**Christmas Gift-Giving**

**Garfield: “What is it about Christmas that fills my heart so? Is it the lights, the presents, the smiles on the faces of little children, the feeling of good will that fills the air? Yeah, definitely the presents.” *(Jim Davis, in Garfield comic strip)***

**Man: “Jeremy, have you bought Sara a Christmas present yet? Have you thought about what you want to give her?” Jeremy: “No.” Man: “How much do you want to spend?” Jeremy: “Maybe ten bucks. Any suggestions?” Man: “Something with an apology.” *(Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman, in Zits comic strip)***

**As Dad tries to put together some of the Christmas presents, he says to himself: “Apparently ‘some assembly required’ means by NASA engineers!” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**I was surprised when my teenage son handed me a Christmas gift, because I knew he had little money to spend. Opening the gaily wrapped box, I found two AA batteries with a note: “Gift Not Included.” *(Chet Rogowski, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Smokey: “I wanted to stop by and give you a belated Christmas present, Ed!” Ed: “Eh, Smokey. You didn’t have to do that!” Smokey: “Okay, then I’ll take it.” Ed: “Too late!” *(Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers, in Crankshaft comic strip)***

**Dad: “Nobody open anything else ‘til I see how these shots turned out!” Billy: “I liked it better before Daddy got a digital camera.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Woman: “Sally hasn't told me what she'd like for her birthday, Ted. In fact, I've hardly seen her the last two weeks.” Man: “Why is that?” Woman: “Ralph keeps dropping projects on her. I've never seen her so stressed.” Man: “You're saying what she needs is a break?” Woman: “I'm saying what she needs is for someone to kidnap Ralph.” Man: “I'll save that idea for next Christmas.” *(Francesco Marciuliano, in Sally Forth comic strip)***

**Daughter: “I can't believe Mom is having you wrap your own Christmas presents, Dad.” Dad: “Well, like I said, with my bad memory, it's no big deal. Like this book she's giving me. I'll probably forget what it is before I open it.” Daughter: “Wait a minute. Didn't she give you that book last year?” Dad: “Who knows?” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

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**Grandma: “I’m making these hand-knitted booties for Christmas gifts this year. They’re so adorable and they’re really comfy, too. Try a pair on. Well. What do you think?” Grandpa: “It certainly is better to give than to receive.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Heart: “Look at these old ratty boots, Mom! They’ve got pictures of The Little Mermaid on the sides! That’s so yesterday!” Mom: “I complained I had no shoes, until I saw a man who had no feet.” Heart: “I can see getting you that Quote of the Day calendar for Christmas was a big mistake.” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart Of The City, comic strip)***

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**Son: “Hey, Max! What did you get for Christmas.” Max: “I can’t remember.” Son: “It was just last week.” Max: “I seem to forget things as soon as they break.” Son: “You’ve already broken everything you got?” Max: “Except for the underwear and socks, but I’m trying hard to forget those too.” *(Jerry Bittle, in Shirley & Son comic strip)***

**Christmas is the season when you buy this year’s presents with next year’s money. (Milton Berle)**

**Your children need your presence more than your presents. (Rev. Jesse Jackson)**

**Our daughter, Cindy, who remained in California after graduating from college, has developed an acute sense of things distinctly Southern Californian and occasionally sends them back to us in Ohio. One Christmas she sent gifts in colorful wrapping paper that showed angels with harps on a background of blue sky and billowing clouds. It was traditional holiday wrapping in every respect -- except for one thing: all the angels wore sunglasses. *(Leonard F. Waite, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**Daughter: “You’re giving Dad a colonoscopy for Christmas?” Mother: “That’s right.” Daughter: “Isn’t that a little, I don’t know, clinical?” Mother: “Perhaps, but I think he’ll appreciate it in the end.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Grandpa: “What’s this, a gift certificate for a colonoscopy?” Grandma: “Merry Christmas. I know it’s a little unusual, but I wanted to give you something meaningful. And what could be more meaningful than possibly saving your loved one’s life? You might say it’s a gift from the bottom of my heart to the heart of your.” Grandpa: “Don’t say it!” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip***

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**A boy was praying as loud as he could for a Christmas present. His sister said -- “You don’t have to pray so loud, God isn’t deaf.” Said he -- “I know God isn’t deaf, but Grandma is.” *(Rev. Leon Hill, in O for the Life of a Preacher, p. 25)***

**Billy says to Santa: “Don’t wrap any presents this year. It takes too long to open them.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Grandma: “Is this from you, Nelson?” Nelson: “Merry Christmas!” Grandma: “Oh, it’s just an empty box.” Nelson: “No, it’s not. It’s full of kisses.” Grandma: “How sweet. Kisses! And a wad of chewing gum.” Nelson: “I was looking for that!” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**One: “What’re you getting for Christmas?” Other: “I heard my father say he’s going to give me a thesaurus.” One: “Wow, are you ever lucky! My old man won’t even let me have a hamster.” *(Johnny Hart, in BC comic strip)***

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**Lucy: “I don’t want you to give me anything for Christmas this year, Linus.” Linus: “Really? That’s too bad but I can understand how you feel, and I admire you for it.” Linus then yells: “Cancel that order for the ten-thousand dollar necklace!!!” Lucy: “After the holidays are over and everything has quieted down, I’m going to slug you!” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**Aunt: “What are you going to give your little sister for Christmas?” Nephew: “I don’t know yet.” Aunt: “What did you give her last year?” Nephew: “The whooping cough.” *(Jeannette Fidell, in Jokes, Jokes, Jokes, p. 14)***

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**Boy: “Oh, I’ll be back for dinner.” Mom: “Glad your home. My little boy is growing up. His first trip from his car to the house was with Christmas presents, not his laundry.” *(Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds, in Second Chances comic strip)***

**Our extended family had grown so large and gift-giving so expensive that we decided to draw names one Christmas. I explained to five-year-old Adrienne that if she drew my name out of a hat, she would have to buy me a gift. “I wouldn’t have to buy you a gift,” Adrienne responded. “I’d love to!” *(Rosemarie Roebuck, in Redbook)***

**Lucy: “You know what you can give me for Christmas, big brother? A horse!” Charlie Brown: “A horse?!! I don’t think I can buy you a horse, but I can buy you a pencil that you can use to underline the listing in the TV Guide for the next John Wayne movie.” Lucy: “Just what I need, a brother with a warped sense of humor!” Charlie Brown: “’Tis the season to be jolly!” *(Charles Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**My wife wanted two gifts last Christmas: a metal detector and some jewelry. On Christmas Day, I presented her with a metal detector. Then just before dinner, I told her she had one more present. Immediately she guessed it must be the jewelry. “Where is it?” she asked. “It's buried in the back yard,” I quipped. (Bill J. Naivar, Jr., in Reader's Digest))**

**“I’m glad you like my gift,” one of my first graders said, beaming after I thanked him for a holiday present he’d given me. “My grandma got it for Christmas last year, and she didn’t." *(Mrs. Arnold Wage, in Country Woman)***

**Dear Santa, I need a new skateboard for Christmas. The one I got now crashes too much. Band-Aids would be OK, too. David! *(Rodney & Cathy’s Joke List)***

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**April: “Daddy, I can’t wait ‘til tomorrow. Can I open a present tonight? Please, please, please?” Dad: “Well, I suppose.” April: “Yah!” Dad: “What are you doing now, April?” April: “Wrapping it up again. This isn’t the one I meant to open.” *(Lynn Johnston, in For Better Or For Worse comic strip)***

**Billy says to his Dad while examining the presents under the Christmas tree: “This is from me to you, Daddy. Want me to open it for you?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

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**Zoe: “Daddy, there’s a problem with this CD player Santa brought me.” Dad: “It sounds okay to me. What’s the problem?” Zoe: “It isn’t an iPod.” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**Remember, the Christmas presents of today are the garage sales of tomorrow. (Comedy Center, Inc.)**

**Girl friend: “Dan, why don’t you ever wear this sweater my Mom knitted you for Christmas?” Dan: “You’re kidding, right?” Woman: “No, I’m not kidding. She put a lot of time and effort into that sweater.” Dan, realizing that it is too large for him, responds: “I know. The trouble is, she put a lot of yarn into it, too.” (Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)**

**Man: “It’s not the size of a present that counts, Garfield. It’s the thought that counts.” Garfield: “Think huge.” *(Jim Davis, in Garfield comic strip)***

**Lance: “Merry Christmas, Gloria.” Gloria: “A Tiffany box! An empty Tiffany box!” Lance: “Hey, it’s a start.” *(J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)***

**Man: “What did Opal give you for Christmas, Earl?” Earl: “A fuzzy toilet seat cover.” Man: “A fuzzy toilet seat cover?” Earl: “Yup.” Man: “That’s actually a pretty thoughtful gift, considering how much time you spend in there.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**My 17-year-old son asked me if he could have two of my trading-stamp books to buy a Christmas present for his grandmother. I was quite surprised and told him so. “What makes you think that you should buy a present for Grandma with my trading stamps?” I asked. “Well,” he replied, “you wouldn’t have all those stamps if I didn’t eat so much.” *(Jane E. Blaine, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. A friend of his said, “I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel drive vehicles.” “She did,” he replied. “But where was I gonna find a fake Jeep?” (Rocky Mountain News)**

**Lucy: “I'm wondering if you’d like to address all my Christmas cards for me and maybe do all my shopping and wrap all the presents for me.” Charlie Brown: “I don’t think so.” Lucy: “No Christmas spirit, huh?” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**As Billy observes the Christmas village which Mom placed under the Christmas tree, Billy says to her: “Your village is nice, Mommy, but those lots are zoned for Christmas presents.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

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