

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



“The bats eat up any bugs before they splatter all over my windshield.”

Co-worker’s tempting offer is bad news

Dear Abby: Last week one of my associates asked me out for drinks. I have been working with him for the same length of time that I have been married. I know he’s interested because he has been texting me about unrelated work things and is always flirting.

I am very much in love with my husband, but my co-worker is very tempting. I’m worried about hurting my husband, but at the same time I’m excited about what this new man can offer me. Did I mention that he’s the top lawyer of the firm? — *Tempted in South Carolina*



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

Dear Tempted: Let’s pretend for a moment that the situation was reversed and this letter came from the husband you “love very much.” How would you feel if he acted on his temptation? When people marry, they promise each other certain things, chief among them fidelity. That “Alpha Dog” may want to have a fling with you may be flattering, but it isn’t necessarily a compliment.

Take a step back and consider what could happen to your career at that firm and how you would feel if things don’t go the way you’d like. (Example: An attractive woman is hired and you are dropped like a hot potato.) I’m guessing that you are not the first woman this has happened to in that office.

Dear Abby: My oldest daughter feels we should be available to watch or pick up our grandkids whenever she calls.

I suffer from chronic pain and have good days and bad. I never know when I’ll have a bad day.

My daughter asks me to watch or have overnights with her children a month in advance.

I don’t know how I will be doing then, but if I cancel because I’m not feeling well, she gets bent out of shape. We have had fights about this, and I need someone else’s advice.

I raised my kids and I love my grandkids, but sometimes I don’t feel well enough to babysit or have an overnight.

Are grandparents obligated to watch their grandkids whenever their parents need them? — *Feeling Used in Oregon*

Dear Feeling Used: If you’re feeling used, then you probably are. Your health concerns surely are no mystery to your daughter. Tell her you are glad to look after the grandchildren if you are up to it. But in case you aren’t, she should have an alternate ready to step in should the need arise, because it MAY. And don’t apologize for it.

Dear Abby: My daughter is being married soon and we are getting ready to mail out the invitations. We have three couples who will not be married when the invitations are mailed, but will be by the wedding. Should we address their invitations using their single names or married names? — *Charlotte in Akron, Ohio*

Dear Charlotte: Not all women these days change their names to their husband’s. Address the invitations using the names these couples are using now. At the wedding reception, the place cards can reflect any name changes that are necessary.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

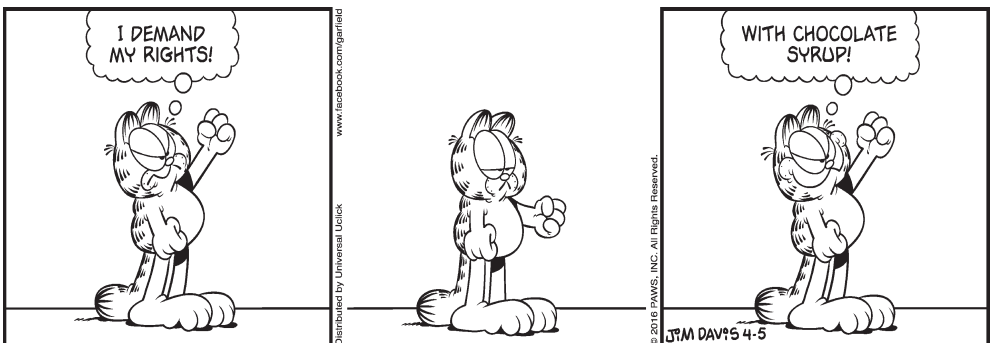
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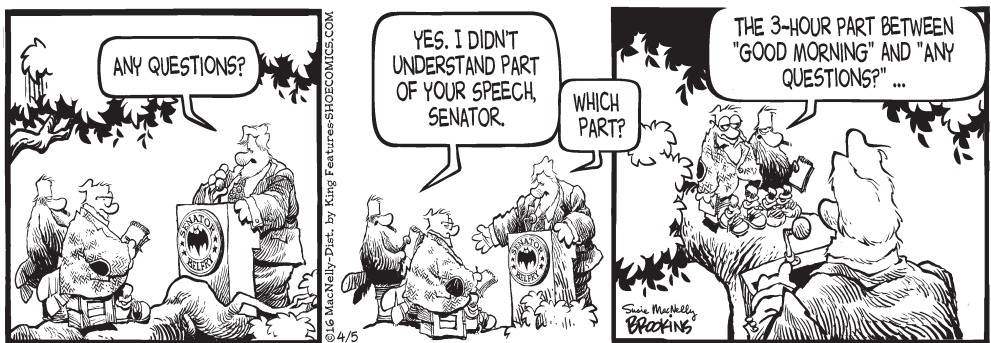
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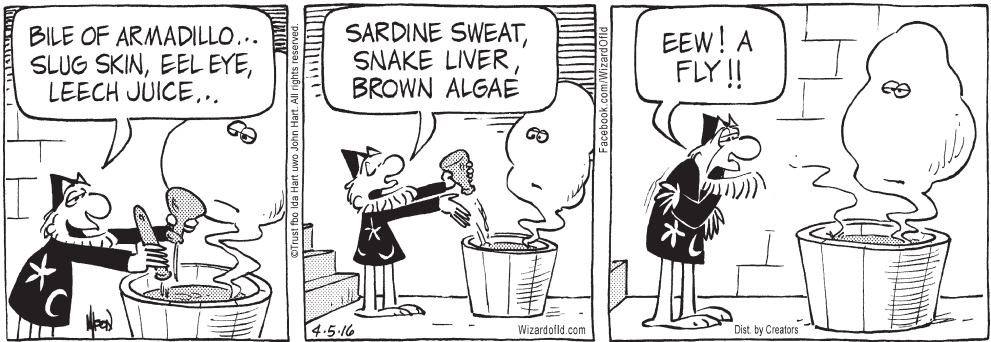
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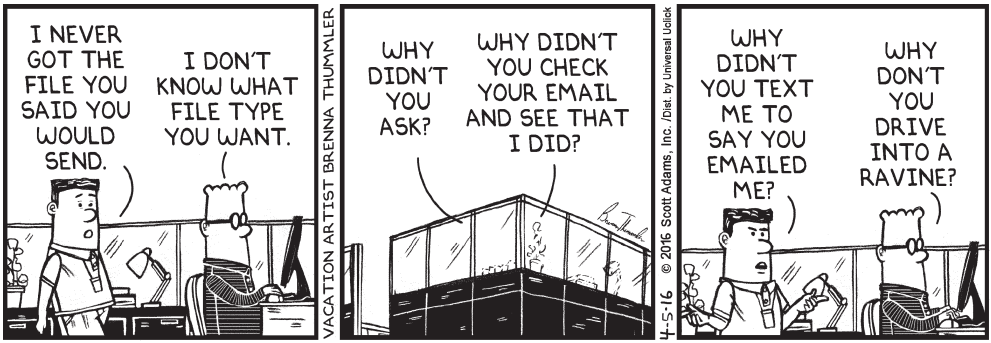
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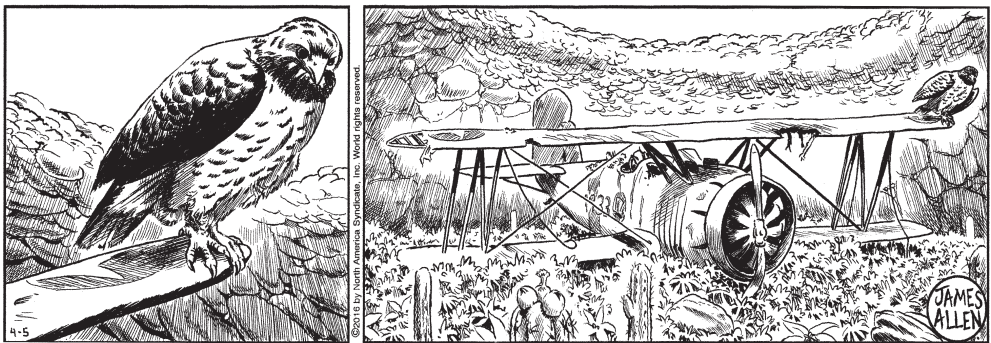
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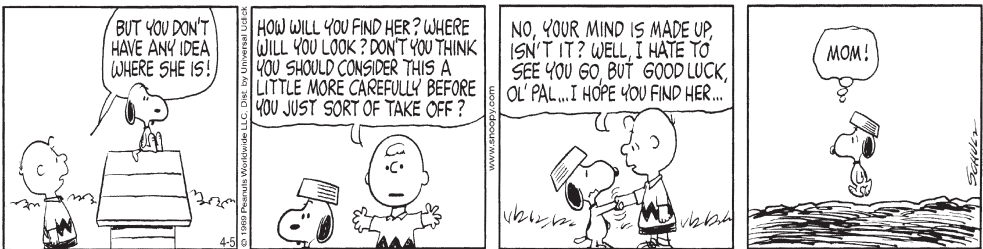
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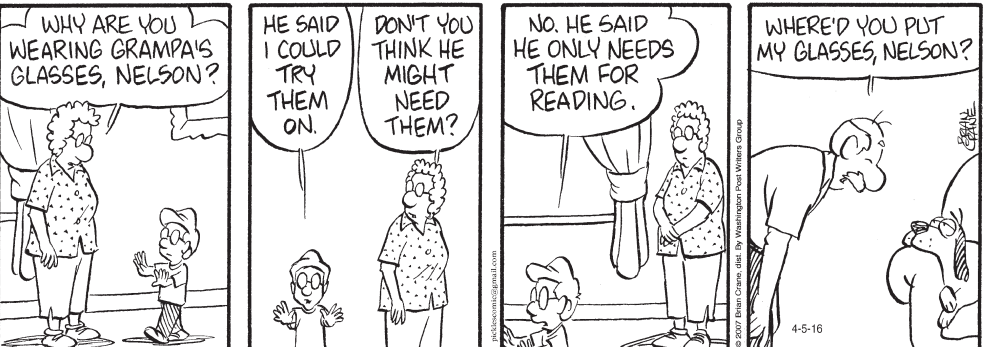
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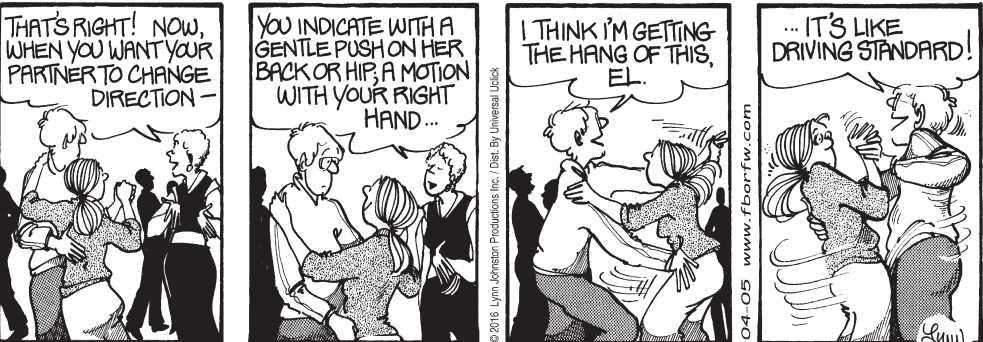
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Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When it comes to following your heart’s desire, there’s no such thing as being too old to start or too young to start. It’s the happiness of your heart that counts, not the age of it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It’s not a day for putting up with your own trepidation. The minute you feel yourself hesitate, push yourself to dive into the thing that gives you pause. Face the fears now while they are still small.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The candy colors of this environment were exciting to you at one time, but you’ve matured. Now you want to interact in a place with more to offer: You’re looking for variety and depth. You’ll find it, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Fast fixes, succinct answers and brief interactions rule the early day, because you’ve something juicy to get to — something you’d like to savor in slow motion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A lot could happen; a lot might happen. Playing the odds is smart today, and the odds are against those “coulds” and “mights.” Focusing on what is happening will be lucrative and satisfying.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Overcoming the fear of rejection is a simple process. All you have to do is get rejected a few times so you no longer fear it. The timing couldn’t be more perfect, as the stars favor personal risk.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don’t always get the laughs you’re going for; which is why you so appreciate how you’re able to deliver levity now. You are far more entertaining than you might suspect! Your stories help others develop a better sense of humor.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your success is closely linked to confidence. Maybe you can’t entirely fake being sure of yourself, but the fact that you try is enough. Believing in your ideas will be half the battle. Convincing the others will be the other half.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have the attitude of a hard worker, and so you’ll be able to handle whatever job comes up. Whether or not it’s within your jurisdiction or expertise is beside the point really.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Children (and those who behave as such) respect you greatly, and yet something stubborn and innate will have a few of them pushing the boundaries anyway. Keep cool and enforce your position.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You would prefer to travel comfortably, first-class if possible; who wouldn’t? And yet, that comfort comes with such a high cost today (spiritually and financially) that it will be worthwhile to take the “coach” alternative.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You feel as though you are standing on the precipice of something grand, overwhelming and dangerous. You’re above this, but you’re not the master of it. Do not let it mesmerize you away from your firm footing.