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One lucky winner will be randomly drawn from all correct responses and will win \$500! Entry Deadline: Postmarked by January 5th, 2018. Online entry submissions close midnight January 8, 2018. Drawing will be held on Friday, January 19, 2018 Winner will be notified by phone or email.

THE SARATOGIAN

THE RECORD

Enter online at troyrecord.com or saratogian.com

MY FIRST CHRISTIMAS IN HIBAVEN

Written by Wanda Bencke after her 13 year old handicapped daughter died at Christmas time 1997

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below With tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting in the snow.

The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tear For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear But the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas choir up here.

I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring For it is beyond description, to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart. But I am not so far away, we really aren't apart.

So be happy for me, dear ones, you know I hold you dear, And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I sent you each a special gift, from my heavenly home above. I sent you each a memory of my undying love.

After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as my Father said to do, For I can't count the blessing or love he has for each of you.

So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear, Remember, I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

We hope this special poem will give you comfort in this season.

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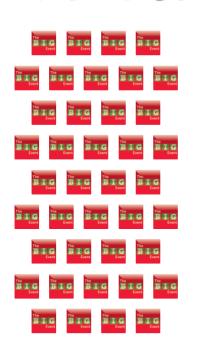
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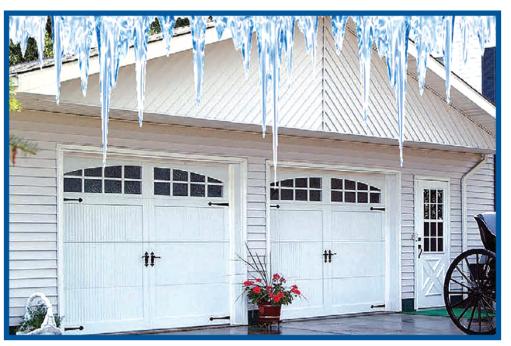
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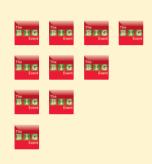


















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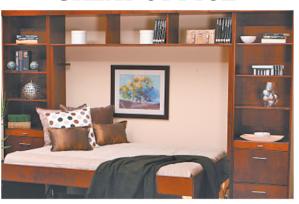
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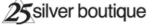














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