

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



At the hiring offices of Dummies Publishing.

Reader wants to contact past mistress

Dear Abby: Forty-five years ago I had a mistress. My wife knew about her. Both of our spouses have now passed. I have found her address on the internet, and I'm debating if I should contact her. What do you think? — *Unsure in Iowa*

Dear Unsure: Because you are both now unencumbered, I don't see any reason why you shouldn't. Clearly, you have a lot of shared history.

Dear Abby: We are well into school's summer vacation, filled with days by the pool, trips to the zoo, and plenty of time for kids to goof off around the house. This extended leisure time for the kiddos may be a good time to remind parents to be thoughtful about what they post on social media.

Some basics: When your child accidentally dumps all the sunscreen from your beach bag onto the car floor, you do not have to post a picture of a regretful, crying toddler to prove that "he really did it this time!"



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

When your child is running through the backyard sprinkler without clothes on, you do not have to post a picture to let us know.

Abby, please encourage your readers to have a memorable, safe and exciting summer — but to keep those photos to themselves. — *Common Sense, Please*

Dear C.S.P.: You obviously don't want the children put at risk or shamed. Some people feel a compulsion to record everything a kid does for the world to see because their child is so special and unique. Unfortunately, we seem to have reached a point in our culture that nothing is private anymore. I'll print your suggestion to parents, but while I applaud your wanting to protect their children, it's their job. If the photos bother you, ignore them and keep scrolling.

Dear Abby: We are a family of six children. Our elderly mother lives with each of us three to 10 months at a time. Out of the six of us, only one is a homemaker who has the room and ideal setting for her to live comfortably. However, she refuses to have Mom permanently.

The rest of us have jobs that don't allow us to be with her during the day. Yet we all agreed that putting Mom in a nursing home would be out of the question.

If I didn't have to work, I'd take care of her permanently myself. I admit that she can be difficult to live with. She can cut you down, insist you do all kinds of errands and is suspicious about someone taking her money. I don't know what to do. — *One of Six in Ohio*

Dear One of Six: Has your mother always been this way? If so, then perhaps it's time for another family meeting. To expect one sister to shoulder the entire burden of taking in a demanding parent is unfair to her.

If there have been changes in your mother's personality, consider having her be neurologically evaluated to see if there is something wrong with her. A geriatric psychiatrist could give you some helpful input regardless of whether she's ill — and help you all decide upon a workable, permanent living situation for her.

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



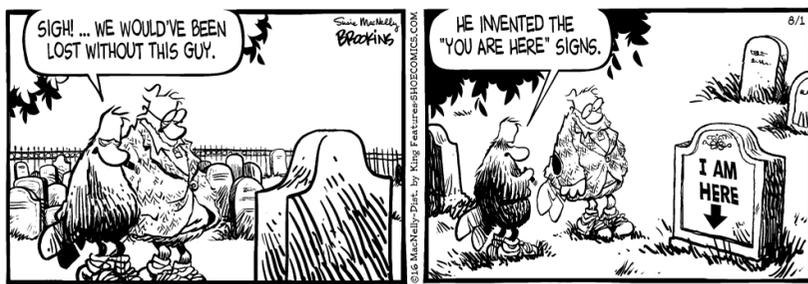
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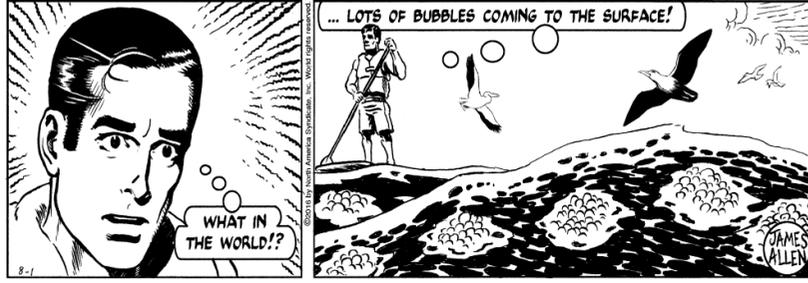
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



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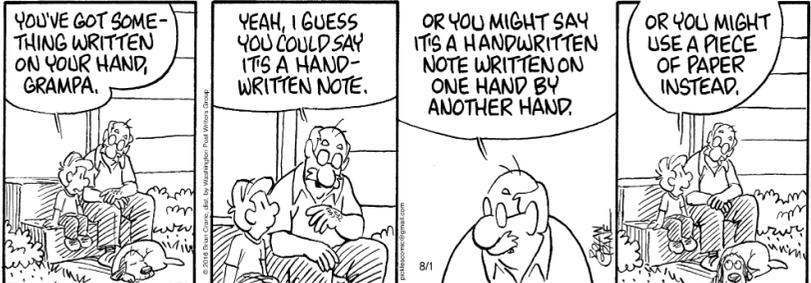
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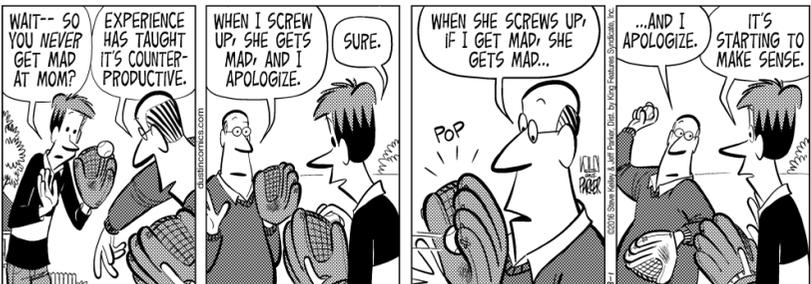
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ZITS by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You and I will make the relationship with or without the other person's involvement. Your efforts will stimulate the recovery, regeneration and renewal necessary to make it all better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The one who knocks himself out to get the details right will automatically rise up the ranks on your "favorite people" list. You'll make similar efforts because it gives you immense pleasure to get things just right.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Steer clear of those who are too literal to laugh, too specific to get your general drift, too mannered to have any fun. These types will dull your creative edge. Seek the company of the wild at heart.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The reason your heart is so full is that you intuitively know what choice will enable you to be the most loving, happy and thereby the most generous with others. Continue to trust yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Listen to the parental-toned voice inside your head. It's a buzz-kill, but it's speaking up for a reason. It will tell you to leave before you want to. It will tell you to stop eating before you're full. It will save you from trouble and belly ache.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may misunderstand the works of another; your work may

not be something they can grasp. This is precisely what will make you such a valuable pair today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The event is on the horizon. If you don't make a gesture, who will? Now is the time to start thinking about how you're going to toast someone. Your group needs a morale boost, and this will be it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The qualities that will help you do your job today are focus and enthusiasm. Ward against any distraction that will diffuse your focus or any influence that will dampen your high energy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). An important relationship or endeavor has become like a train that's jumped the tracks. There is no going forward until you have the conversation that will put you back on the rails.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You see the absurdity of a situation, and the others don't seem to register it. Chances are, they'll keep playing this out for a while. The real question is, how much a part of it do you really need to be?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Make your pitch. You won't feel ready, but this is an opportunity to practice. What if you leave a portion out? You'll remember next time. No one misses what they didn't know was supposed to be there.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If only courage were a transferable item. Instead, each person has to find it within. However, witnessing the courage of others does help tremendously. You'll inspire your crew to be brave like you.



HOLIDAY MATHIS