



GIRL-TO-GIRL
MAGGIE ALDERSON

Twin share

I had walked a few metres down the road with my three-year-old daughter recently when I realised we were wearing nearly identical outfits, involving denim jackets and boots. I immediately went home and changed, shuddering that I had come so close to being a Middle America Matching Mom.

But while deliberately twinned mother and daughter ensembles are the absolute end, one of the joys of having a little girl is sharing her delight in discovering the delicious fripperies of femininity.

While I am already all too aware that the same-as-mummy things my daughter would most like are red lipstick and high heels, there are plenty of more suitable twin presents both of us would love.

Alice bands are a classic for little girls and a hot hair trend for grown-up ones as well. (Style tip: on mum they are best worn with a ponytail, or you can look like Princess Michael of Kent.)

No one ever has enough padded coat hangers and starting your daughter with them young will establish good clothes-care habits.

But what I would most relish would be curling up at the end of the day with my little one, both us in pretty nighties and slippers, with a new anthology of stories to read.

And knowing that all the royalties from those books were going to the charities War Child and No Strings, which help children spending Christmas – and every other day – in war zones.



1 Daughter: baby pearl gold bracelet, \$250, and baby pearl bracelet on lavender silk, \$95, Jan Logan, www.janlogan.com.au, 9363 2529. 2 Mother: South Sea pearl necklace, \$1,200, Jan Logan, www.janlogan.com.au, 9363 2529. 3 Mother: frilly-bust embroidered nightie, \$139, Louise Mitchell, www.louisemitchell.com, 9363 1855. 4 Daughter: girl's nightie, \$69, Louise Mitchell, www.louisemitchell.com, 9363 1855. 5 Daughter: Panda fluff slippers, \$45, Jumping Jack Flash, www.jumpingjackflash.com.au, 1300 764 457. 6 Mother: "Nice as Nicole" slippers, \$85, My Sweet Feet, www.mysweetfeet.com.au, 9380 2526. 7 Mother: coat hangers, \$45, The Accessory Company, Myer, www.myer.com.au, 1800 811 611. 8 Mother: plastic head band, \$24.95, Paris Mode, www.parismode.com.au, 9363 1723. 9 Daughter: beaded girl's head band, \$29.95, The Accessory Company, Myer, www.myer.com.au, 1800 811 611. 10 Daughter: girls' padded coat hangers, damask, \$35, white with handmade roses, \$55, Adrienne & the Misses Bonney, 9363 1723.