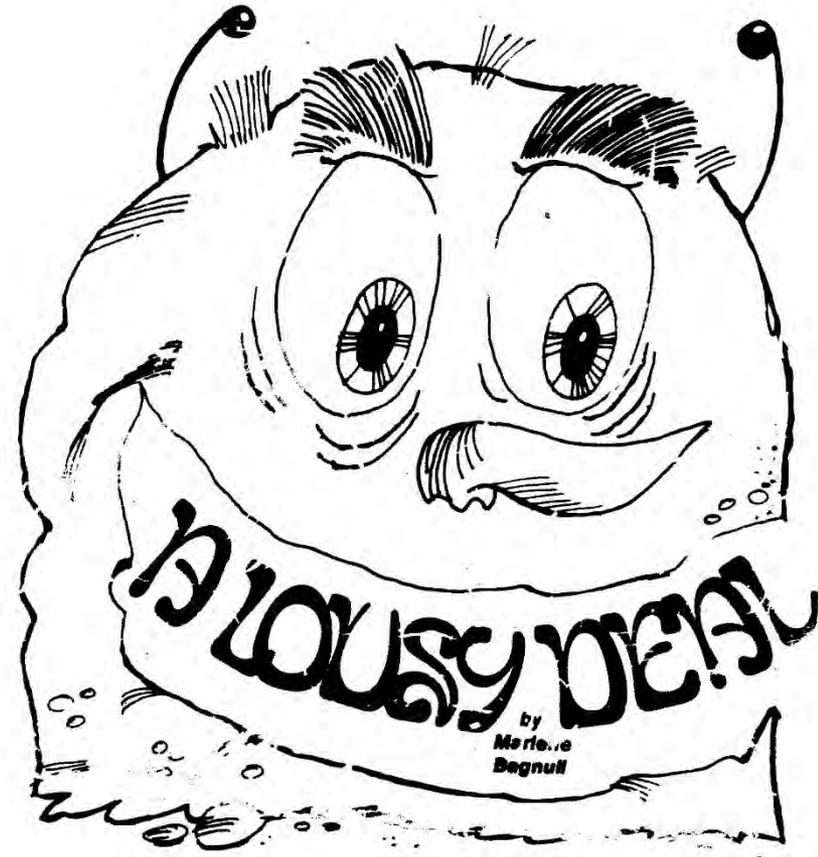
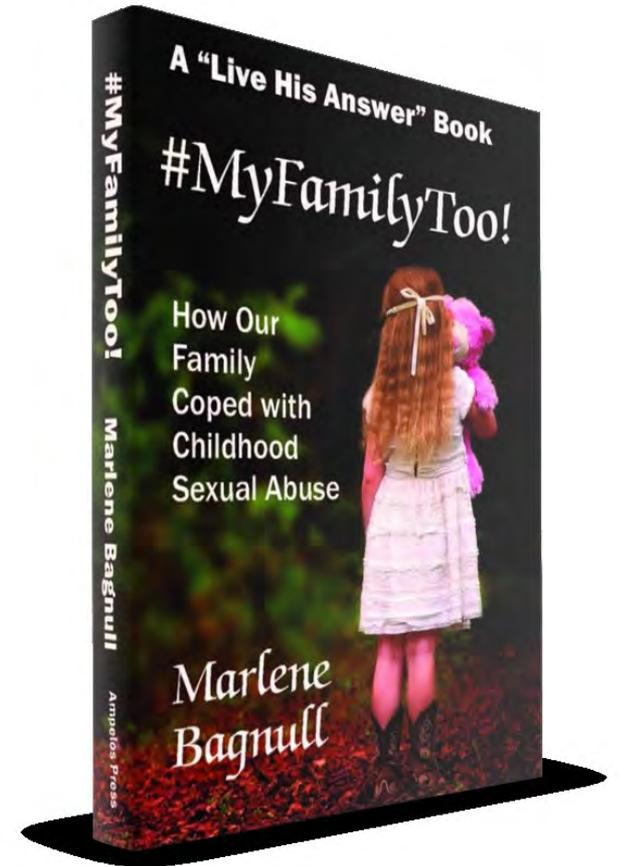
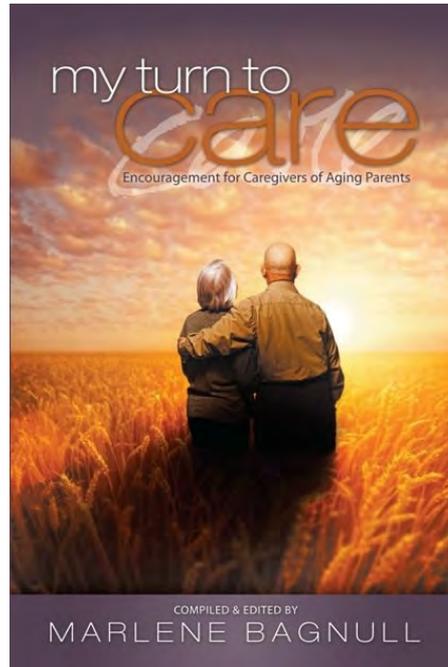
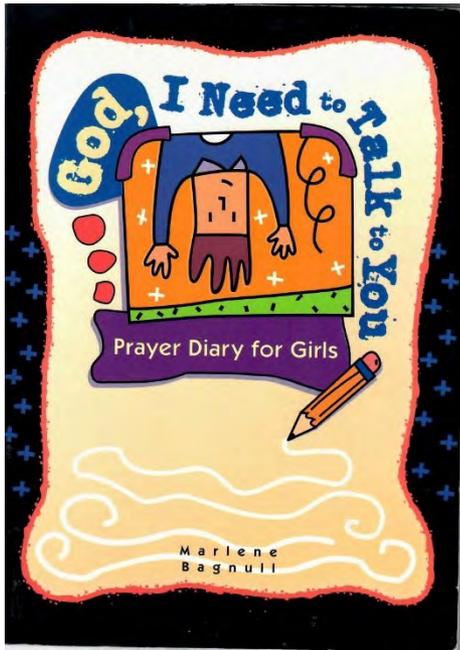


*Write His Answer*

**The Power of Story  
Turning Personal  
Experiences into Print**







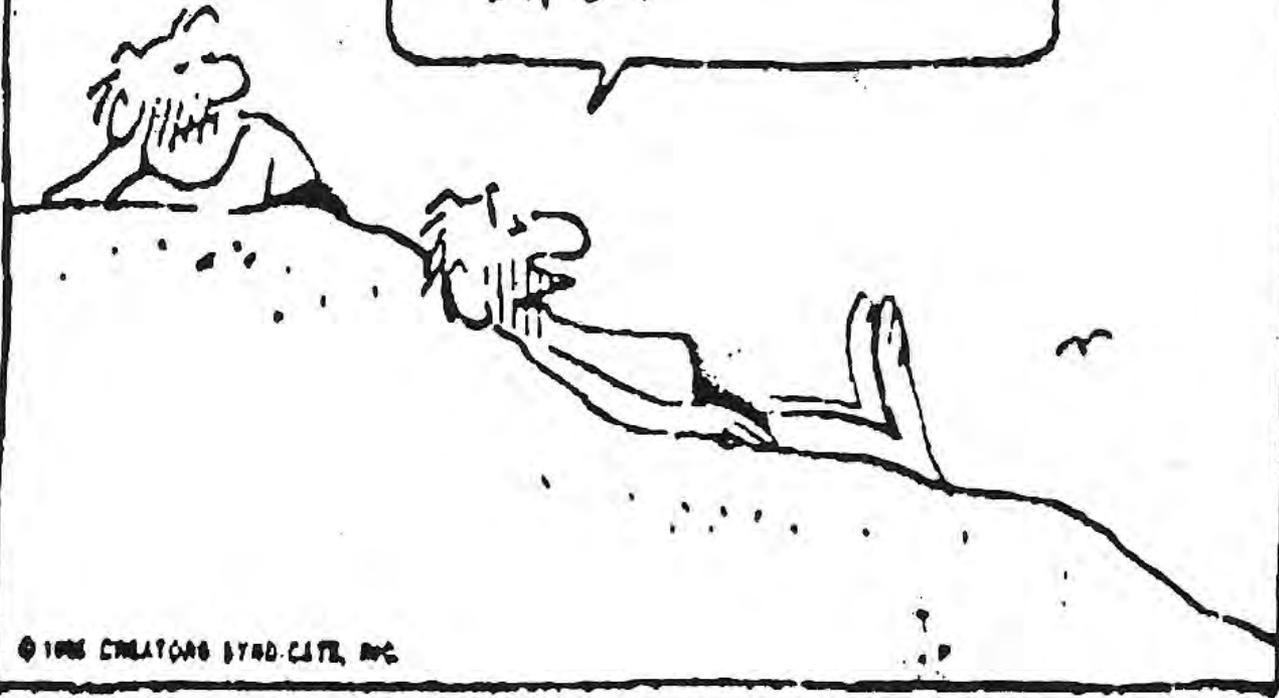
# THE FAMILY CIRCUS / By Bil Keane

## UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS IN SPORTS



**B.C.** by Johnny Hart

MY UNCLE GUNTHER  
LED A VERY DULL  
LIFE.

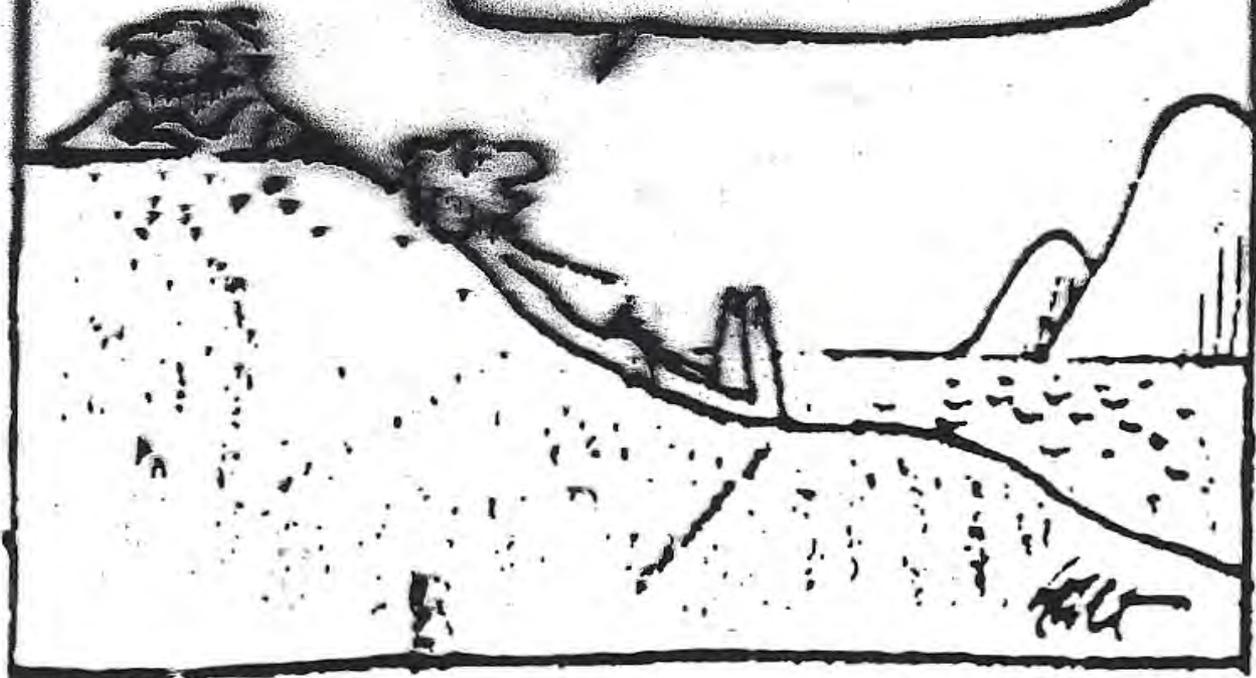


A hand-drawn cartoon illustration. At the top, a large speech bubble contains the text "HOW DULL WAS IT?". Below the speech bubble, a person is lying down, their head resting on their hand. The person's face is drawn with simple lines, showing a somewhat bored or tired expression. The entire scene is enclosed in a black rectangular border.

HOW DULL  
WAS IT ?

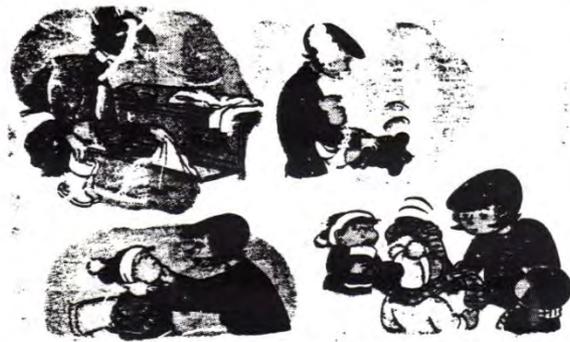
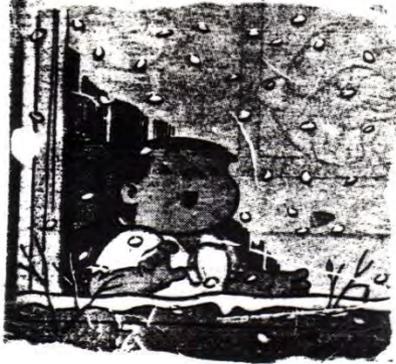
5.17

HE FELL ASLEEP  
WHILE WRITING HIS  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY.



# THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By *BIL KEANE*

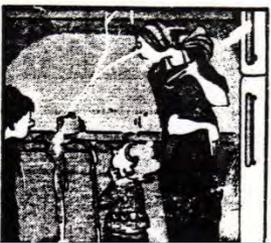


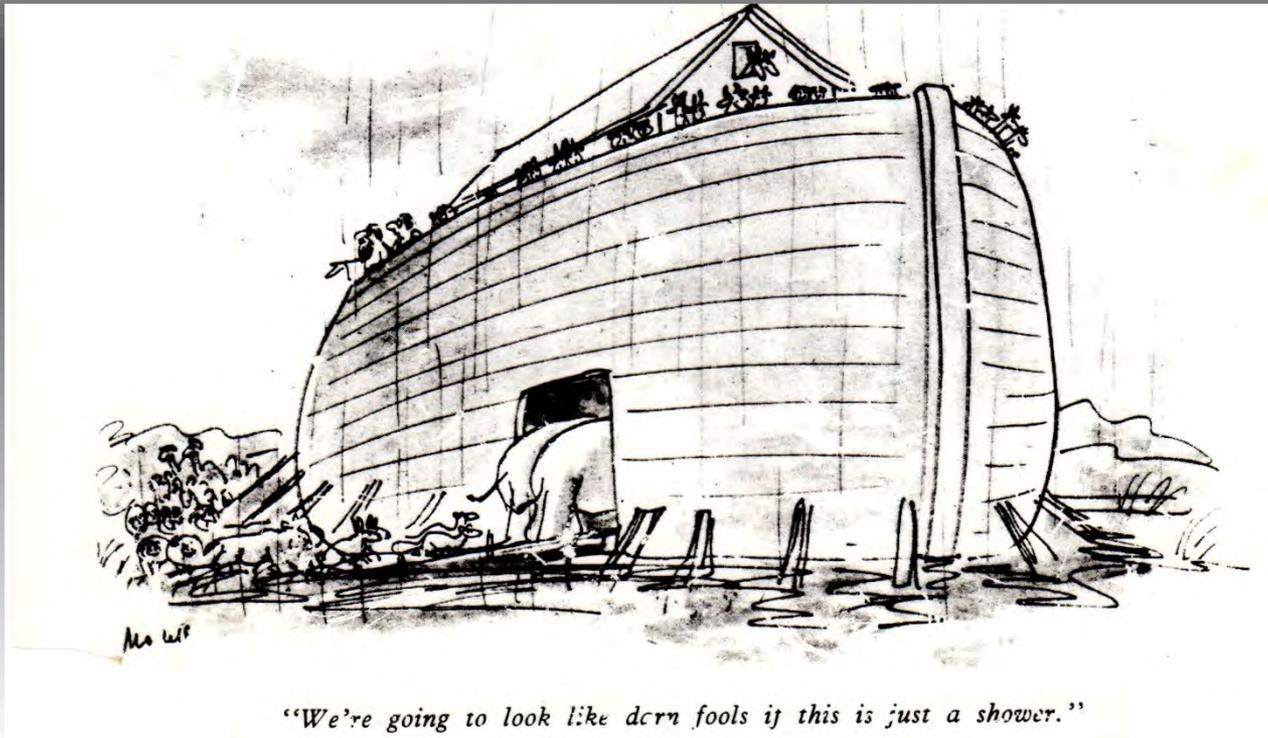


"They must be growing up. They don't need pushes any more."

# For Better or For Worse

By LYNN JOHNSTON

A man is sitting at a kitchen counter, looking at a television screen. The kitchen has a sink, a stove, and a refrigerator. A sign on the wall says "K".



*"We're going to look like dcrn fools if this is just a shower."*

---

# Make Your Writing Hot

Honest

Open

Transparent

---



"I'll tell You what I did, God, but  
I'm not going to tell You who I am."

**TODAY'S CHRISTIAN PARENT**

# Use the 4 C's of Fiction

**Character(s)** – contrasting & strongly motivated

**Conflict** – credible problems & obstacles

**Crisis** – black hole

**Change** - resolution



---

# Prodigal Son Example

Character – make him real

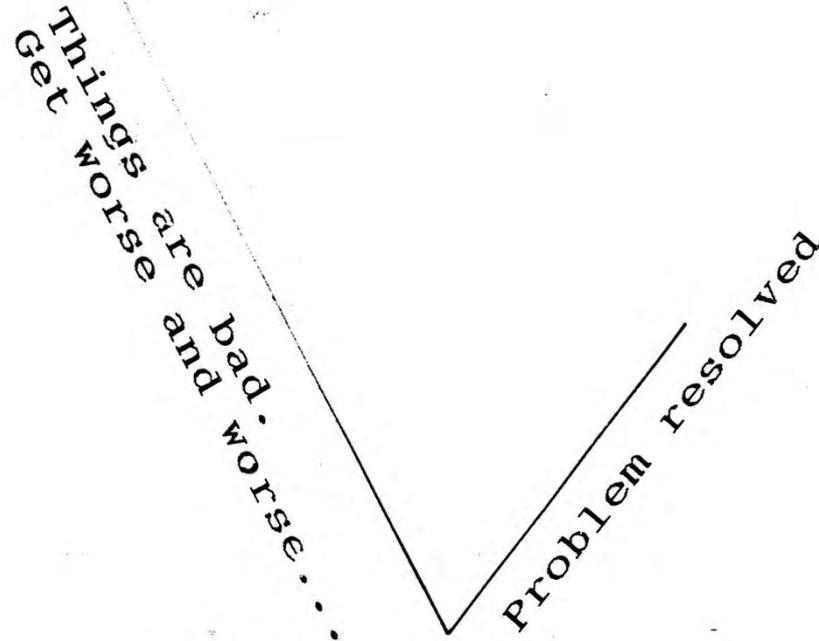
Conflict – true to life

Crisis – black hole

Change - believable

---

# THE HINGE STORY

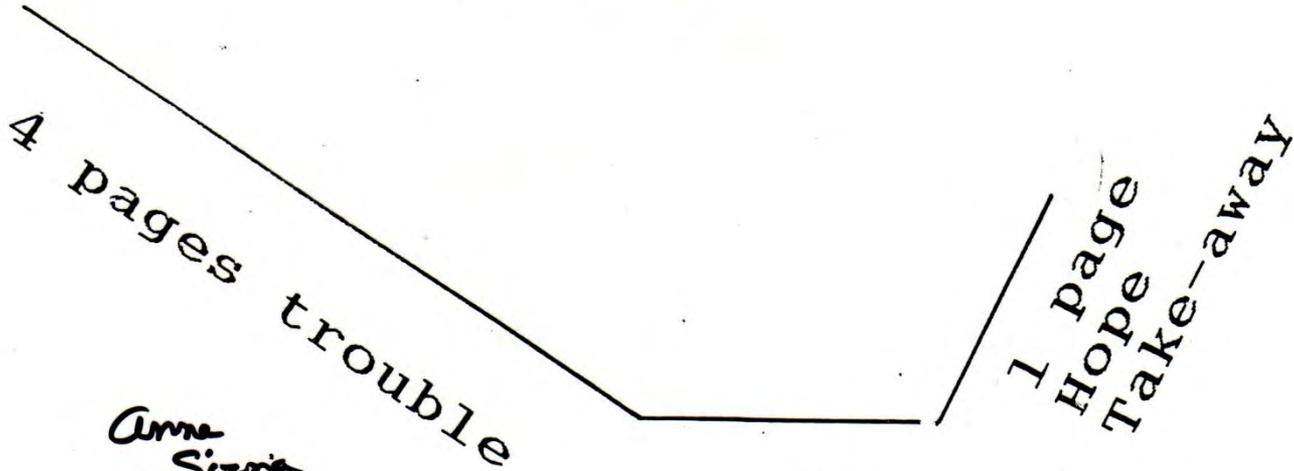


Turning Point

*Linda Tomblin*

Answer cannot  
come too soon,  
not "I prayed, I got"

# THE "DARK MOMENT" PLOT

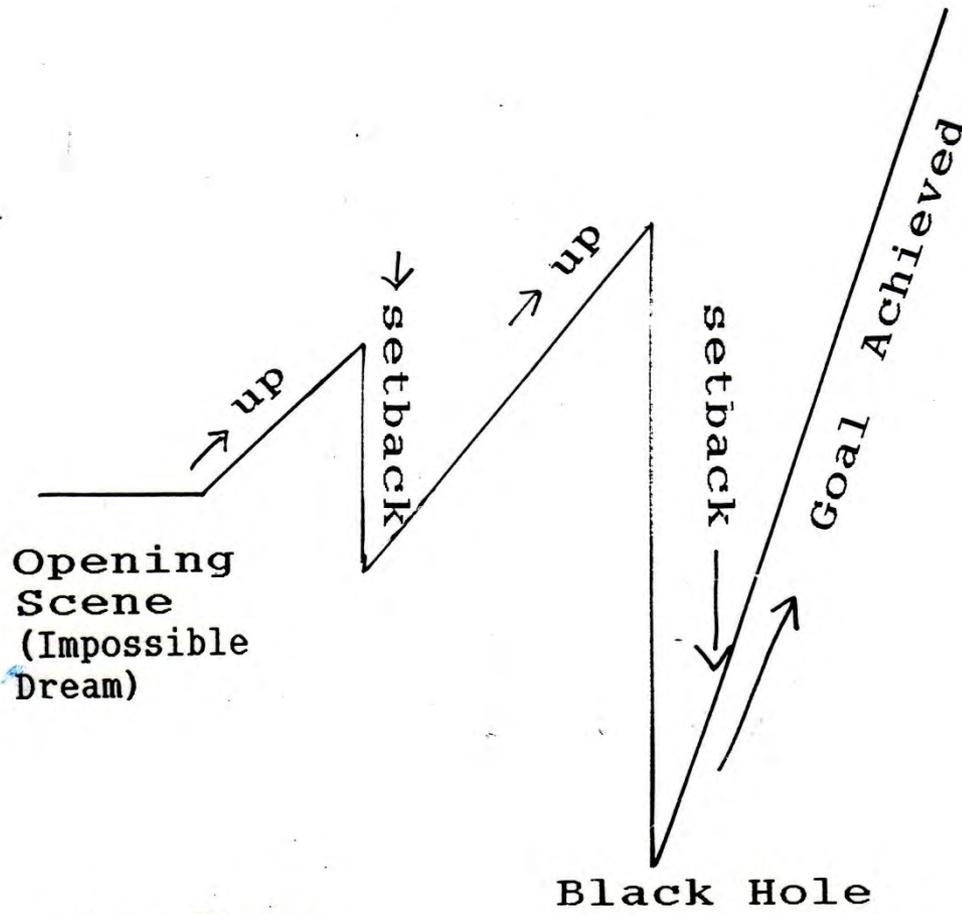


*Anna  
Siena*

1 page  
Black Hole

# THE "MOUNTAIN TOP" PLOT

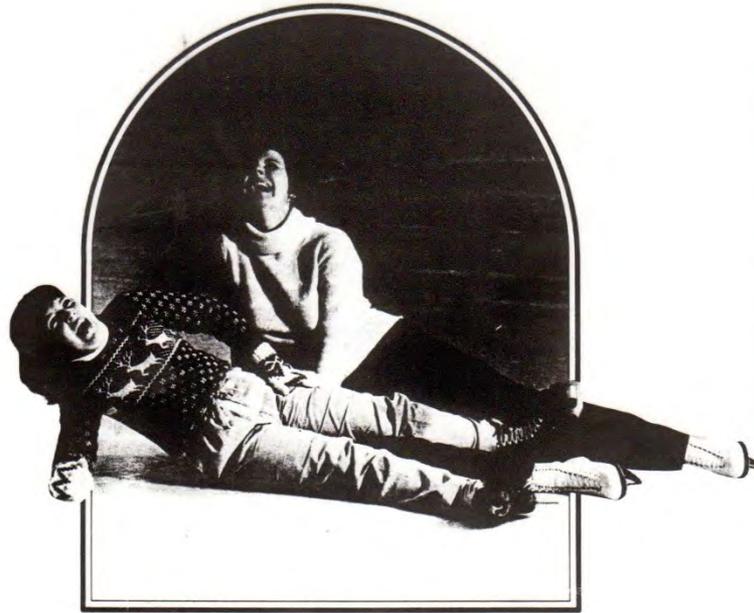
or THE "CLIFFHANGER" PLOT



Anne Sirna

Giving and

Receiving



## HER SPECIAL GIFT

TIP: Let the story carry the message.



*How Our Family Coped with Incest--  
The Triumph of Love*



**"We just figured it out, Mommy. When I'm  
19, all four of us will be teenagers at the  
same time!"**

“I’m wondering if this isn’t something you’d like to go over and think about more deeply, to take it to the Lord and see if he could teach you some new things if you want to have a longer article for any publication. . . .

“I’d really rather you spent more time with it—if not writing it presently, then trying to live it with the Lord’s direction. Those are gentle words of encouragement, not words to keep you from this topic.

“May the Lord truly bless you in the year ahead, my friend, and may he give you a sense of release, a sense of not having to try too hard to push articles through into print when he might want you to live them and learn more from them first. May our Lord bring a sense of new joy in letting him carry the burden for you so you do not feel the pressure to perform. You have it in you, just don’t force it, let him flow through you.”

With much love,

Charette Barta Kvernstroen  
Assistant Editor and friend  
Decision magazine  
February 9, 1983

# The Writer's Psalm

I waited patiently for God to help me;  
then he listened and heard my cry.  
He lifted me out of the pit of despair,  
out from the bog and the mire,  
and set my feet on a hard, firm path  
and steadied me as I walked along.  
He has given me a new song to sing,  
of praises to our God.

Now many will hear of the glorious things  
he did for me, and stand in awe before the Lord,  
and put their trust in him.

God can do anything, you know—  
far more than you could ever  
imagine or guess or request  
in your wildest dreams!  
He does it not by pushing us around  
but by working with us,  
His spirit deeply and gently  
within us.

Ephesians 3:20 The Message