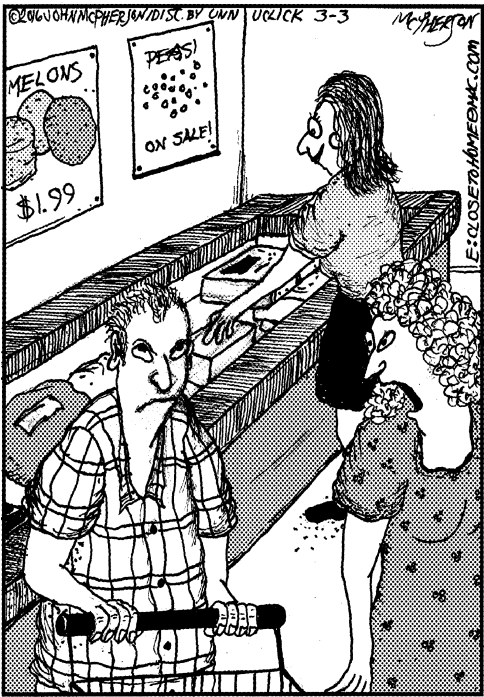


CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



"You pig! I can tell by the way that you're not looking at that woman that you want her!"

Sister balks at supporting lazy brothers

Dear Abby: I am a community college sophomore (age 20) in an international honor society, double-majoring in biotechnology and biological sciences. My dream is to become a cardiologist.

I have worked hard and excelled at my studies, as well as in my friendships and sports.

However, my brothers have not. My older brother, "Aaron," barely graduated from community college and my younger brother, "Greg," dropped out after his first semester.

I know it's not healthy for me to think this way, but I am afraid I am going to be the one who has to support them. Aaron plays video games all day, while Greg does nothing. I'm afraid I'll be stuck playing "Mommy" for my adult brothers for the rest of my days.

How do I get across to them that they're not children anymore and they need to take their education seriously? — *Nobody's Mommy in Maryland*



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

Dear Nobody's Mommy: Where are your brothers living now? With your parents? If that's the case — and I suspect it is — that message should come from them.

That your parents would allow Aaron to sit around all day playing video games rather than become independent means they are his enablers.

There is truth to the saying, "The Lord helps those who help themselves."

Warn the boys that unless they start preparing for their future, they could wind up living in the street, because when your parents go, you have no intention of supporting them financially. That responsibility is not and should not be yours.

Dear Abby: I just got married to a beautiful woman. She's tall and elegant. The problem is, she's addicted to taking pictures of herself. She takes at least 100 of them a day.

When we're driving, she's busy taking selfies. When we go out, she asks me to take pictures of her. If I tell her I don't want to take more pictures, she pleads with me to take "just one more," which really means five.

When we are out to dinner and I get up to

go to the restroom, she asks total strangers to take her picture.

When we were on vacation and we went to the pool, she wore full makeup for two reasons, she said: (1) She's not putting her head under water; and (2) she wants some pictures taken of her.

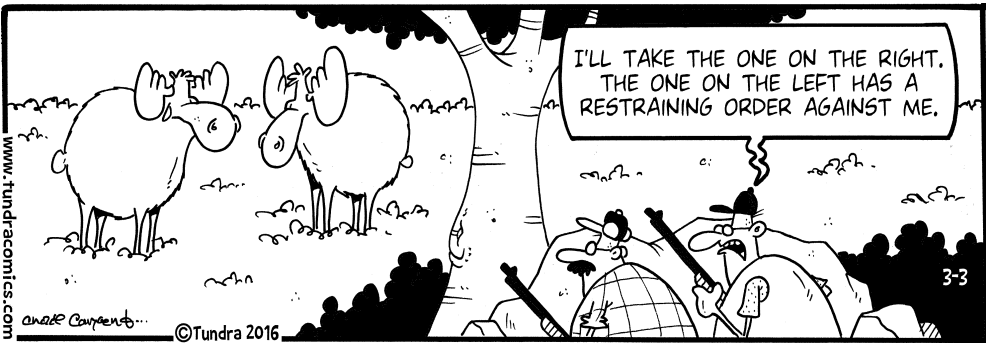
I have told her many times how much this annoys me, but she says I am preventing her from what she enjoys. What can I do to help her? — *Too Many Photo Ops*

Dear Too Many Photo Ops: You have married a beautiful (tall, elegant) piece of arm candy. Because you did not mention even one other positive quality about her, I assume this is what you wanted. Her vanity/insecurity about her looks is the "accessory" that goes with your trophy.

It will take effort on your part to help her recognize that what she has to offer beneath the surface is at least as important as her looks. (It may also take the services of a psychologist, if she's willing.)

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



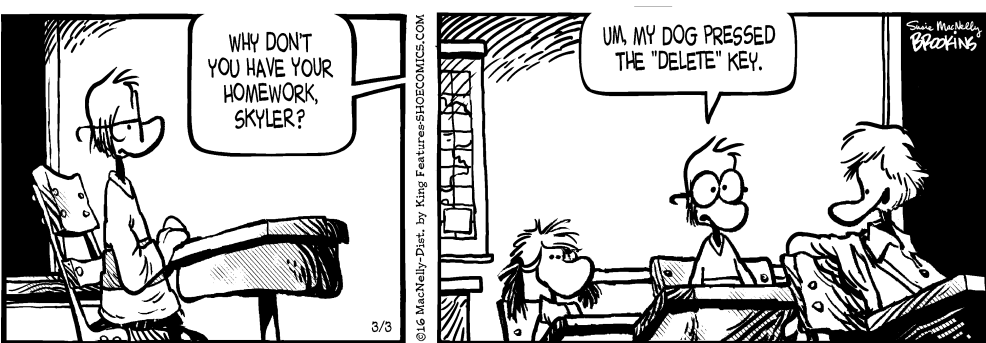
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



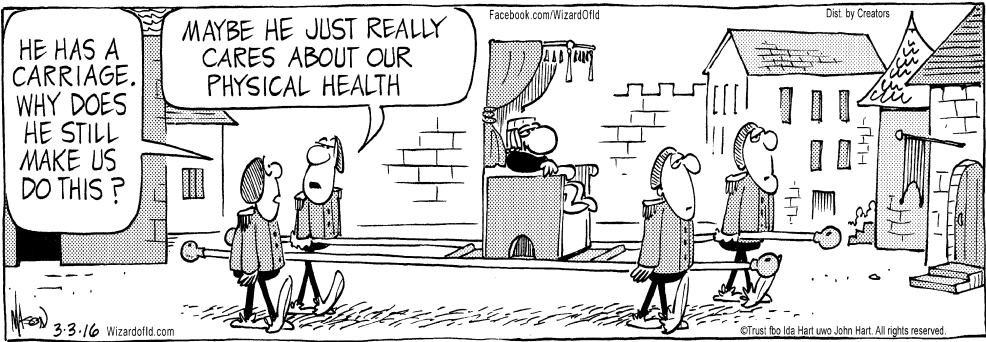
GARFIELD by Jim Davis



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



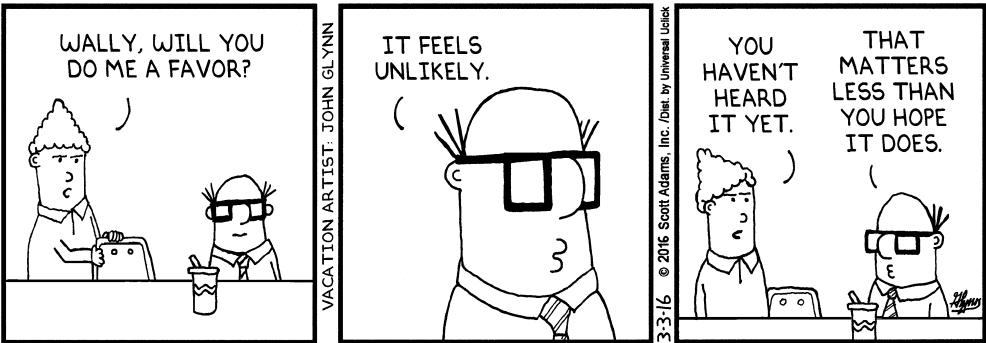
WIZARD OF ID by Brant Parker



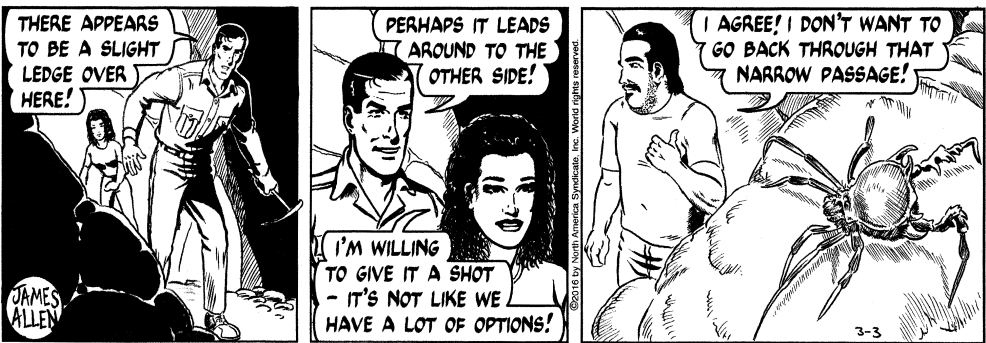
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



DILBERT by Scott Adams



MARK TRAIL by James Allen



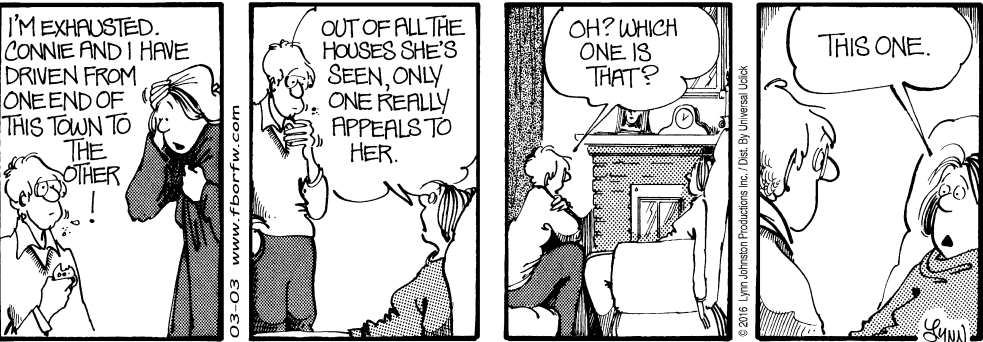
PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



PICKLES by Brian Crane



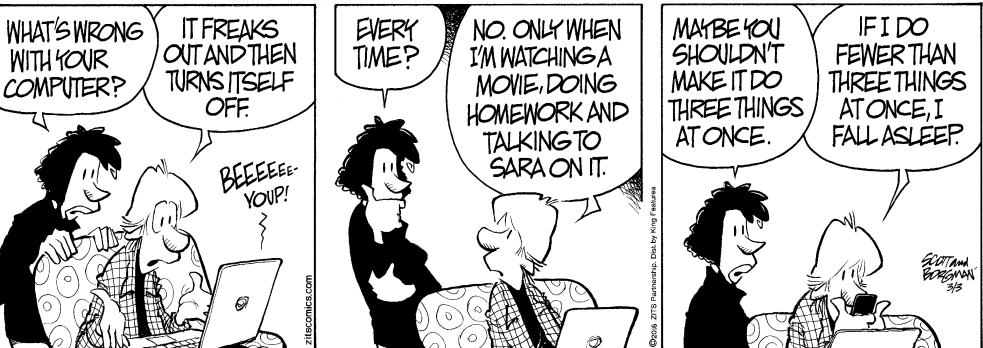
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



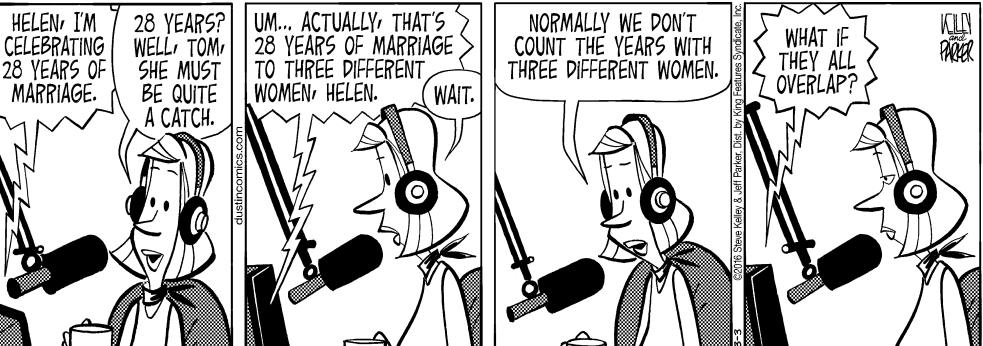
BABY BLUES by Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



ZITS by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Progress will be thwarted by too many opinions. They can't all be right, and they can't all be wrong. You're the one to sort this out. There must be a consensus if the group is to move forward!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Showing off is never cool, and yet how are you going to let them know what you can do if you never perform it or even mention it? Today you'll walk that fine line between standing out and fitting in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Some people complain to sound big, when actually it only makes them sound weak, insecure and ill-equipped to do what it takes to make a situation work. As far as you're concerned, complaining is a red flag.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's a score to even. The other person might not think so, but you have your own way of accounting, and in your book, things won't be quite right until you execute a certain chain of action.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If it can be done, you'll find a way to do it. Whether or not it's worth doing, well, that part might be out of your hands, as an authority figure is likely to request much that falls under the category of "your job," whether you like it or not.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People want to know about you, but you're feeling shy and perhaps inclined to avoid the subject of you alto-

gether. It would be a mistake to let the day slip by without revealing at least a little about your remarkable life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Bottom line, this certain someone sees something different in you. You're attractive in your uniqueness, and if you continue to be so intriguing you'll soon gain a fan for life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A sacrifice will prove that you're committed. But if you give too much, this will backfire on you. Over-giving could be taken as a sign that you care more about what the other person thinks of you than you care for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know what you're doing and where you're going. You'll find the way, the alternate way, the scenic route and the shortcut. And you'll generously help anyone else headed in the same direction as well!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you come up against someone's pride, go gently. Keep in mind that this person may feel like he or she is fighting for life itself. That's the power of ego. Pride is all some people feel they have.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Not feeling quite as driven? The break from ambition will be healthy for you. Bonus: If you just go along for the ride, you'll wind up at the same destination as you would if you were in the driver's seat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Improvement will be simple for you. Name the problem and solve it. If it's too big, make it smaller. If it's still too big, make it smaller still, until it's small enough to solve.



HOLIDAY MATHIS