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Upon Closer Inspection...

For anyone who follows after and cares.

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Forward

This is little more than a private book. It certainly is not written for wide distribution. It may be (or it may not be) that family will read it. I will endeavor to keep it from being too self-conscious.

Snapshots of Early Years

My parents married in March, 1954.

I was born in Paradise Valley Hospital, National City, San Diego County, California.

I have early memories that are vague plus many very distinct ones here, in no particular order except the sequence of our residences.

We never lived in San Diego proper (nor in Tijuana); I just corral memories that fit the general area.



National City (Tolas Court)

- Glimpses of darkened ceilings in our National City home.

Del Mar Mesa

I remember...

- Approach to turn-off, mailboxes and the road up.
- A green door at the house; I had apparently grabbed green paint and used it on the door to "help out."
- A house trailer toward the back of the property.
- Alone, I electrocuted myself on an empty light socket in the house trailer. Lesson learned.



- The dirt road from the highway passing the house running back to a farm yard including a fuel tank sitting high on a platform.
- My father under a car dropping the gas tank. I had "helped out" again by filling it with rocks and dirt.
- Touching the shiny muffler cap of the Gravelly tractor. Another lesson learned.
- A bee or hornet sting in a bedroom of the house. I was stung; another lesson learned.



- Halloween trick-or-treating walking through wild brush trails between houses.
- An old man I knew to be a doctor smoking at his kitchen table. Later my parents would say he cursed his cigarette saying he wished he'd never started smoking because he couldn't give it up.
- A Mexican family with children at another house.
- Passing through the windshield of our car on the way up the road to the mesa. I believe my mother had to hit the brakes. There were no seat belts or child seats in those days.
- Looking at the house from the road across fences, a lawn and wild land.
- The "pinch" between a conifer tree and the rear of the house where a rattlesnake was. I sent my brother to fetch our mother; he ran jumping over the snake on his way to the back door of the house.
- An old electro-mechanical washing machine with pinch rollers out back of the kitchen door of the house.

Clairemont

- The living room with fireplace and patio door out to back yard.

- A red fire engine and a yellow race car Dad had built that sat on the grass of the back yard. Also, one-half of a small (2' diameter) nose cone.
- The drop-off down into the canyon or wash part way down into which was the concrete of an unfinished bomb shelter. One time, I followed a trail down there, slipped and sat on a cactus. Lesson learned.
- The street circle out front with a miniature milk truck.
- Dad giving rides on a trailer pulled behind the Gravely tractor.
- Uncle Ross Carroll from Homer, Alaska visiting us dressed in his Navy whites.
- Attending Kindergarten, standing in line for milk, sitting on terry towels in the classroom. I recall there was a siesta time each day using those towels.
- Standing in a line to get a polio vaccination with lots of crying children.
- Reading Dick and Jane stories in books plus other books I no longer remember. I recall hearing that the school teachers scolded my mother for introducing my brother and me to reading before we got into school. That became an early memory warning me that people were conceited, protective of their advantages, stupid and arbitrary. I have never recovered from that impression and few humans have ever come close to helping me reconsider it since. Lesson learned made it hard for me to learn later lessons about respecting authority.

San Diego and southern California

- Tortises at the San Diego Zoo.
- A huge park called Balboa.
- The deck of an aircraft carrier and riding up and down the elevators.
- Commotion of a crowd created by an aircraft crash I didn't see.
- The huge Convair hangar of General Dynamics, my father's employer.
- Driving north in heavy traffic on a highway to Los Angeles.
- Going to a motel after visiting Disneyland with Randy as a baby.

Tijuana

- Parents in a phone booth in Tijuana.
- A very vague memory of a home with children and a woman who didn't speak a language I could understand.

Next up, we move to Saint George...

I was 7½ when we left the San Diego area for Saint George at the beginning of my first grade year at East Elementary. I was mocked by other children for wearing short pants. Mom got us some jeans and boots we could ladder-lace just as the other children were wearing.

Now, We're Cookin'

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Inline quotations use “the q element”, and work titles use *The Work's Title*. A citation that belongs at the foot of the page sits in the sentence itself.¹

Greek is marked only so the language is known: the word λόγος can mean word, reason, or account.

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.

John i.1

Latin is easy though it too gets marked only so the language is known. *uerbum* is Latin's equivalent of λόγος:

1 In principio erat Verbum, et Verbum erat apud Deum, et Deus erat Verbum.

2 Hoc erat in principio apud Deum.

3 Omnia per ipsum facta sunt, et sine ipso factum est nihil, quod factum est.

14. Et Verbum caro factum est, et habitavit in nobis; ...

John i.1-3,14

1. Jane Smith, *Words and Things* (City: Publisher, 2019), 42.

Hebrew needs a direction as well as a language: דָּבָר likewise ranges from “word” to “matter” or “thing.” If a Hebrew passage is longer than a phrase, give it a paragraph of its own.

בְּרֵאשִׁית, בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים, אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם, וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ.

Genesis i.1

Ut enim ad minima veniam, quis nostrum exercitationem ullam corporis suscipit laboriosam, nisi ut aliquid ex ea commodi consequatur. Quis autem vel eum iure reprehenderit qui in ea voluptate velit esse quam nihil molestiae consequatur. Sed quia non numquam eius modi tempora incidunt ut labore et dolore magnam aliquam quaerat voluptatem.



The Mandalorian and Grogu.

Nemo enim ipsam voluptatem quia voluptas sit aspernatur aut odit aut fugit, sed quia consequuntur magni dolores eos qui ratione voluptatem sequi nesciunt. Neque porro quisquam est, qui dolorem ipsum quia dolor sit amet, consectetur, adipisci velit, sed quia non numquam eius modi tempora incidunt.