



# The Gardners

## Christmas 2001



The date on the calendar says it's that time  
For presents and family and this year's new rhyme.  
But outside the weather seems more like it's Fall  
With barely the snow to make one little ball.

The boys have their snowboards all ready to go,  
But can't take them out without requisite snow.  
Though outside the world offers strange things to see,  
We're inside together and happy to be.

It's been quite a year, with a lot that has changed,  
But we've all been healthy, no bones rearranged.  
That's one expiration we won't take too hard:  
Our emergency room frequent visitor card.

Our good times this summer were up in the air.  
On ladders we started with siding repair,  
Then caulked and we scraped and primed every square foot  
And painted our house now that we're staying put.

The employment upheaval is finally done.  
It turned out successful, but wasn't much fun.  
And Marily's started her quest to be mayor  
When this is all done I'll have even less hair.

Delafield soon may not be quite the same  
If Marily wins and gains mayoral fame.  
She'll take city government on the same way  
As everything else she approaches today.



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page 2

At the end of the summer I took off on my own.  
For my mid-life crisis, I cycled alone  
To forget about work and computers and files  
For twenty-six hundred and thirty-four miles.

My basketball options have narrowed this year.  
There's no place to play at my new job, I fear.  
But local arrangements came through, there's no doubt.  
CBA all year 'round, whether indoors or out.

Now Grant is a senior and soon college bound  
And Warren is happy just driving around.  
Meemo is frantic and juggling her time  
Between kids and her politics, cosmos and wine.

And here's to the dreams and the hopes to come true  
As we face our future in 2002.  
But one thing is certain; it's destined to be  
The last palindrome year that we'll all ever see.

So as we have said, please send us your news.  
We want to hear all of your joys and your blues.  
Keeping in touch is quite different today.  
You've got those electrons; please send them our way.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

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