

Losing your identity could be fun.

The fun begins with each click of the TV remote as we tune in to a holiday movie feature. Finding a new identity, the ingenue, perhaps can add lemon fresh scent to our rain soaked moldy winter wear.

As a 70 something year old movie viewer I have identified with various actresses beginning with any old thing featuring the young Haley Mills. In "Parent Trap" I became twins in the feature and was wealthy, either in a New York apartment or a semi-cowgirl on the California ranch. I love that film. Ah, to be wealthy again! Somewhere during the teen years there was Patty Duke in the TV featuring her as a bright eyed teeny-bopper with a cousin who resembled her in looks, but, was the exact opposite in personality. Depending on the day and on the mood which I was in I loved to identify with both personalities. But, not at the same time. Sally Field flew into my realm as "The Flying Nun", only to lose me in her later films. I could not identify with her often. Too much strife, not enough demure, I suppose.

And then fun-loving, musicals filled the air waves. I then adopted the artistry of singing, of wooing handsome fellas to come calling in the Doris Day films and their ilk.

I loved living the ingénue identity. I pretended for years with that identity. However, life takes on her own identity. The one of long nights of studying during school days, the long days of working outside the home following graduation. Then there is the lengthy aging process. Gray hairs take over where lively sheen was before the babies kept me up late with songs of their own creating a more mature identity.

Now, my identity is the Mother of the Ingénue where the pullover sweater girl is now the taupe cardigan mom. Yup! My identity is not as fun, but is very fun-loving. This is the grandma or in some episodes, the grandma to be.

And, in a featured holiday film the other evening (piecing 30's blocks while watching) I found my next identity which should become a Santa Bag full of fun...I plan on accepting an award for the best portrayal ofThe Old Crone.

Lana