

For a few years I designed and made our Christmas cards.



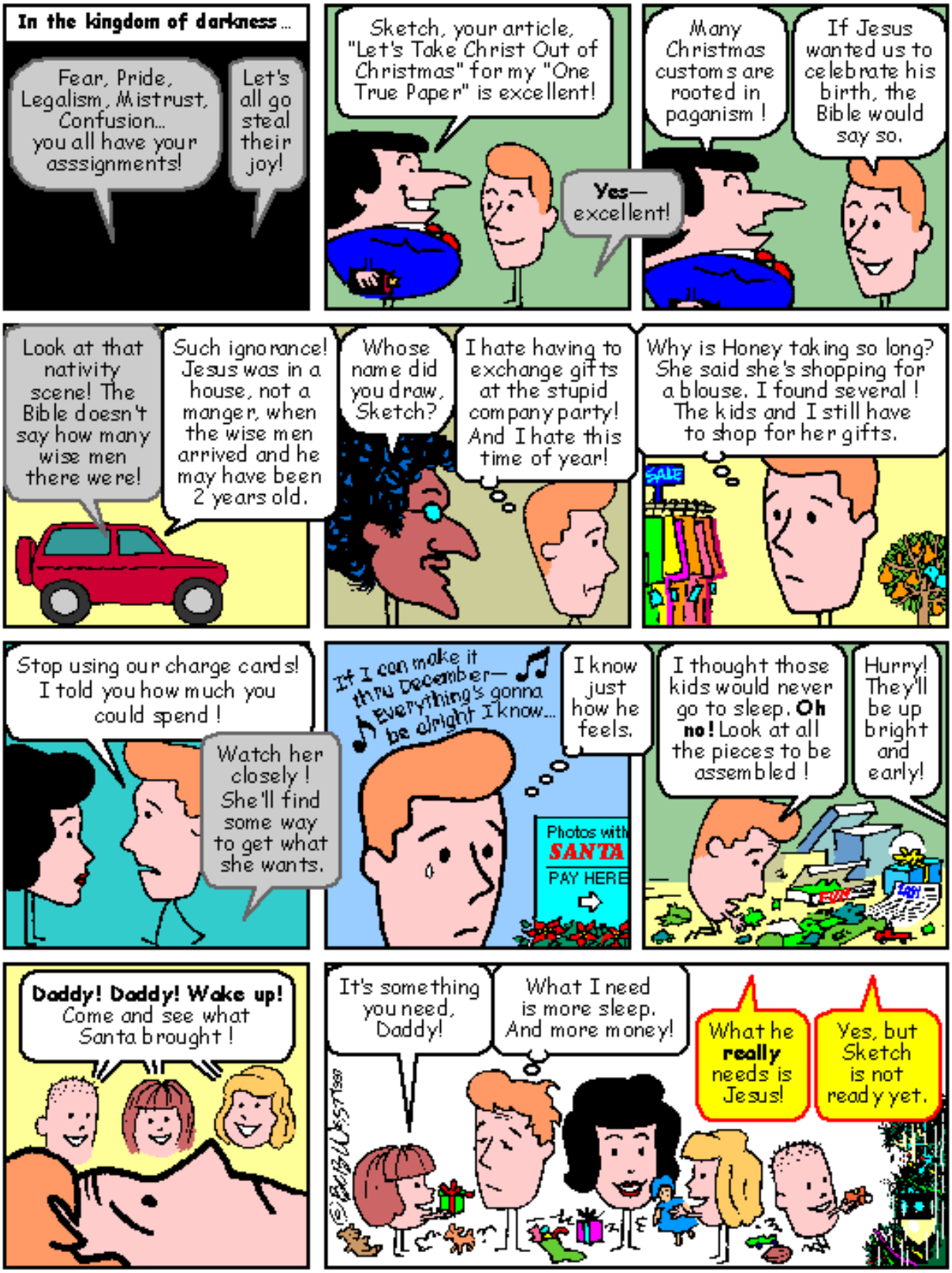




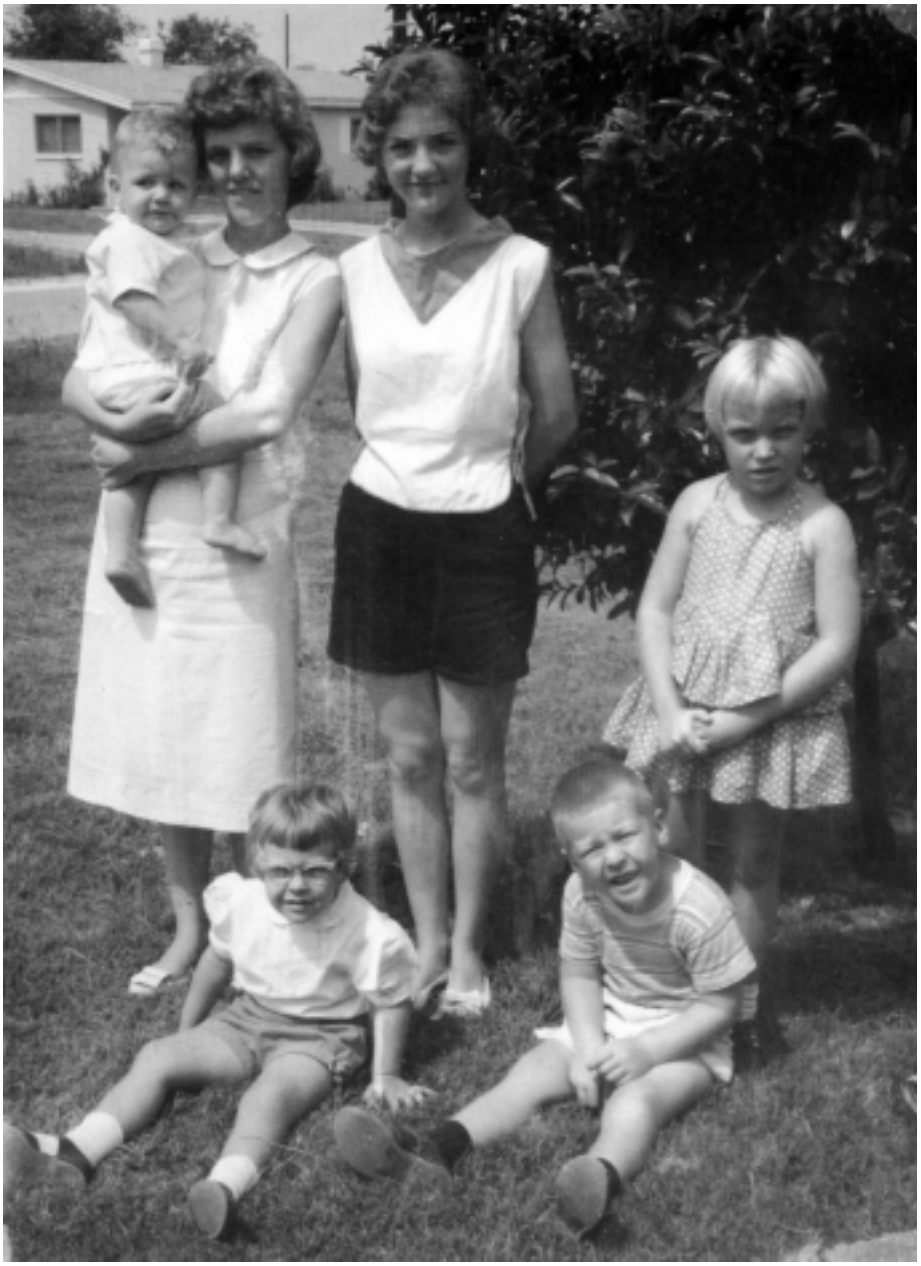


THEOPHILUS

Sketch's Christmas Carol



Memories of Christmas from my own point of view provided the basis for this December 1997 episode of Theophilus.



Linda, Dennis, and Janie with the kids. Below: David dresses for role in school play.





Photographers and Models.
Sylvia deserves much credit for my successful career in visual communications. She has been my model when I needed one and has become the photographer when I posed myself.

On the facing page she poses as a runner for one illustration I was painting and as a woman on skis for another. In the other samples shown here I posed for some characters I needed to draw and she took the photos.

The other photo shows an illustration I was working on and some of the reference photos and materials I used in the process.















Our homemade camper.
How do you take a vacation trip from Orlando to New England and back without having to spend lots of money on motel rooms? I thought I had the solution. We would stop at public picnic areas along the way and spend the night.

We had a Falcon station wagon, which was not large enough to provide sleeping accommodations for a family of five, even if it were not loaded with baggage, food, and whatever we would need for a two-week trip. But we had a pup tent.

My idea was to build a platform with a hinged support with the tent attached to fit on top of the car. The tent could be erected and secured in position with a simple pull of the rope. I also made a "shelf" that would fit over the front passenger seat and butt against the dashboard, which would provide a bed for Robynne. Sylvia and Suzanne could sleep in the station wagon behind the front seat. David and I could sleep inside the tent on the platform above. I bought a boat ladder to give us way to climb up there.

Unfortunately, I did not plan on the trunk and all the other luggage and stuff that would be put on top of the platform and folded down tent, and the tarp that would have to cover all that and be tied down on all sides. Our first night on the road, we stopped at a picnic area on US17 in Georgia. It took us an hour to take



David demonstrates how quickly and easily the tent is raised.



Dad observes our new camper ready to use.









Suzanne, David, and Robynne enjoyed pumping water the first and only night of our trip that we camped in a picnic area.

all of the stuff off the platform and put it on a picnic table, so we would have room to sleep. Then it took us an hour the next morning to put it all back before we could leave.

This was the only time we stopped to spend the night using our new camping set-up. I drove all the next day and thru the night to Moosup, Conneticut. We spent the other nights with relatives or friends. We never used the tent, platform or Robynne's sleeping shelf again.



Our first visit during our New England vacation was with Aunt Rose (standing) and Sylvia's maternal grandmother, Amelia DeVaudreuil.



Bob and Jean Arnold and children at their home in Burlington, Massachusetts.



The Arnold family and our family at one of the Revolutionary War landmarks we saw in Boston.



Alan and Norma Monroe and their children at home in Gloucester, Massachusetts.



Our visit to Rockport, Massachusetts, with the Monroes.







Our family with part of the church group we met with in a rented house in Mauldin a few years earlier while I was in art school in Boston. On this trip we met with them in their new building in Melrose.





Pam McDermit, David, and Robynne.



Robynne stands next to the "rock" that David and I made out of cement and wire.

I think this photo was taken in the early days of Busch Gardens in Tampa.



6121 Hudson Street, circa 1960.



Suzanne, Beverly McDermit, Laura Boquist, and David.







6121 Hudson Street, September 1993. Present owner from Nigeria poses with Sylvia for this photo taken by Suzanne.





Suzanne and JoAnn Robinson.







