

'Dear Watson you have done it'

'Done what?'

'Provided me with the key to solving my problem'

Many considered Shelby Jones wildly eccentric, with her whirlwind arrival in any space, her untameable hair, and her obtuse replies, when she deigned to answer. I first met her in the local coffee shop. I was in need of a caffeine fix and ahead of me in the queue was this woman who was busy describing the benefits of each type of coffee bean. Eventually she settled on her drink and I was able to get my order in for an ordinary cappuccino. I settled down in the corner to enjoy my coffee in comfort when the expert appeared at my table and sat down without a by your leave. Before I had raised my cup to my lips Shelby, as she announced herself, started on a long tirade about today's youngsters. I turned a deaf ear to her chatter and drifted into a daydream regarding my upcoming weekend with Darren.

Jerked back to the present by the sudden silence I looked at Shelby.

'Sorry, did you want an answer', I asked

'Only if you have one', she replied

'Can you repeat the question?'

'I asked if you had any suggestions of how to deal with my situation. I have thought about it from all angles, and I just can't see a solution'

I didn't want to get caught up in her drama so I said I didn't really know. I then muttered something under my breath, I can't for the life of me remember now what I said but it appeared to satisfy my companion.

A couple of weeks passed. I thought I saw Shelby on several occasions but I couldn't be sure. Unsuccessful on a shopping trip, and with the pouring rain dripping down the back of my neck I decided to seek shelter in the nearby coffee shop. The delightful warmth flooded through my fingers as I wrapped them around the large cappuccino, but before I could raise the cup to my lips Shelby sat down beside me. It's like she knew!!

I couldn't really ignore her now, so I murmured 'Good afternoon'. Shelby didn't appear to hear but then suddenly exclaimed, 'You were so right you know'

'What', I exclaimed, 'I'm not sure what you mean'

'Last time we spoke you made me realise that I couldn't see the wood for the trees. I went away feeling more positive and do you know after some consideration I was able to solve my problem'.

'Oh good'

Shelby had addressed me as 'Watson'

'Please my name is Joan'

'I know, Joan Watson right'

'Yes'

'As you have the same surname as my hero's friend and as like him you provided the key to solving a problem, I thought I would be the same and call you Watson. After all you did help me with your down to earth approach.'