mink coat just didn't fit my life style. You want that I should wear it on the bus to work every day, or maybe to the grocery store? I do recall feeling comfortable at the Denver Symphony maybe once or twice. One bitter cold morning I wore it to church but that was not really appreciated by the other ladies.

Each summer I paid to have the coat cleaned and stored and the remainder of the year it hung in my closet much admired but seldom worn. As the years passed the coat was no longer quite in style. You know the length was a bit too long and the shoulder pads a bit outdated. I spent some thought on having it restyled but realized I hadn't changed my lifestyle so why bother. As with other clothes in my closet that don't suit or more frequently no longer fit, I bundled up the coat and took it to Goodwill. I hope it was rescued by a fancy lady with a lifestyle to match.