



(Inserts in bold by another person—Irving C Foss, most likely.)

In the city of Flensburg, Schleswig, lived a widow named Marine Holm. She had three daughters: Marie, Engeline and Johanna. **(This would be Carl Foss' Mother, Marie, and his two aunts.)**

In Magdeborg, Germany, lived a family by the name of Voss. They had quite a large meat butchering business. One son Martin, not interested in that business, traveled around Germany trying to decide what he would do.

In Flensburg he met Marie Holm. They were married and Martin became a rural mailman. They had eleven children. Six grew to adulthood. They were: Wilhilmine, Marine, Martin, Hans, Carl and Emma. **Later in life she adopted Peter, whom she raised and brought to this country (America) when she came.**

Johanna (Tante—**Aunt**—Hanna) married a Dane named Nielsen. When their four children were small, they came to America and to Chicago.

Engeline (Tante Lena) Holm married Martini, and had two boys. Tante Lena was widowed early. She was a dressmaker and had to support her mother, her two boys and herself. All sewing was done by hand. There were no sewing machines.

Tante Lena decided to join her sisters in Chicago, thinking it would be easier to make a living there. She persuaded her niece Marine Voss to go with her. Marine was sixteen.

A few years later, Tante Mina and Uncle Martin came to Chicago. Later Hans and finally Carl. Only Emma stayed with the parents.

When Marine came to Chicago, her name Voss (pronounced “Foss” in German) was pronounced “Voss” with the English “V” so she changed the spelling to “Foss.” The rest of the family did the same as they came to America.

Martin married a girl from Schleswig named Mary Lydigsen. They had six children.

Wilhelmina married Carl Lydigsen, (Mary’s Brother). Marie says they had three children, but I think they had four, the fourth one dying either in childbirth or when very young and was a twin with either Emma or Martin. The other was Arnold.

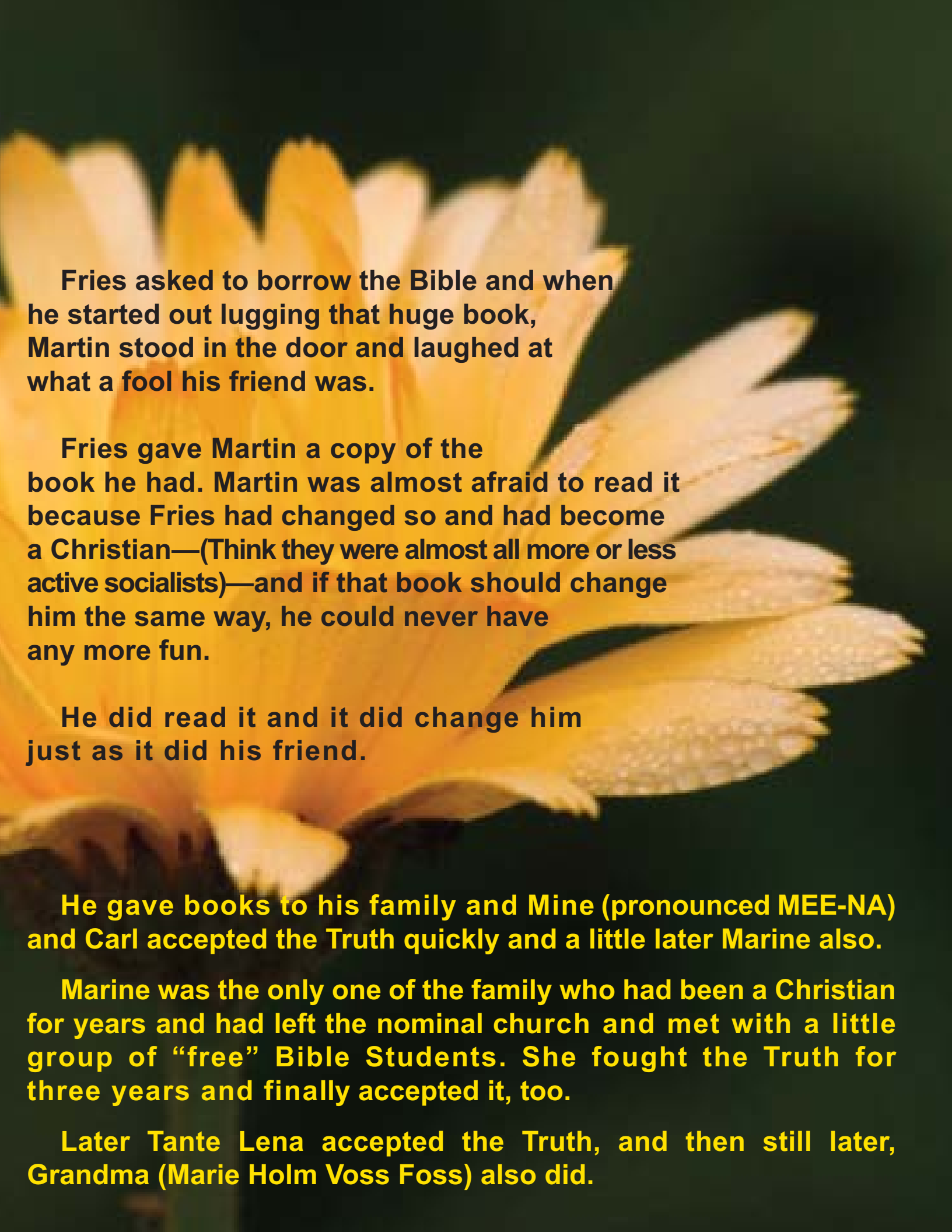
Hans married a Danish Girl named Dora. They had four children.

Carl married a Schleswig girl from Tondern named Minna Krogh. They had four children when the oldest Eleanor died. She was about five or six years old. When another girl came along she also was named Eleanor.

(Grandma Foss [Marie Holm] came to Chicago in 1908.)

Martin Foss was a very heavy drinker in his younger days. His wife sometimes met him at work on payday to get his money, before he spent it, to buy food for the family.

Martin had a very good friend named Lorenz Fries. One day Fries got a book from a fellow worker named Jack Christensen. It was *The Divine Plan of the Ages*. Fries liked it, but he had no Bible in which to look up the Scripture citations. The only Bible he knew of was a large family Bible that Martin had received as a wedding present. It lay on the table in the parlor and covered the whole table.



Fries asked to borrow the Bible and when he started out lugging that huge book, Martin stood in the door and laughed at what a fool his friend was.

Fries gave Martin a copy of the book he had. Martin was almost afraid to read it because Fries had changed so and had become a Christian—(Think they were almost all more or less active socialists)—and if that book should change him the same way, he could never have any more fun.

He did read it and it did change him just as it did his friend.

He gave books to his family and Mine (pronounced MEE-NA) and Carl accepted the Truth quickly and a little later Marine also.

Marine was the only one of the family who had been a Christian for years and had left the nominal church and met with a little group of “free” Bible Students. She fought the Truth for three years and finally accepted it, too.

Later Tante Lena accepted the Truth, and then still later, Grandma (Marie Holm Voss Foss) also did.