

## "A Little Poison After Supper?"

Pearl de Vere was a famous Colorado Madame, known for never being seen in the same outfit twice. Most of her clothing was sent from France. When a new ensemble would arrive, she would ride up and down the streets to show off her latest look, which the town's women hated, but tirelessly tried to copy.

Known for having lavish parties, one evening in 1897, she threw her most fantastic party of all, with French champagne, and two Denver Orchestras. Pearl wore a shell pink chiffon dress from Paris and an expensive string of pearls. After the party, she was found dead in her pale pink dress from a Laudanum overdose.

Laudanum was an extremely popular and addictive drug at the time...made from poppies. Use of drugs like this was so common and accepted, you can even find old laudanum and morphine adds suggesting giving a dose to babies who are teething!