



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY™

ELSEWHERE IN ODYSSEY™

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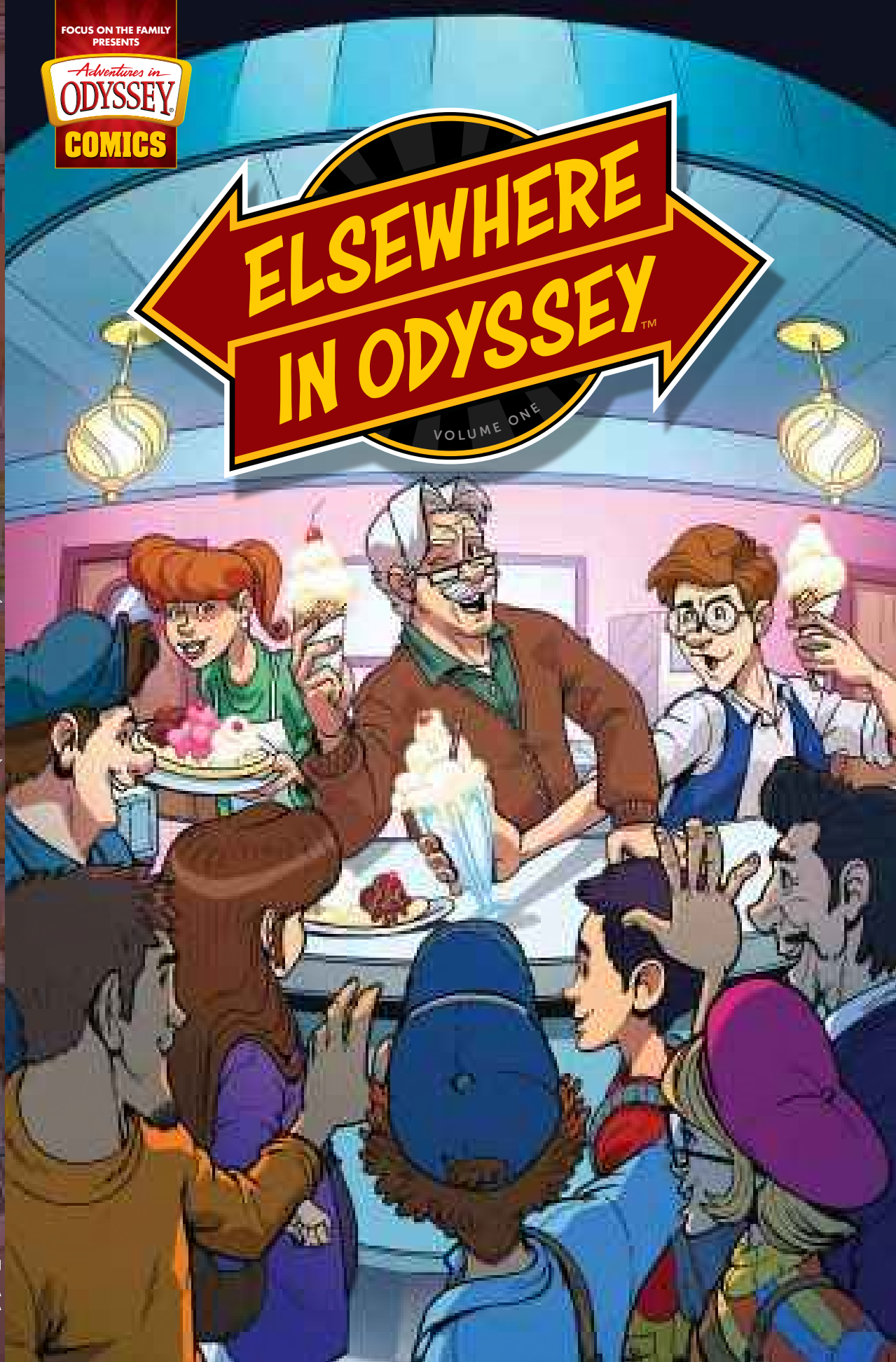
FOCUS ON THE FAMILY PRESENTS

Adventures in ODYSSEY

COMICS

# ELSEWHERE IN ODYSSEY™

VOLUME ONE



Recommended for ages 8-12

ISBN 978-1-4143-XXXX-X  
BISAC/Codes

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NEED BARCODE

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY  
PRESENTS



## A large, stylized graphic of a red arrow pointing to the right, outlined in yellow and white. The arrow is set against a background of dark grey rays radiating from the center. Inside the arrow, the words "ELSEWHERE" and "IN ODYSSEY" are written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. A small "TM" trademark symbol is located to the right of "ODYSSEY". Below the main text, the words "VOLUME ONE" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

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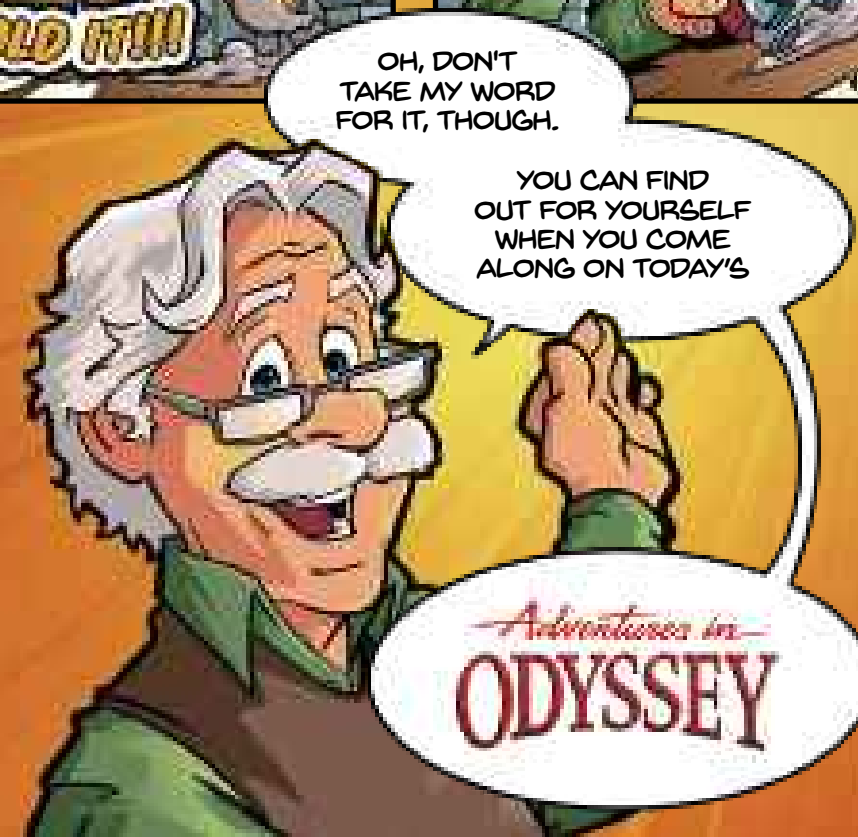
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Special thanks: Debbie Smith, Dave Arnold, Marshal Younger,  
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ISBN 978-1-64607-184-5

Printed in the United States of America

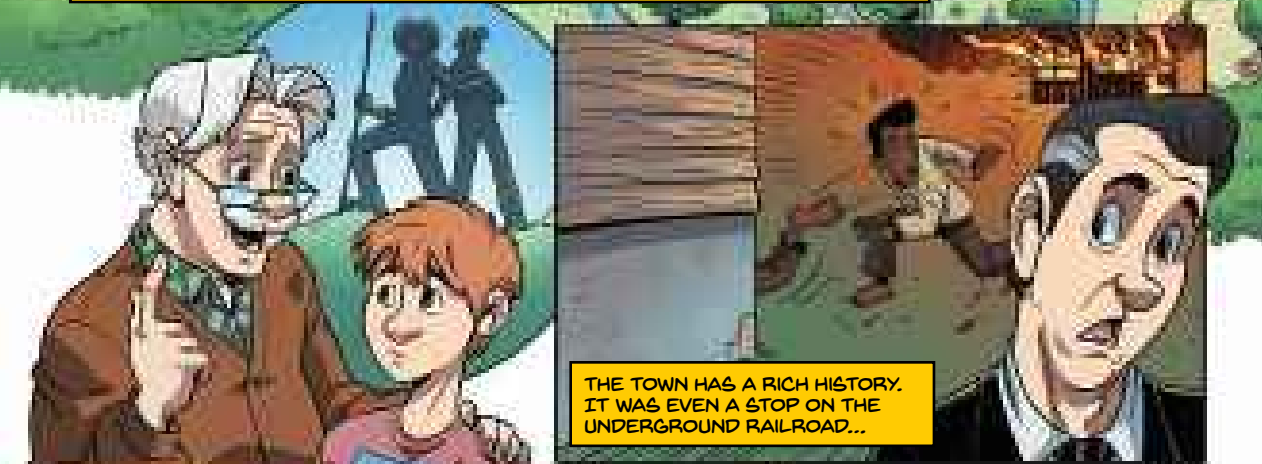
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# ODYSSEY

IS A SMALL TOWN LOCATED SOMEWHERE IN THE AMERICAN MIDWEST. BUT THERE'S MORE TO THIS SLEEPY BURG THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE!

ODYSSEY WAS SETTLED IN THE MID-1800S BY TWO PIONEERS IN A PLACE THAT (AT THAT TIME, ANYWAY) WAS CALLED "LAND THAT STINKS LIKE SWAMP."



THE TOWN HAS A RICH HISTORY. IT WAS EVEN A STOP ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD...

AND IT'S THE HOME OF MANY VETERANS WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIFE FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

TODAY, ODYSSEY IS A THRIVING COMMUNITY, FILLED WITH KIDS (AND ADULTS) OF ALL AGES!



MANY OF THE SHOPS AROUND TOWN ARE FAMILY-OWNED AND OPERATED AND HAVE BEEN HERE FOR YEARS.



NOT TO MENTION THE WONDERFUL TOWNSFOLK WHO PROVIDE SERVICES OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES.

THE MOST FAMOUS LOCAL BUSINESS IS **WHIT'S END.**

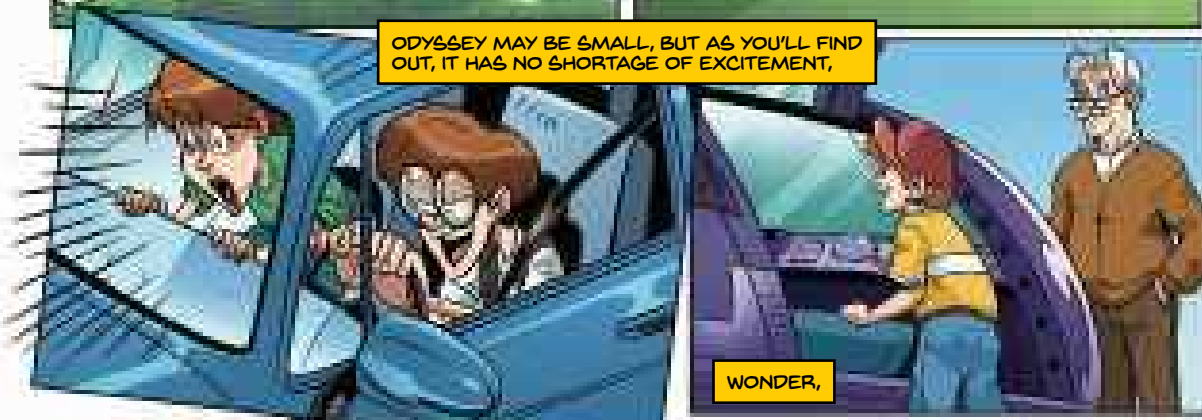


A TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY SODA SHOP AND SELF-PROCLAIMED "DISCOVERY EMPORIUM," WHERE YOUNG AND OLD GATHER ON A DAILY BASIS.

PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE TOWN IS THE FAITH OF ITS CITIZENS. MANY ARE CHRISTIANS, AND THEIR FAITH SPILLS INTO EVERYTHING THEY DO.



ODYSSEY MAY BE SMALL, BUT AS YOU'LL FIND OUT, IT HAS NO SHORTAGE OF EXCITEMENT,



WONDER,



AND DISCOVERY!

# WHIT'S END

IS ONE OF THE MORE BEAUTIFUL BUILDINGS IN THE TOWN OF ODYSSEY,

BUT ITS EXTERIOR *PALES* IN COMPARISON TO THE WONDERS THAT LIE WITHIN...

THE BUILDING WASN'T ALWAYS QUITE SO UNIQUE. IT WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT AS A CHURCH, THEN CONVERTED INTO THE MAYOR'S RESIDENCE, AND THEN INTO THE FILLMORE RECREATION CENTER.

BUT TRAGEDY STRUCK, AND JENNY WHITTAKER WAS UNABLE TO CONTINUE HER FIGHT TO SAVE THE OLD BUILDING FROM DEMOLITION.

JOHN AVERY WHITTAKER, HOWEVER, PICKED UP WHERE HIS LATE WIFE LEFT OFF. HE SWOOPED IN AT THE LAST MINUTE AND BOUGHT THE BUILDING, VOWING TO TRANSFORM IT ACCORDING TO JENNY'S WISHES.

IN NO TIME, THE FILLMORE REOPENED AS A PLACE OF ADVENTURE AND DISCOVERY, FILLED WITH BOOKS AND ACTIVITIES, FUN AND GAMES, ARTS AND CRAFTS, AND UPLIFTING CONVERSATION.

"WHIT'S END."

AMONG THE MYRIAD THINGS YOU'LL FIND IN WHIT'S END ARE ACTIVITIES THAT INSPIRE IMAGINATION, LIKE INVENTOR'S CORNER, THE LITTLE THEATER, AND KIDS' RADIO.

STATE-OF-THE-ART INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT THE WORD OF GOD IN THE BIBLE ROOM.

WHIT'S GREATEST INVENTION, THE IMAGINATION STATION, USES PROPRIETARY TECHNOLOGY TO ALLOW VIRTUAL TIME TRAVEL WITHIN THE USER'S IMAGINATION!

BUT, DESPITE ALL THE INCREDIBLE THINGS TO DO AT WHIT'S END, THE REAL PURPOSE OF THE PLACE IS *PEOPLE*. FROM THE CARING AND DEVOTED STAFF...

TO JOHN AVERY WHITTAKER HIMSELF, WHO'S NEVER TOO BUSY TO WORK THE COUNTER AND HELP KIDS NAVIGATE THE BUMPY ROADS OF LIFE AND FAITH, WITH GENTLE WISDOM...

AND OF COURSE, A LITTLE ICE CREAM.



JOHN AVERY WHITTAKER IS A MAN NEAR AND DEAR TO THE TOWN OF ODYSSEY. HIS NAME CAN BE A MOUTHFUL, SO MOST FOLKS CALL HIM SIMPLY

**"WHIT"**

BORN IN SCOTLAND, WHIT GAVE HIS LIFE TO JESUS CHRIST AFTER A TRAGIC ACCIDENT BEFELL HIS STEPMOTHER.

WHIT'S FAMILY EVENTUALLY MOVED TO NORTH CAROLINA FOR HIS FATHER'S WORK. IT WAS HERE HE MET TWO OF HIS BEST FRIENDS, JACK ALLEN AND WILSON KNOX, THOUGH WILSON STARTED OFF AS AN ENEMY.

AS A YOUNG ADULT, WHIT WAS DRAFTED INTO THE ARMED FORCES, WHERE HE WAS INJURED IN A BATTLE OVERSEAS, GIVING HIM A SLIGHT LIMP. AFTER THAT, HE CONTINUED TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY. AT ONE POINT, HE WORKED AS AN ANALYST FOR THE NSA.

WHIT MARRIED HIS COLLEGE SWEETHEART, JENNY, AND THEY HAD THREE CHILDREN: JERRY, JANNA, AND JASON. HE DEDICATED HIMSELF TO EDUCATING THE YOUNGER GENERATION BY STARTING AN ENCYCLOPEDIA COMPANY.

THE FAMILY EVENTUALLY MOVED TO ODYSSEY, AND YEARS LATER, HE HONORED HIS WIFE'S DREAM OF A PLACE IN TOWN DEDICATED TO CHILDREN.



WHIT HAS A STORIED PAST **AND** A STORIED PRESENT. HE HAS NOT SLOWED DOWN WITH AGE. HE'S STILL A GENIUS INVENTOR, CONCOCTING AND BUILDING MANY WONDROUS CREATIONS.

HE'S BEEN AN ARCHEOLOGIST AND STILL DABBLES IN THE TRADE FROM TIME TO TIME.



WITH HIS FAITH IN CHRIST, HE'S STOOD UP AGAINST CORRUPTION AND EVIL. THAT'S TRIED TO INFILTRATE THE TOWN OF ODYSSEY, BOTH PHYSICALLY—

AND SPIRITUALLY.

HE HAS LED MANY PEOPLE TO THEIR OWN PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS.



HE'S TAUGHT A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS AT THE ODYSSEY COMMUNITY CHURCH FOR YEARS.



WHIT HAS MADE MANY LOYAL, LIFELONG FRIENDS. HE CONTINUES TO SERVE THEM—AND **ANYONE** ELSE IN THE TOWN OF ODYSSEY—EVERY DAY.

# CONNIE KENDALL

IS WHIT'S LONGEST RUNNING EMPLOYEE AT WHIT'S END, AND IS BASICALLY LIKE ANOTHER DAUGHTER TO HIM.

CONNIE'S CHILDHOOD AND EARLY TEENAGE YEARS WERE SPENT IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

AFTER HER PARENTS DIVORCED, CONNIE'S MOTHER MOVED THEM TO ODYSSEY FOR A FRESH START. CONNIE, HOWEVER, WAS LESS THAN THRILLED ABOUT HER NEW HOME.

SHE GOT A JOB AT WHIT'S END TO MAKE ENOUGH MONEY FOR A BUS TICKET BACK TO HER OLD LIFE. BUT WHILE SHE WORKED THE COUNTER, GOD WAS WORKING ON HER HEART.

SOON ALL THE THINGS THAT CONNIE HAD HEARD AND SEEN DURING HER TIME IN ODYSSEY BUILT TO A CRESCENDO. GOD BROKE THROUGH, AND CONNIE GAVE HER LIFE TO JESUS.

SHE STILL HAD A LONG WAY TO GO IN HER CHRISTIAN CONDUCT, ESPECIALLY TOWARD HER NEW CO-WORKER, EUGENE MELTSNER.

CONNIE EVENTUALLY GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL AS VALEDICTORIAN...

NAVIGATED SOME ROMANTIC INTERESTS...

JEFF LEWIS

NICK GRANT

ROBERT MITCHELL

A FAILED ENGAGEMENT...

AND THE LOSS OF A PARENT.

IN THE WAKE OF TRAGEDY, CONNIE DISCOVERED A HALF-SISTER SHE NEVER KNEW ABOUT.

NOW SHE CONTINUES MODELING GOD'S LOVE TO HER SISTER, JULES, AND TO EVERYONE ELSE SHE INTERACTS WITH AT WHIT'S END AND IN THE TOWN OF ODYSSEY.

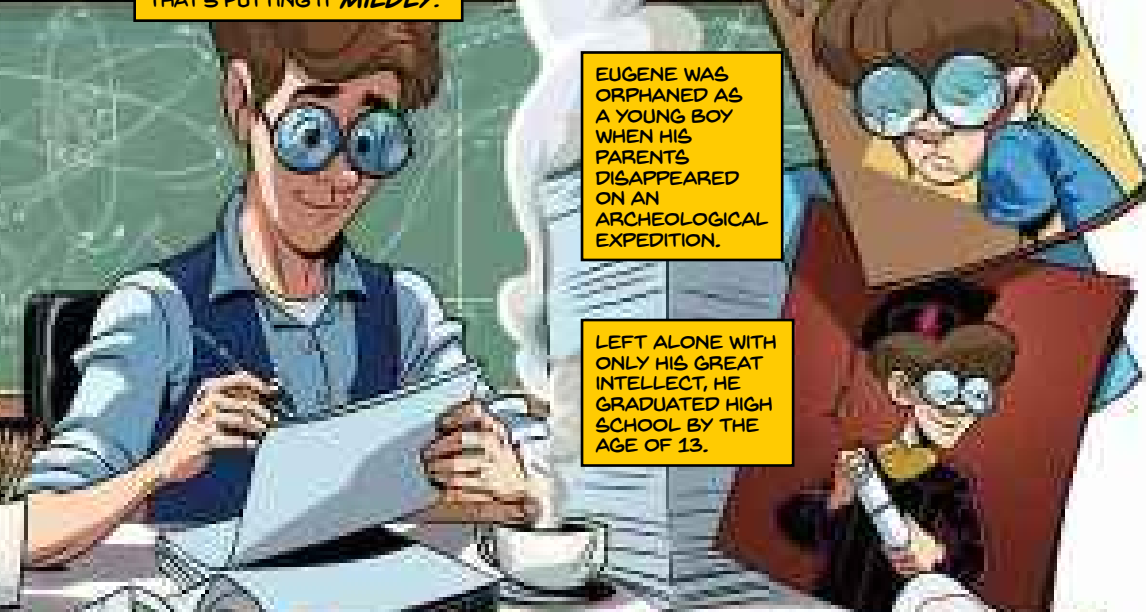
# EUGENE MELTSNER

IS A UNIQUE INDIVIDUAL, AND THAT'S PUTTING IT *MILDLY*.

HE'S A SOCIALLY AWKWARD GENIUS WHO USES HIS INCREDIBLE GIFTS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ODYSSEY AND THE GLORY OF GOD.

EUGENE WAS ORPHANED AS A YOUNG BOY WHEN HIS PARENTS DISAPPEARED ON AN ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION.

LEFT ALONE WITH ONLY HIS GREAT INTELLECT, HE GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL BY THE AGE OF 13.



A WHIZ-KID AT THE LOCAL COLLEGE, EUGENE WAS REFERRED TO WHIT'S END AND ITS INGENIOUS OWNER, WHIT, WHEN IT CAME TIME FOR AN INTERNSHIP.

THERE, WHIT HELPED HIM HONE HIS MIND AND SKILLS, AS WELL AS CHALLENGE HIS PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS ABOUT FAITH AND THE VERY NATURE OF THE *UNIVERSE*.



SOME CITIZENS OF ODYSSEY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF EUGENE'S UNIQUE QUIRKS, OVERBLOWN VOCABULARY, AND INTELLECTUAL SUPERIORITY...

BUT *NOT* KATRINA SHANKS, A FELLOW STUDENT AT THE COLLEGE. SHE WAS EUGENE'S PERFECT MATCH, IN EVERY AREA BUT ONE—

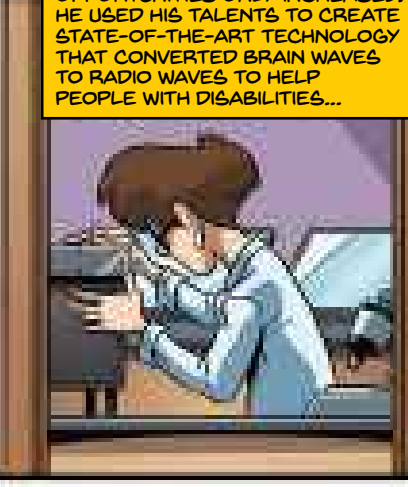


HER CHRISTIAN FAITH.

SPURRED BY DRAMATIC EVENTS IN HIS LIFE, AND BY HIS LOVE FOR KATRINA, EUGENE BEGAN TAKING WHIT'S INSTRUCTION ON FAITH FAR MORE SERIOUSLY, DIVING INTO THE STUDY OF THE SUBJECT HIMSELF.



FROM THERE, HIS INTELLECTUAL OPPORTUNITIES ONLY INCREASED. HE USED HIS TALENTS TO CREATE STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY THAT CONVERTED BRAIN WAVES TO RADIO WAVES TO HELP PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES...

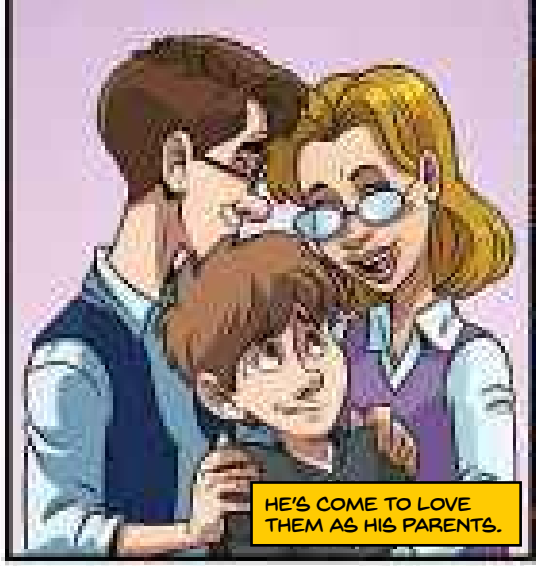


OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT HE *THOUGHT* HE WAS DOING.

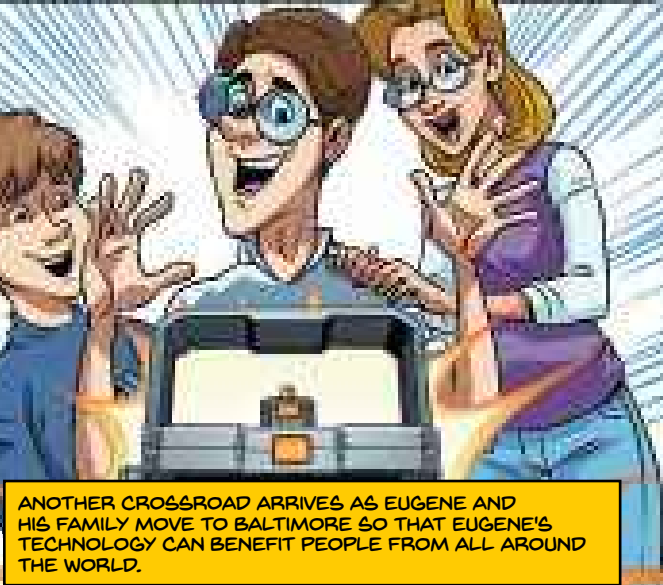


CHASED BY SINISTER FORCES, EUGENE AND KATRINA WED IN SECRET AND WENT ON THE RUN, LEAST EUGENE'S GENIUS BE EXPLOITED FOR NEFARIOUS PURPOSES.

EUGENE AND KATRINA EVENTUALLY CAME BACK TO ODYSSEY, AND AFTER FINDING THAT THEY COULDN'T HAVE CHILDREN, THE COUPLE ADOPTED TROUBLED TEEN BUCK OLIVER AS THEIR SON.



HE'S COME TO LOVE THEM AS HIS PARENTS.



ANOTHER CROSSROAD ARRIVES AS EUGENE AND HIS FAMILY MOVE TO BALTIMORE SO THAT EUGENE'S TECHNOLOGY CAN BENEFIT PEOPLE FROM ALL AROUND THE WORLD.

# JASON WHITAKER

IS ONE OF ODYSSEY'S MOST INTRIGUING RESIDENTS, BUT YOU MIGHT HAVE TO LOOK A LITTLE CLOSER TO DISCOVER JUST **HOW** INTERESTING HE CAN BE.

JASON IS WHIT'S YOUNGEST SON. HIS OLDER BROTHER, JERRY, WAS KILLED IN ACTION WHILE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES.

AS A YOUNG MAN, JASON FOLLOWED IN HIS BROTHER'S AND HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS. HE SERVED HIS COUNTRY, BUT DID SO AS A FIELD OPERATIVE FOR THE NSA.

IN OTHER WORDS, A HIGHLY TRAINED **SECRET AGENT**.

WHEN HIS FATHER LEFT ON SABBATICAL TO AN ARCHEOLOGICAL MISSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST,

JASON AGREED TO PAUSE HIS LIFE OF ESPIONAGE AND FILL HIS DAD'S SHOES AT WHIT'S END.

BUT LEAVING THE NSA WASN'T QUITE AS SIMPLE AS HE THOUGHT, AND JASON WAS PULLED INTO ANOTHER MISSION TO SAVE TASHA FORBES, A FELLOW AGENT AND THE WOMAN HE LOVED.

JASON DID EVENTUALLY MOVE TO ODYSSEY AND RAN WHIT'S END ALONGSIDE WHIT'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND, JACK ALLEN.

AFTER WHIT RETURNED TO ODYSSEY, JASON BECAME RESTLESS AND ANSWERED GOD'S CALL TO BECOME A MISSIONARY OVERSEAS.

DURING THIS TIME, THE GREATEST THREAT ODYSSEY EVER FACED EMERGED FROM THE SHADOWS.

JASON PUT HIS TRAVELS ON HOLD TO HELP HIS FATHER AND HIS FRIENDS STAND AGAINST THE OMINOUS **NOVACOM**.

LATER, DURING A FINAL MISSION IN LONDON, JASON WAS PUSHED TO HIS BREAKING POINT, AND HE QUIT THE SECRET AGENT LIFE FOR GOOD.

NOW BACK IN ODYSSEY, JASON TOOK OVER JACK AND JOANNE ALLEN'S ANTIQUE BUSINESS, WHERE HE'S STILL ABLE TO USE HIS CONNECTIONS AND KNOWLEDGE OF FAR AWAY PLACES.

RECENTLY A **NEW** WOMAN HAS APPEARED IN JASON'S LIFE, AND JUST IN TIME, AS JASON'S **OLD** LIFE THREATENS TO CONTINUE PULLING HIM BACK FOR MORE.

HOWEVER, WITH HIS FAITH, HIS FAMILY, AND HIS FRIENDS, JASON IS MORE THAN READY TO WEATHER THE STORMS LIFE WILL THROW HIS WAY.

# NEW TALENT

**Edwin Blackgaard** is a consummately over-dramatic actor, and is the proprietor of the Harlequin Dinner Theatre. With the help of his long-suffering assistant, Shakespeare, Edwin Blackgaard is dedicated to bringing "thee-ay-tah" to the masses.

## EPISODES:

**FIRST APPEARANCE:**  
EP. 203 - "DOUBLE TROUBLE" (1992)

**GET TO KNOW EDWIN:**  
EP. 218 - "A CLASS ACT"  
EP. 248 - "TERROR FROM THE SKIES"  
EP. 470 - "BREAK A LEG"

**Olivia Parker** is a passionate young lady who has a questioning mind and a soft heart. She loves acting and other creative arts, and she doesn't like that everyone doesn't get as excited about them as she does. Her best friend, **Zoe Grant**, is an excellent writer who uses her talents for both journalism and the arts.

## EPISODES:

**FIRST APPEARANCE:**  
EP. 665 - "THE INSPIRATION STATION, PART 1" (2010)

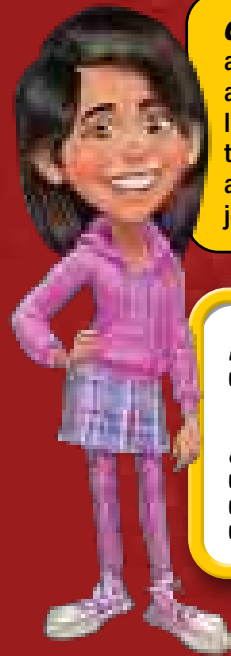
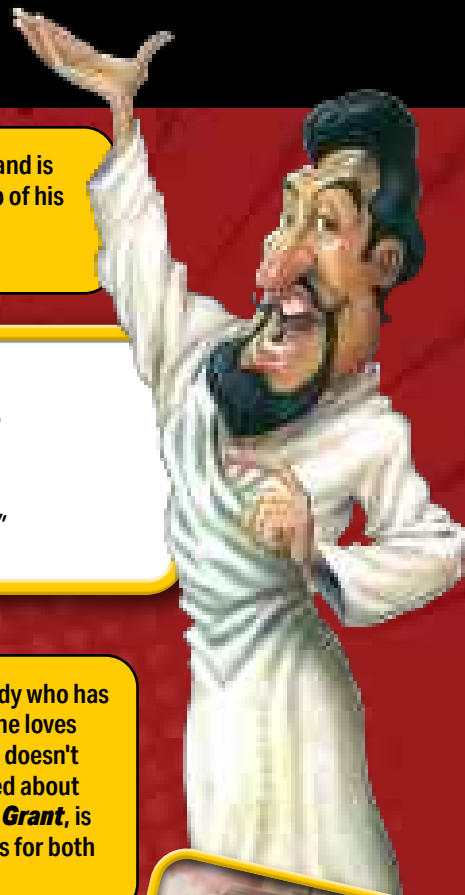
**GET TO KNOW OLIVIA:**  
EP. 843 - "ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST-ISH"  
EP. 850 - "THE SHAME ABOUT FAME"  
EP. 982 - "THE ARK'S THE THING"

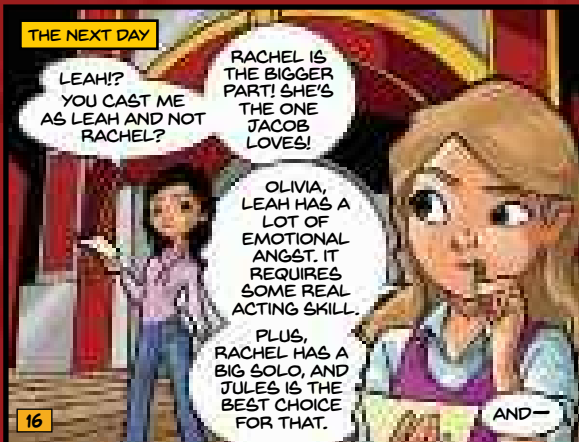
Connie Kendall's half-sister **Jules** came to Odyssey from California. She's a talented musician and has been the source of delight and trouble since her arrival. Though she lives with Connie, she is not a Christian.

## EPISODES:

**FIRST APPEARANCE:**  
EP. 735 - "LIFE EXPECTANCY, PART 2" (2013)

**GET TO KNOW JULES:**  
"THE TIES THAT BIND" SERIES  
EP. 831 - "CRASH COURSE"  
EP. 901 - "FOR A SONG"







NO, NO, NO, BUCK!  
JACOB IS A CONNIVER.  
A CON MAN.

CAN YOU AT LEAST TRY TO IDENTIFY WITH THAT KIND OF CHARACTER?

I CAN'T BELIEVE JULES TALKED ME INTO THIS.



REMEMBER, CHILD. YOU MUST PROJECT YOUR VOICE, ENUNCIATE WITH YOUR MOUTH, AND BREATHE FROM YOUR DIAPHRAGM.

UM, THANKS MR. BLACKGAARD, I HAVE DONE THIS BEFORE YOU KNOW...



BUT IF YOU WANT THE EFFECT YOU SAY YOU DO FOR YOUR SHOW...

I THINK YOU'VE GOT TO LET THESE KIDS TAKE SOME OWNERSHIP OF THE PRODUCTION.



NOW, THEY MAY NOT BE CLASSICALLY TRAINED.

CLEARLY.



CAN WE GET A REWRITE, ZOE?

I DON'T BELIEVE BIBLICAL CHARACTERS WOULD USE THE PHRASE "COOL BEANS."



YOU CALL THAT A MIDDLE EASTERN ACCENT?

YOU SOUND LIKE YOU ARE FROM THE MIDDLE EASTERN PART OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.



BUT I'VE SEEN FIRSTHAND THAT THESE PARTICULAR KIDS HAVE THE TALENT AND EXPERIENCE TO CARRY THIS SHOW—

IF YOU'LL LET THEM.



THERE COMES A TIME WHEN YOU HAVE TO LET GO OF THE CONTROL YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE,

AND TRUST GOD TO TAKE CARE OF THINGS.



I'M SURROUNDED BY AMATEURS!



JOHN AVERY WHITTAKER, SIR.

YOU, UH, WANTED TO SEE ME, EDWIN?

WHAT AM I TO DO, WHIT?



THESE CHILDREN YOU SENT ME AREN'T DOING ANYTHING AS THEY SHOULD!

OH? HOW SO?

THEY AREN'T DOING THINGS MY WAY!



EDWIN, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED A YOUTHFUL CAST AND CREW TO DRAW IN A NEW AUDIENCE.

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS GETTING MYSELF INTO.

NOW, THERE'S SOMETHING TO BE SAID ABOUT LEARNING FROM AN EXPERIENCED ACTOR, LIKE YOURSELF—

THANK YOU!



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO,

MS. ZOE GRANT'S "JACOB!"



# THE MILLSTONE



The town of Odyssey is home to many kindhearted and altruistic people. Sadly, the **Rathbones** are not counted among them. There are few ethical standards that the head of the household, **Bart Rathbone**, is inclined to follow. From unscrupulously coaching a softball team to using shady methods to run his electronics shop, The Electric Palace, Bart stands for everything Whit and upright citizens of Odyssey are against.



In the past, Bart's son, **Rodney**, has proudly served as the town bully and head of a gang called "The Bones of Rath." He'd become a fixture on the streets and back alleys of Odyssey, whether he was harassing kids, trying to con an innocent victim, or starting a morally bankrupt rock band. Even though he's now grown into a young adult, Rodney still keeps things lively through his clownish defiance of rules, laws, and common sense.

## EPISODES:

### FIRST APPEARANCE:

EP. 115 - "AN ACT OF MERCY" (1990)

### GET TO KNOW THE RATHBONES:

EP. 160 - "A RATHBONE OF CONTENTION"

EP. 256-258 - "ALOHA, OY, PARTS 1-3"

EP. 463 - "GREEN EYES AND YELLOW TULIPS"



Of all the inventions John Avery Whittaker has used to teach and entertain the kids of Odyssey, none compare to the **Imagination Station!** Whit's original idea was to create an experience that would somehow "transport" the user into the material they were learning about, especially stories and lessons from the Bible. After several prototype inventions exploring the same concept, the Imagination Station was finally born. The I.S. is able to take a pre-programmed "adventure" made in Whit's specially developed software and works in conjunction with the user's own imagination. This, combined with state-of-the-art environment generation technology, allows the user to experience an immersive and interactive journey that seems virtually indistinguishable from actual time travel, complete with people, places, and objects that realistically simulate the historical setting.

## EPISODES:

### FIRST APPEARANCE:

EP. 66 - "THE IMAGINATION STATION" (1989)

### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE I.S. :

EP. 87-88 - "ELIJAH, PARTS 1-2"

EP. 184 - "ISAAC THE CHIVALROUS"

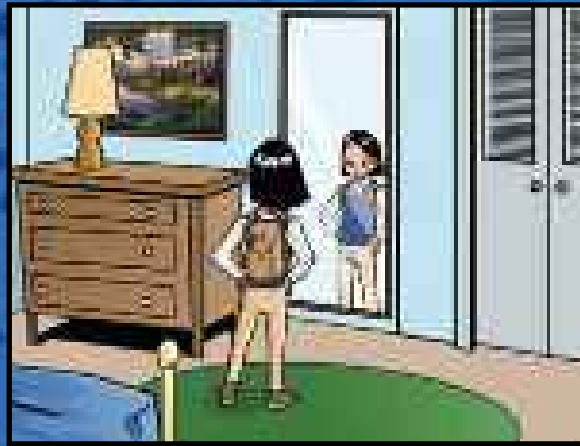
EP. 211-212 - "THE MORTAL COIL, PARTS 1-2"



THE MILLSTONE

TODAY IS THE DAY.

SUZU RYDELL, WHITTAKER RESIDENCE, 6:30AM



BART, I CAN'T LET YOU ADVERTISE FOR THE ELECTRIC PALACE HERE IN WHIT'S END.

BUT WHY NOT!? THESE GIZMOS ARE EDUCATIONAL!



ARE THEY?

WITH ALL THOSE EXTRA "FEATURES,"

THEY SOUND LIKE THEY'D BE MORE OF A DISTRACTION IF KIDS USED THEM AT SCHOOL.

OKAY, I SEE WHAT'CHER DOIN'.

HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT?



SUZU?

I'M SURPRISED TO SEE YOU UP SO EARLY ON A HOLIDAY. YOUR BROTHER'S STILL SLEEPING.

HOLIDAY?

IS THIS NOT THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL?



TOMORROW, SUZU.

IT'S LABOR DAY TODAY. NO SCHOOL.

AMERICA IS SO CONFUSING.

I'LL MAKE YOU SOME WAFFLES.



IT'S NOT ABOUT MONEY.

HONESTLY, EVEN IF I WAS IN THE HABIT OF ENDORSING PEOPLE OR PRODUCTS,

I'M AFRAID...

BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE, I JUST CAN'T TRUST THAT YOU HAVE THE BEST INTENTIONS FOR THE KIDS.



SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, HUH?

OKAY, WHITTAKER, YOU WANNA PLAY IT THIS WAY?

FINE.



LATER, AT WHIT'S END

MORNIN' WHITTAKER!

OH!



BART RATHBONE!

WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE SO EARLY?

WHY, BUSINESS, WHAT ELSE?

BUSINESS?



LATER...

I THOUGHT MR. WHITTAKER SAID YOU WEREN'T ALLOWED TA SELL YOUR STUFF HERE, POP.

NOT NOW, RODNEY.

AND DON'T CALL ME "POP."

WE'LL SNEAK IN THE BACK, AND WHITTAKER WON'T EVEN KNOW WE'RE HERE.



THAT'S RIGHT, KIDDIES,

THESE CALCULATORS HAVE GAMES, A CAMERA, AND A WALKIE TALKIE!

ALL FOR THE LOW, LOW PRICE OF \$39.99 PLUS TAX.

THOSE DO LOOK COOL,

BUT I DON'T THINK MY MOM WOULD LET ME HAVE ONE-



YEAH, SEE, I'VE HAD A LITTLE LULL IN SALES OVER AT THE ELECTRIC PALACE, AND I WAS WONDERIN' IF YOU'ED HELP ME OUT WITH A LITTLE...

CROSS-PROMOTION.

UH...

WHAT KIND OF CROSS-PROMOTION?



I GOT THESE NEW SUPER-CALCULATORS FOR KIDS, SEE.

THEY GOT GAMES AND A CAMERA, EVEN A WALKIE-TALKIE!

SINCE YOUR PLACE IS SO POPULAR,

I WAS HOPE'N YOU'ED LET ME ADVERTISE TO ALL THE KIDDIES IN YER SHOP.



YER MOM DOESN'T HAVE TA KNOW!

JUST BRING IN YOUR ALLOWANCE EVERY WEEK, AND--

THAT'S RIGHT, WE HAVE EASY PAYMENT PLANS!

THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEONE BACK HERE...



IS THAT EUGENE?

UH-OH.



# DONNA AND THE BARCLAYS

**The Barclays** are Odyssey's "first family" and the focus of many of the early episodes, standing in for the "everyman" nuclear family concept of many American homes. Later, **George**, the head of the family, was let go from his job and then felt the call to pastoral ministry. Soon after, the family would move away from Odyssey to a small town in need of a pastor, where they've lived ever since.

## EPISODES:

### FIRST APPEARANCE:

EP. 31 - "FAMILY VACATION, PART 1" (1988)

### GET TO KNOW THE BARCLAYS:

EP. 79 - "OUR BEST VACATION EVER"

EP. 140 - "THE VOW"

EP. 294 - "UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN"

**Donna Barclay** is the oldest child and only daughter. As a child, she was prone to complain and was always trying to keep up with her friends' drama. Donna was constantly irritated by her younger brother, Jimmy. As she grew older, drama often surfaced from her preoccupation with boys, much to her father's chagrin. Now a young woman and finished with school, Donna has matured and mellowed greatly—though every once in a while the old Donna still comes through.

## EPISODES:

### GET TO KNOW DONNA & JIMMY:

EP. 99 - "THE BARCLAY FAMILY SKI VACATION"

EP. 109 - "TWO SIDES TO EVERY STORY"

EP. 132 - "THANKSGIVING AT HOME"

EP. 192 - "MODESTY IS THE BEST POLICY"

EP. 300 - "PREACHER'S KID"

EP. 535 - "LIVING IN THE GRAY, PARTS 1-2"

**Jimmy**, Donna's younger brother, had a difficult time growing up and dealing with the new realm of teenage problems. He is a bit of a cynic, often directing wise-cracks and other comments at his family—although he is deeply devoted to them and is a "Barclay" through and through. When last we saw him, he had moved to Washington, D.C. to become a journalist—but upon greater scrutiny it was discovered that he'd become a full-blown prodigal son. He has since made amends with his parents. He currently lives back at home with his parents and little brother, Stewart, in the small town of Pokenberry Falls.





WAIT—  
YOUR  
LAST NAME  
IS BARCLAY  
TOO?

HEH,  
IT'S  
"BARKLEY!"  
WITH A "K"  
AND AN "E."



WOW!  
WHAT  
ARE THE  
CHANCES  
OF THAT?

WE THINK  
IT'S WEIRD  
TOO.



THE NEXT DAY



ISN'T HE  
GREAT, DAD?



SO YOU  
GUYS MET OUT  
IN CALIFORNIA?

YEAH!  
DEREK JUST  
GRADUATED WITH A  
DEGREE IN WORSHIP  
MINISTRY.

THAT'S  
GREAT,  
DEREK!

DO YOU  
HAVE A JOB  
LINED UP  
ALREADY?



ACTUALLY, DONNA  
AND I WERE HOPING  
THAT AFTER WE GET  
MARRIED,

I COULD  
BE THE WORSHIP  
PASTOR AT  
GEORGE'S  
CHURCH!

UM...  
WHAT?



CONNIE,  
THIS IS GONNA  
BE GOOD.



HUH,  
SO YOU'RE  
KEEPING THAT  
GOATEE,  
JIMMY?



LATER THAT NIGHT...

HONEY, WHEN  
WERE YOU GOING  
TO TELL ME  
ABOUT DEREK  
WANTING TO LEAD  
WORSHIP AT THE  
CHURCH?

I'M SORRY,  
DAD, I GUESS  
I DIDN'T  
THINK THAT  
WOULD BE A  
SHOCK...

I MEAN, I'D  
LIKE TO LIVE  
NEAR YOU AND  
MOM...



THAT'S...  
THAT'S  
WONDERFUL  
TO HEAR,  
HONEY, BUT...

YOU KNOW  
WE'RE A SMALL  
CONGREGATION  
AND—

BUT THE  
CHURCH HAS  
BEEN GROWING.  
YOU DON'T EVEN  
HAVE TO WORK  
YOUR SECOND  
AND THIRD JOBS  
ANYMORE.



THAT AFTERNOON

YOU  
"DON'T THINK  
IT'S GOING TO  
WORK OUT?"

I JUST DON'T  
THINK YOUR FIANCEE IS  
A GOOD FIT FOR OUR  
WORSHIP PASTOR,  
THAT'S ALL.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?  
HE'S  
PERFECT!



PERF—?!

DONNA, I'VE BEEN  
TO QUIETER ROCK  
CONCERTS!

WE HAVE A  
VERY TRADITIONAL  
(AND ELDERLY)  
CONGREGATION!

IF I LET DEREK  
LEAD WORSHIP THE WAY HE DID  
EARLIER TODAY, HALF OUR CHURCH  
MEMBERS PROBABLY WOULDN'T  
MAKE IT OUT ALIVE!



BUT DONNA,  
DO YOU REALLY  
WANT TO?

THERE ARE A  
LOT OF BETTER  
PLACES TO  
START OUT THAN  
POKENBERRY  
FALLS.

PLACES THAT  
COULD GIVE YOU  
BOTH A BETTER  
HEAD START.



DAD, SCHOOL'S HAD ME ON THE OTHER  
SIDE OF THE COUNTRY FOR YEARS.

I WANT TO  
SPEND SOME  
TIME WITH  
STEWART—  
AND WITH  
YOU AND  
MOM, YOU  
KNOW, AS A  
FELLOW  
ADULT.

A "FELLOW  
ADULT,"  
HUH?

YEAH,  
AND DEREK IS  
REALLY EXCITED  
TO BE HERE.

PLEASE  
DAD?

WELL...



NOW  
YOU'RE JUST  
BEING  
MEAN.

I'M—I'M  
SORRY, HONEY.  
THAT WAS  
RUDE.

BUT YOU'VE  
GOT TO SEE THAT  
DEREK'S STYLE JUST  
ISN'T COMPATIBLE  
WITH WHERE OUR  
CHURCH IS AT RIGHT  
NOW.

