What is a Muse?

Well, I must admit I had to look it up, and it looks like the word “muse” comes from an old French word and in some forms today still means “to think on, or to gaze upon with contemplation”, or something to that effect. For example, “I muse upon life”. You get the idea. In short, a muse is someone we draw inspiration from.

Fashion Designers draw inspiration from their own Muse.

In the fashion word, a muse is a specific person or type of person who acts as a source for inspiration and for whom the designer may also design clothes specifically. For example, when I write the word “jockey”, what comes to mind? When I hear that word, I think about, horses, racing, leather, high boots, silk jackets, and someone very small. What comes to your mind? It might be something totally different. So, a design is as much a reflection of what inspires you as your own unique point of view.

I mentioned the word “jockey” specifically because according to a book called “Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History” by Rhonda Garelick, the famous
designer, Coco Chanel was inspired by the quilted jackets that jockeys used to wear to make her signature quilted bags.

## Drawing Inspiration from the World around us.

Its fun to be inspired by the beautiful natural world around us that God has made. We are at the tail end of our fall right now and the range of colours and hues of orange, red and yellow leaves take my breath away! Wow, some of those maple trees look like they are on fire. It is so beautiful! But when we think of a person, are we inspired by just what we see on the outside (e.g. their clothes, their shape, their face), or can you be inspired by something deeper?

## Can we be inspired by something deeper?

I often need to remind myself that the person that you are inside is more valuable than how we look on the outside. I have masterpieces that my little sons have drawn for me with the following caption “To the beautifulest mommy in all the world”. I keep those words close to my heart. When I look in the mirror I may not perceive myself as a possible “muse” in the fashion world. On the outside, I might see a tired, worn out mommy, who didn’t get enough sleep. Ah, but my little sons are wiser. They, on the other hand, see a mommy they love, and to them, she is “the beautifulest mommy in all the world”.

## Here is something to “muse” upon.

Have you ever heard the expression, “beauty is in the eye of the beholder?” That is true. And the God who made this beautiful planet, made you and I just the way He wanted to, with all our quirks and funny personalities. Who is to say that we are not beautiful? He obviously thinks we are. There is a Bible verse that expresses just that. It says “What matters is not your outer appearance – the styling of your hair, the cut of your clothes – but your inner disposition.” 1 Peter 3:3 (msg). Let us muse on that. Happy Sewing!
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