A LETTER FROM AN ARKANSAS MOTHER TO HER ARKANSAS SON

Dear Son,

I'm rite ten this real slow cause I know you can't reed very fast.

We don't live whar we did wen you left. Yer daddy red in the papar that most accidents happin within twenny miles of home, so we moved.

I won't be able to send you the address cause the last Arkansas famally that lived har took the numbers off the howse with them fer thar next howse... so thay woodn't hav to change thar address.

This place has a washin machine. The first day I put 4 shirts in, pulled the chane and I ain't seen um since.

It only rained twice this week. Three daz the first time and 4 daz the second time.

Ya no the coat you wanted me to send you, well, ant Sue said it wood be too heavy to send in the male with tham heavy buttons on it, so we cut tham off and put tham in the poccuts. We got a letter from the funeral home. They said, "If you in don't make the las payment on Grammas funeral bill, up she comes."

Yorn sister had a baby this mornin. I ain't herd whether it's a boy or a girl, so I don't know if you're an ant or an unkle.

Yorn unkle John fell in the whiskey vat. Some men tried to pull him owt, butt he fowt them off, so he drowned. We cremated him, an he burned fer three daz.

Three of yorns friends went off the bridge in a pick-up. 1 was drivin, the other 2 was in the back. The driver got owt. He rolled the window down and swam to safety. The other 2 drowned. Thay couldn't get thar talegate down.

Thars not much news this time, nothin much has happin here.

Love, Mom

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE THAT CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1. No matter how hard you try, you cannot baptize cats!
- 2. When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair!
- 3. If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person!
- 4. You can't trust a dog to watch your food!
- 5. Puppies still have bad breath, even after eating a Tic-Tac!
- 6. Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time!
- 7. You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk!
- 8. Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts!

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1. Families are like fudge.... mostly sweet but with a few nuts!
- 2. Growing old is mandatory: growing up is optional!
- 3. Raising teenagers is like nailing Jello to a tree!
- 4. If you can remain calm, you don't have all the facts!
- 5. Today's mighty Oak is just yesterday's acorn that held its ground!
- 6. My mind not only wanders: sometimes it leaves completely!

- 7. One reason to smile is that every seven minutes of every day, someone in aerobics class pulls a hamstring!
- 8. Got put me on earth to accomplish a certain number of things. Right now, I am so far behind, I will live forever!

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE:

- 1. You believe in Santa Clause.
- 2. You don't believe in Santa Clause.
- 3. You become Santa Claus.
- 4. You start to look like Santa Claus.