

# Women's adaptability draws recognition

Yes, Mother's Day is just around the corner and I haven't bought mine a gift yet. I found a cute card, in which I can be expressive, but that's not enough of a gift.

So I started thinking about my mom. She's not just a mom. She's a woman, who was a daughter, a bride, a newlywed and a young woman with babies. All the things that I am now.

We women spend our lives morphing into who we need to be for different phases and requirements. One minute we're young,

single and going out on the town every night, and the next, we find ourselves home breastfeeding an infant every two hours.

That's not a complaint — just one potential reality.

Amazingly, we do whatever it is that we need to do. We women seem to manage ex-

tremely well at wearing several hats at once, knowing when to change them, and keeping it all together. I'm not downplaying all the single dads out there by any means. This is simply my tribute

to women on Mother's Day.

What's even more amazing is how we're all individuals, different in many ways, yet we relate to each other on a fundamental level. We all get our periods and empathize with cramps and back pain; we all eventually grew boobs of some size; we're mostly all programmed to nurture babies and can understand the trials and tribulations that go along with that ride; and one day we'll all go through menopause.

There's a very funny Canadian sketch comedy act called "Women Fully Clothed" that attempts to touch on all these aspects of being a woman — and then some. It's light-hearted,

using women to poke fun at women, while still pointing out the incredible levels of accomplishment that we achieve.

My favourite scene highlights one woman on the phone with her mother. Her call-waiting alert sounds and her grandmother's on the other line. Then her brother. And throughout the whole one-sided conversation, she's desperately trying to get out the door to do her grocery shopping. It wasn't so much what she was saying into the phone but the way she was saying it, with all the changing nuances, that made me laugh knowingly.

But the scene that really struck me was one where two college

friends bump into each other in a restaurant, where one is a waitress, and the other has come to breastfeed. Two totally different women, who seemed to know what they wanted in college, realize from this chance encounter that they really did follow the paths they'd set out for themselves a decade ago.

I found myself relating to both women, but seeing more of my mom in one. I think I'll take her to see the show. That'll be a good Mother's Day gift.

Tune into CFRB Talk Radio 1010 on Sunday from 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. to hear Lisi Teshler on Ask Ellie And Lisi.

● Women Fully Clothed runs May 26-28 at the Winter Garden Theatre.

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