

What's behind Julia's rapid transformation from glowing girl in miniskirts to frowning frump? "She's really tired from looking after the kids. She dresses for comfort now instead of for show," a source says. Relationship expert Whitney Casey tells *Star* this is typical for new moms. "She may be enjoying the fact that the pressure is off and she can look disheveled if she wants," Casey says. "Now that she's out of the limelight, she may have new priorities — hair color and manicures may be secondary."

## **BABY BLUES?**

Could Julia's change be due to something more serious? Pec Indman, a San Jose psychotherapist and expert on the postpartum blues (who has not treated Roberts), tells *Star* that symptoms of postpartum depression, which can last for more than a year, include "irritability, especially if someone's babies are not sleeping well, and a mother's unkempt appearance. The mother lets herself go, doesn't wear makeup, sometimes doesn't brush

her teeth or shower." As an actress, Julia may have another reason to feel down. "She's nearing 40, a difficult age for women in the movie business," says Hollywood agent Lenny Seriki. And though Julia won an Oscar just four years ago for the title role in *Erin Brockovich*, "the 'now' generation cares less about Julia than they do about Jessica Alba and Angelina Jolie. The last movie Julia carried by herself was *Mona Lisa Smile*, and that was a box-office flop."

But don't write off Julia's career yet. She'll be leaping from the big screen to the stage this coming March, when she makes her Broadway debut in the thought-provoking drama *Three Days of Rain*. "A lot of Hollywood actors have burnished their star by coming to Broadway and earning the praise of critics," says Robert Simonson, editor of playbill.com. A source says that Julia is very excited about the upcoming role and has even joked "that the best thing about Broadway is that there are no camera closeups!"

Her newly upbeat attitude may help her marriage, too. Recently, as she's stayed home alone with the twins in New Mexico — growing tired and

dowdy — Moder's been working in L.A., and they haven't spent a lot of time together. "I think Danny really misses the confident, gorgeous Julia that he married," says a source. But on Nov. 5, Moder joined Julia and the twins for lunch with friends in Taos — and Julia even broke into a smile.

- JEFF SAMUELS, MAXINE PAGE, SHAHRIAR RAHMANZADEH, SUZY MCCOPPIN, TINA DIRMANN & JENNIFER PEARSON ★

RHAPSODY

NR: "Right now, Julia's hair oks just too long and unkempt,"

E: "Long dresses are really

Uma Thurman," says New York City

popular now with beauties like

image consultant Dana Weiss. "And Julia's still young enough to wear a push-up bra to accent her

says Beverly Hills celebrity stylist Erick Hoffman. "She should do something like Cameron Diaz's look: wavy and highlighted with long bangs to one side."

## Julia's Smile: It's Not Always On!

Has any star ever possessed a smile as gorgeous as the one Julia used to flash with regularity in her movies (like 1990's Pretty Woman, left) and on the red carpet? Sadly, that dazzling dental display seems to be absent from most photos of Roberts taken on the street over the last year. "Julia's birthday was Oct. 28," says a friend. "She said something about two years from 40 being nothing much to celebrate. It sounded like she was kidding — but it wasn't a joke at all."



A new hairdo and wardrobe could help Julia Roberts regain that America's Sweetheart glow, top fashion and beauty experts tell *Star*. Here we imagine three new looks for Julia

