

Giving the Gift of Story: Spoken Treasures for the Family That Has Everything

by Robin Moore

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DOYLESTOWN, Pa., USA—When I was a boy growing up in central Pennsylvania, our family had an unusual living arrangement. During the school year, all five of us kids lived with my parents in a more or less ordinary family unit. But in the summer my mother would pack up the station wagon and drive us 100 miles south, far out into the country, where my grandparents had a cottage on the shores of Silver Lake. My grandmother loved having us there and spoiled us shamelessly: the summer months were an unending stream of swimming and canoeing and bare-foot lightning bug-catching, way past dark. There were also endless days and nights of storytelling. When you live on a lake, you get lots of relatives visiting, and a boy could learn a lot about the family by hanging around and listening—especially when the adults thought you weren't.

Because the cottage was small, we kids slept in sleeping bags on
[SNIP – End of preview.]