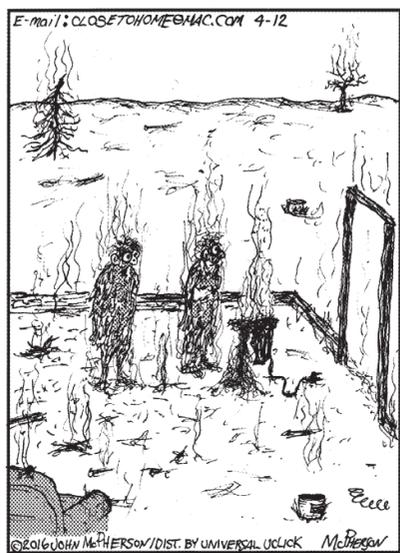


**CLOSE TO HOME** by John McPherson



"Well, now we know what happens when you have two scanners scan each other at the same time."

# Reader considers revenge after breakup

**Dear Abby:** Recently a guy I've known for more than a year decided it would be best for us to part ways. Before Christmas, I had asked what he would like for Christmas.

His response was, "I don't want anything for Christmas — I want you."

A couple of weeks later, he told me the pictures, nightstand, candy dishes and candleholders he had in my apartment were gifts from him because he loved me. Tonight, he packed everything up and left! I don't know exactly why, but I think it has more to do with his own issues than about me.

Abby, I feel I have been manipulated and used. Ironically, this man I thought was a friend is a psychotherapist.

While we were together, he would discuss confidential information about some of his clients with me.

I think I should report him, but on the other hand, I'm asking myself whether I'm only looking for revenge.



**JEANNE PHILLIPS**  
DEAR ABBY

Should I leave it alone, or report him to the American Psychological Association? Or am I overreacting to losing him? I still feel really mixed up. — *Vengeful in Minnesota*

**Dear Vengeful:** Psychotherapists are not gods, and like other human beings, they can have their flaws. I understand why you would be hurt and disappointed. However, rather than look for revenge, you should consider yourself lucky you didn't invest more time in this flake.

As to whether you should report his breach of professional ethics to the APA, I think that for the sake of the patients/clients whose trust he has betrayed, you should do exactly that — but after your anger is no longer raging.

**Dear Abby:** I'm wondering if I have an issue or if what concerns me is fairly normal. I am 31 years old and have three daughters, two stepsons, an ex-wife and one current wife.

I have been asked most of my adult life, as I'm sure most people have, "Where do you see yourself in five years? Ten years?"

For some reason, I can't figure out how to answer this question.

There are many variables at play, and many lives would be affected by my pursuing what I want in five to 10 years.

I can't say I'm going to be "here doing this in five years" because I have no idea what might change.

Do I need professional help? It upsets my wife when she wants to talk about the future and I can't give her an answer. — *Confused About The Future*

**Dear Confused:** Some people use the question of "where will you be ..." as a method of setting goals.

What your wife may really be asking is, "Are you satisfied with things as they are now, and if not, what changes do you intend to make?"

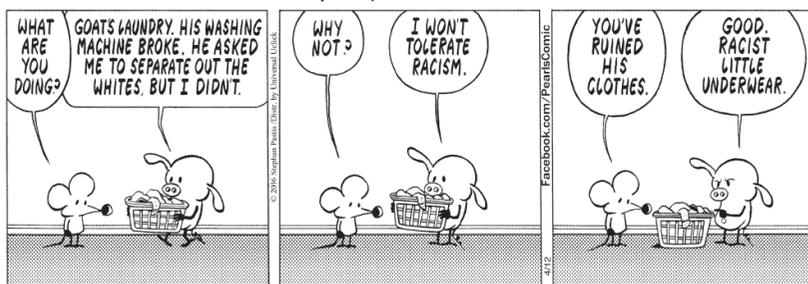
If that's the case, it might be illuminating to ask her what changes she would LIKE you to make.

Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**TUNDRA** by Chad Carpenter



**PEARLS BEFORE SWINE** by Stephan Pastis



**GARFIELD** by Jim Davis



**JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE** by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



**WIZARD OF ID** by Brant Parker



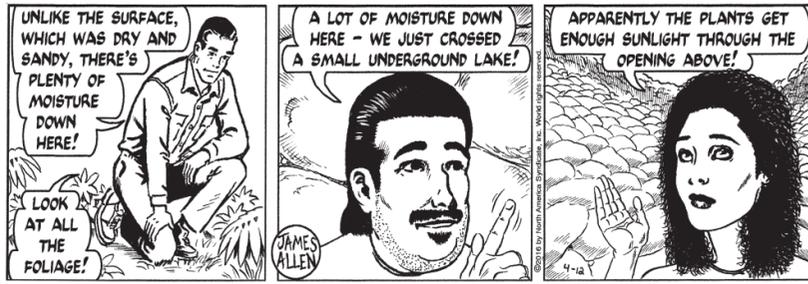
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**MARK TRAIL** by James Allen



**PEANUTS** by Charles Schulz



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**DUSTIN** by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



## Daily Horoscope

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** The hardest kind of criticism to take is honest criticism. Only the strong (that means you) can handle it, and handle it you will.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Those moments in which you feel happy, healthy, safe and protected from all harm — those shouldn't be rare. If those moments are not abundant for you, why not? Today is a fine time to turn the trend around.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Life will make you change for the better, and there's nothing you need to do about that now. Just relax and believe. If you can't believe, that's fine, too.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Those who know you well are expecting you to succeed, and so are those who don't know you. That's because success is your vibe these days! Anyone who isn't rooting for you in an obvious way doesn't belong on your team.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Your perfect blend is out there. When the music of your thoughts mixes with the music of a compatible individual's thoughts, the result will be a beautiful, layered symphony you both can dance to.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Stressful moments have a way of constricting your creativity and thought processes. Laughter is an experience of opening up and getting everything flowing again.

You'll be at your best when you keep looking for the humor.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Maybe it sounds a little harsh, but the fact is that some people in your life nourish you while others deplete you. Recognize this reality and plan your day accordingly to stay buoyant.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Take a moment to gently acknowledge the feeling you're having; it's human. You're not the only one. Whatever you feel, it's acceptable. Does that help you soften into the moment instead of resisting it?

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Address the concerns you have about your image. It's not selfish to want to put your best foot forward. This is the moment to nip a problem in the bud or make an easy improvement.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You get to decide just how close you want people to be to you. Sure, they may have their own ideas, and there is a bit of negotiating to do, but ultimately you're in charge. Don't forget that!

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** For moments it will be as though your ordinary mind and sense of personal identity have dissolved into a dream. The question is: How much of this dream are you able to influence? Test it out.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You didn't go wrong; you went right. Anyway, it's best not to think about it now. This is different from the original plan, but assume that it's different in a good way and move forward.



**HOLIDAY MATHIS**