

The Honey Girls by Howard Christy Chandler



"Honey Girl"

Howard Chandler Christy's poster showing the smiling and attractive American girl togged out in a bluejacket uniform and voicing her wish to be a man so that she might join the Navy has had a wide popularity and has doubtless served to attract many a young man's attention and start him on the road to the recruiting station.

On her arm she wears the rating badge of a Quartermaster, First Class, and her jaunty air shows that she thinks she looks well in sailor clothes. The enlisted men have dubbed her "Honey Girl" and she is sweet enough to fully justify the name.

As a matter of fact several thousand young women have been enlisted in the Navy, but so far none of them are serving aboard ship. They are the stenographers and typewriters who have been enlisted in the Naval Reserve Force to take the place of the men clerks in the Navy Department at Washington and in the naval establishments on shore in order to release the men for service with the fleet or in the munitions plants. These patriotic young women have a uniform, too, but it is not like the one shown in the poster.

Other loyal women are enlisted in the Navy as nurses and are serving at the Naval Hospitals and aboard the hospital ships, true angels of mercy.

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"Honey Girl" joins the Marines.

Honey Girl Helps the Marines

Trim and natty in their blue uniforms two sailor cronies strolled down Sands Street, bound from the Brooklyn Navy Yard. They were "making their first liberty" in a home port after a strenuous tour of convoy cruising on the other side, their faces showed the healthy bronze of salt sea air, and in their walk was the easy roll that comes from walking the decks of a deep sea ship. Suddenly one glanced at a poster displayed in a shop window and exclaimed: "Now what do ye think o' that? The leathernecks have enlisted Honey Girl! The first thing you know they'll be enlistin' some of us blue-jackets in the marines."

The other looked long and hard; sure enough, there in the poster was Honey Girl togged out in a marine sergeant's blue blouse and white cap, calling for recruits to join the "Soldiers of the Sea." Then he sadly remarked, "It's all right, mate, let her go. Maybe the marines need 'em."

He was right; the marines need them, good red-blooded Americans to fight on land and sea, and Honey Girl is helping to get them for the sailors and for the soldiers, too, for while she has just appeared on the Marine Corps posters she is still appearing in her sailor suit, "wishing that she were a man so that she could join the Navy."

They are all in it, all a part of the Greater Navy holding the sea for freedom; some wear sailor clothes and some wear soldier clothes, some fight on land and some in the air, some fight on the water and some under the water, and Honey Girl only asks them to join the service that calls to them, knowing in her loyal heart that there is plenty of work for all of them.

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