

# 11. Extended Metaphors

**ARTICLE OF CLOTHING:** The article of clothing I am most like are the casual, comfortable, over-sized flannel nightgowns my granny has made me forever. Rickrack, ribbon, lace, braid frogs, industrial-size snaps, buttons of mother-of-pearl or rhinestone -- whatever catches her fancy will adorn the colorful but bizarre flannel she finds on sale. Pastel toys, tiny pink rosebuds, yellow calico, and green penguins have served over the years, finally faded, soft, strange, unique.

**DAY OF THE WEEK:** I'm like Thursday, not quite the free, wild, undisciplined weekend, but also not quite the dull drudgery of Monday. Thursday is caught between work and play, restriction and freedom. Thursday is a sense of accomplishment for the week past, a sense of challenge for a week unfinished, and a sense of anticipation for the weekend ahead.

**PIECE OF FURNITURE:** I think a bookcase and I have much in common. We both contain many kinds of knowledge -- some useful, some erudite, some frivolous. The contents of both can be selectively edited, adding new volumes and discarding useless texts. There is room for the dictionary and the comic book, for Pre-Raphaelite poetry and *National Lampoon*, perhaps even for a few knickknacks.

**SONG:** Since I have just discovered Louis Jordan's music from *Five Guys Named Moe* and I am wild about "Nobody Here But Us Chickens," and I haven't found any other place to put this great good time song . . . It tells a funny story, all jazzed up, and yet also gives universal advice about trust, and all that stuff. I feel good when I hear it and can't keep from grinning. Sometimes I can make others feel that way, too.

**TELEVISION CHARACTER:** The television character I wish I were most like is Murphy Brown. Not only is she beautiful and intelligent, she has a devastating wit and killer repartee. Candice Bergen epitomizes the modern career woman at her best (and worst). Even on a bad day, there is much to admire in how well she has aged. It is sometimes hard for me to believe she was all frothy pink in *Glamour* magazine in 1968.