

WONDERFUL ANTICIPATION  
by Rick Founds © 2016



Ahh, the infamous rotating Christmas Tree Color Wheel... very high-tech for its time. This fabulous invention would bath your reflective aluminum tree in an ever-changing array of color.

I'm not sure of the statistics, but I'm certain this wonderful device burned down many a house in its heyday. We had one of these mechanical wonders. It was awesome.... and yes, it nearly caused a conflagration in our living room one Christmas Eve. Apparently, a large present had inadvertently been pushed up against it, so the wheel couldn't rotate. The high wattage lamp, barely inches from the plastic, overheated the blue segment and began the meltdown process. The horrible smell alerted my older sister and I mere moments before ignition. God is merciful.

We loved Christmas Eve, my beloved and mischievous, sister, Susie and I. (Her first name was Tanya, but growing up, we all called her by her middle name.) We would try our best to stay awake all night if need be, to catch Mr. Big Jolly Red Suit in the act of present deposition. We would do everything we could think of to pass the time... play every board game in the closet, tell each other stories, and draw pictures. Every so often, quietly sneaking out of the room, we would creep down the hall past our parents room, toward the living room, in hopes of catching Mr. "C" in the act. Discovering that he had not yet made an appearance, we would hide behind the couch in anticipation. As we watched and waited, we'd be mesmerized, as the room would slowly, hypnotically change from red, to green, to orange, to blue, (compliments of the amazing color wheel). Eventually we would drag our sleepy selves back to bed, only to fall fast asleep... once again missing the much anticipated arrival, as evidenced by the half eaten cookies, and an empty glass of milk... dang! Oh well, maybe next year...

Jesus tells us to... "Watch and look, for I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me..." (Rev. 22:12) Unlike the aforementioned Jolly guy, Jesus will indeed be seen by all who eagerly await His arrival.

