

From Harry Brand  
Director of Publicity  
20th Century-Fox Studio  
Beverly Hills

## B I O G R A P H Y

OF

### JEAN PETERS

Green-eyed Jean Peters became a movie actress quite by accident. She was working hard for a teacher's degree at Ohio State University when some of her school chums entered her in a campus popularity contest. Four hundred college beauties competed for the two hundred dollars in cash and a trip to Hollywood for a screen test at 20th Century-Fox. Jean won and took the trip but was worried during the two weeks she was absent from classes for fear that she might not pass all her subjects.

That was in January, 1946. Jean was tested by the studio and when she returned to campus life she had her name on a long-term contract. The school term ended in March, and early in April the honor roll student was back in Hollywood. Four months later, Darryl F. Zanuck called her in for an interview and climaxed the visit with the startling announcement -- startling as far as Jean was concerned, at least -- that she was to play Tyrone Power's sweetheart in "Captain From Castile", one of the studio's mightiest undertakings.

Jean, christened Elizabeth Jean Peters, was born in Canton, Ohio, the daughter of Mary Elizabeth and Gerald Morris Peters. Her mother is quite talented as a painter, while her father, who died when Jean was ten, was an engineer whose hobby was music and who was an accomplished pianist. Jean doesn't think, however, that she inherited any musical abilities. One of her hobbies is drawing.

When Jean's father died, her mother bought a seven-acre farm near East Canton and moved there with Jean and a younger daughter. Jean attended a country high school, specializing in math, history, and psychology. That's when she decided to become a teacher. She was only slightly interested in dramatics and Hollywood and the stage always seemed too far away to ever bloom into reality.

Jean matriculated at the University of Michigan as a freshman. She was on the scholarship honor roll and liked the school except for one thing -- she didn't believe in sororities because she saw too many other freshman girls who were heartbroken because they weren't pledged. Consequently, she lived off the campus with a professor's family.

After one year in Michigan, life in Ohio proved the magnet that was to draw her back to her native state. She longed for life on the farm. So she enrolled at Ohio State in her sophomore year, lived in a dormitory with five hundred other girls, studied hard and had few dates. The dates she had were with medical students because she found them the most interesting.

While Jean's great ambition is to be a good actress, the teaching bug must have bitten her hard because she still is anxious to get her degree. She needs one more year at college and hopes to gradually acquire the necessary credits by taking the required courses at a California institution when she isn't busy before the cameras.

The brown-haired Ohio girl admits to one bitter disappointment in her young life. She tried, but failed, to be a drum majorette in high school as well as in the university. It was a bitter pill for her to swallow when other candidates for the job were selected.

Jean's number one hobby is reading the classics, and her most prized possession is the library in her Ohio home. It consists of some 700 books which Jean values at \$2,500. She started her collection when she was thirteen and her only extravagance is the constant buying of more volumes to add to it. She loves horseback riding and swimming, but isn't too fond of dancing. She likes to paint. Her pet phobia is the color pink. She can't stand it and few of her clothes include that color.

Her pet aversion is what she describes as "catty" people, and she won't listen to conversations criticizing others in their absence. She likes to think she economizes by making all her own dresses, but she admits that quite often they don't fit after she has finished them and that she probably spends as much on material as she would by purchasing ready-made things.

Jean, who is of Welsh descent, has an old Welsh superstition -- what she calls a singing tea cup. It is a cracked cup that she says brings good luck to anyone drinking tea from it. As a result she encourages her friends to use it so they too can enjoy the good fortune it is supposed to provide. She never steps on cracks, always careful by stepping over them.

Shakespeare is her favorite author. She prefers the color green, and she loves any kind of food. Her favorite dishes are spaghetti, noodles with dumplings, sour lemon and cherry pie. She drinks coffee "by the gallon", and doesn't have a sweet tooth. She eats all she wants and doesn't have to worry about dieting.

Her favorite picture is "Waterloo Bridge", and for relaxation she likes to draw sketches of people and landscapes. When pressed, though, she laughingly admits that she would much rather "just sit around and gab" with friends. "Hamlet" is her favorite play.

Jean will answer to the nickname of "Pete". In fact, she prefers it to her real name. Her pets are all at her Ohio farm home, including three dogs, about 15 cats, a cow, a goat named Josephine and a lamb she calls Ali Baba.


She prides herself on her ability to work with her hands. She can lay stone, plaster, and repair broken furniture. She is a good cook and enjoys sewing. She doesn't require much rest, seldom more than five hours a night.

She usually follows her hunches, and she once saved her home from catching on fire. She started from her farm house one day to go to town. A few blocks away she thought she had forgotten something but couldn't remember just what it might be. So, she turned back, only to discover she had neglected to disconnect the iron and it was rapidly developing a blaze on the ironing board.

She is a distant cousin of Tommy Farr, the Welsh heavyweight who was popular in this country a few years ago. Tommy gallantly tried but failed to win the title, but Jean is determined she won't fail in Hollywood. After all, she has a singing tea cup.

VITAL STATISTICS

REAL NAME:	ELIZABETH JEAN PETERS
BIRTHPLACE:	Canton, Ohio
BIRTHDATE:	October 15,
MOTHER:	Mary Elizabeth Peters
FATHER:	Gerald Morris Peters (deceased)
EDUCATION:	Elementary schools and high school in East Canton; University of Michigan and Ohio State
HEIGHT:	Five feet, five and $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
WEIGHT:	124 pounds
HAIR:	Dark Brown
EYES:	Green



Technologico  
de Merrey

PICTURE RECORD

1947

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE  
DEEP WATERS

1949

IT HAPPENS EVERY SPRING  
LOVE THAT BRUTE

1950

TAKE CARE OF MY LITTLE GIRL

1951

AS YOUNG AS YOU FEEL  
ANNE OF THE INDIES  
VIVA ZAPATA!  
WAIT TILL THE SUN SHINES, NELLIE

1952

~~WAVE OF THE SWAMP~~

Life of the Wildern<sup>355</sup>

O. Henry's Full House

BLAZE OF GLORY

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