



עמנואל!

Behold, a virgin shall be with child,
and shall bring forth a son, and they
shall call his name **Emmanuel**,
which being interpreted is, **God with
us.**

--- *Matthew 1:23*

--Eric, Helen, Amelia, Benjamin,
Lillian, and Faith Rasmusen

1. **CodeAcademy**, learning Python in particular. What perfect pedagogy for computer coding!
2. Six-inch **LED portable work light** with a hook and a magnet on the back. Short, no heat, well-designed, and cheap.
3. The **Petroleum V. Nasby Letters** by David Locke. The current owners of the Brodie Farm found my great-great-grandfather's copy in a shed and gave it to me. Hilarious! Humorous letters of a fictional 1860's Ohio Democrat who wants to play the race card so as to become a postmaster and be able to pay his whisky bills.
4. **Nothing Gold Can Stay** (那年花开月正圆, 那年花开月正圆) (2017), a Chinese drama about a merchant family in a provincial town in the 1880's who take the big leap into western-style cotton spinning. It's all about corporate finance and government interference with business.
5. **TL** (2001-2010) an American eight-season TV series about fighting Islamists, Russians, and other bad guys. Lots of game theory involved with threats, warnings, and commitment. The very first episode is too lewd; the next 60 are okay.
6. **Ruyi's Royal Love in the Palace** (如懿传, 如懿传) (2018) an 87-episode Chinese historical drama about the Emperor Chien-Lung's harem politics and his most beloved concubine, Ruyi.
7. The **Gowmia Ah-Eye**, about \$70, an ingenious invention for easy deep frying.
8. **Illustrated Japanese Characters** (1989, 191 pp., \$3.59+) This whole Japanese Travel Bureau series of little books is good. Watching *Ruyi*, I wanted to be able to spot characters. And we want to encourage Lily in her Chinese.
9. **Leppson's Malort**, a Chicago regional bitter liqueur. At our timing-belt-changing party, all the boys and men except Joseph Borika and me liked the comparison to grapefruit juice mixed with gasoline. But we two enjoyed it.
10. **The Restore**, **Chicago conference**, (2019) a wondrous one-day event with good speeches about how to recover from a church that you thought was sound but had corrupt and hateful leadership that betrayed you. See **Mike Royko's speech** on courage, in particular, but they're all good.
11. **Teaching 3-year-old Sunday School**, with Helen over the summer. It's nice to get to know an entire cohort of kids. And relaxing, despite the constant stimulation. We're eager for grandchildren.
12. **The Annual Article List**. To try to make the ephemeral into the permanent. A list of a dozen good articles discovered this year, with web links. You need to go to <http://rasmusen.org/special/christmas/xmas2019-articles.htm>

Good Things of 2019 (links and images: <http://rasmusen.org/special/christmas/xmas2019.htm>)



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