

**CLOSE TO HOME** by John McPherson



"Wait, I just found a bottle with a note in it in the toilet! Kim Robb in 24B has had her toe stuck in her tub faucet since last Tuesday!"

# Man wants more than sleeping on floor

**Dear Abby:** I am a 40-year-old man, divorced with teenage children, and have been exclusively dating a woman who has a 4-year-old daughter. There have been no clashes between our children.

We have yet to have sex. When I'm over at her place, I sleep on the living room floor either on an inflatable air mattress (her idea) or in a sleeping bag (my response when I just couldn't take the air mattress any longer).

Either way, I feel like I'm left to sleep on a dog bed — not great for my self-esteem, as you can imagine.

My girlfriend uses her daughter as the reason, suggesting that the girl just wouldn't understand me sleeping in Mommy's bed.

I don't personally see it as being a big issue for her daughter, given how long we have been together. We have discussed the subject, and she makes reference to perhaps planning some sort of rendezvous, but it never seems to

go from theory to practice.

There are no religious issues here. My girlfriend did have a promiscuous and troubled past as a young adult, so I'm sensitive to the issue.

But this is driving me nuts. Any suggestions would be appreciated. — *On Hold in New York*

**Dear On Hold:** People usually find the time to do the things they want to do. Your girlfriend may be holding out for marriage, not have a strong sex drive, or not be as attracted to you as you are to her.

You didn't mention how long you have been seeing this lady, but I think it's time you discussed your feelings with her again, find out exactly why your sexual relationship hasn't gone from theory to practice, and take your cue from there.

**Dear Abby:** I'm 37 and have been married for eight years. I love my husband, but I'm not "in love" with him. In my younger years I gave my heart to another woman.

Since then, I have masked my true feelings,

but I can't do it anymore. I'm still in love with "Loretta," and I want to be with her. But now I have many responsibilities — husband, kids, etc.

I have told my husband about my feelings, but he seems to think this is something I'll get over. I was 17 when Loretta and I started our relationship. We still love each other very much. I don't want to hurt him, so what do I do? — *Following My Heart in Alabama*

**Dear Following:** What you do is tell your husband that you thought you might be able to get over your love for Loretta, but that you haven't. Do not expect him to take the news lightly because he has good reason to be upset. But he needs to know that none of this is his fault.

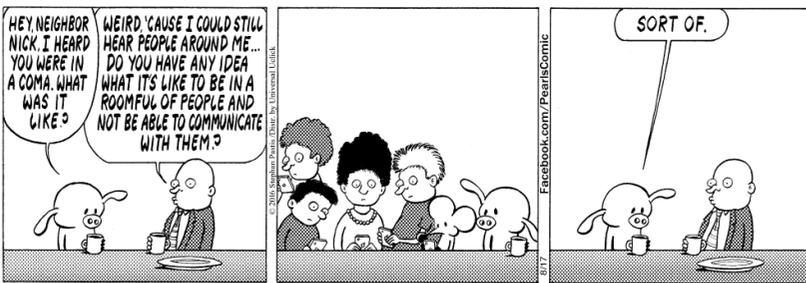
If he has trouble accepting and understanding this, suggest he contact the Straight Spouse Network ([straightspouse.org](http://straightspouse.org)) for the support it offers to the heterosexual partners of LGBT individuals.

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

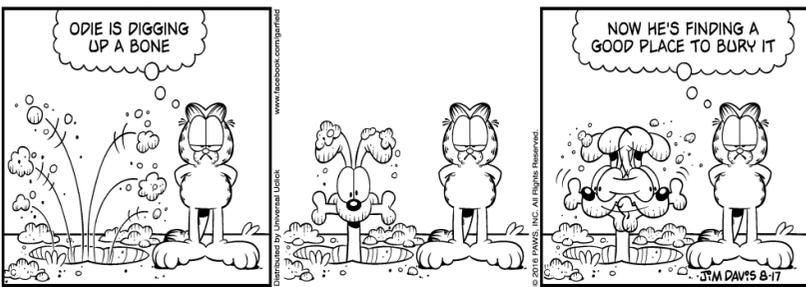
**TUNDRA** by Chad Carpenter



**PEARLS BEFORE SWINE** by Stephan Pastis



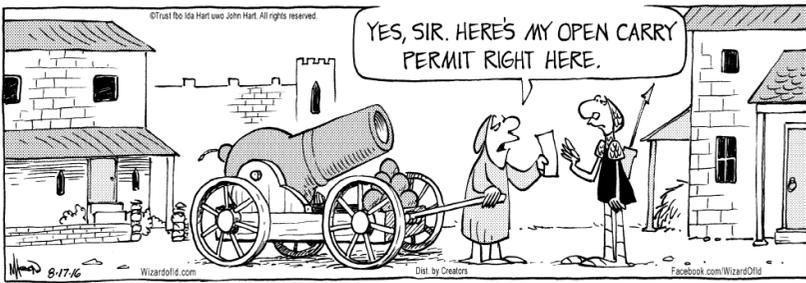
**GARFIELD** by Jim Davis



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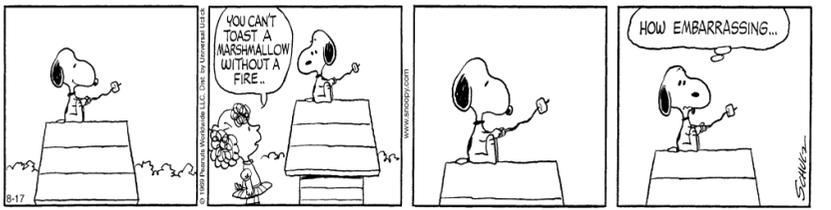
**DILBERT** by Scott Adams



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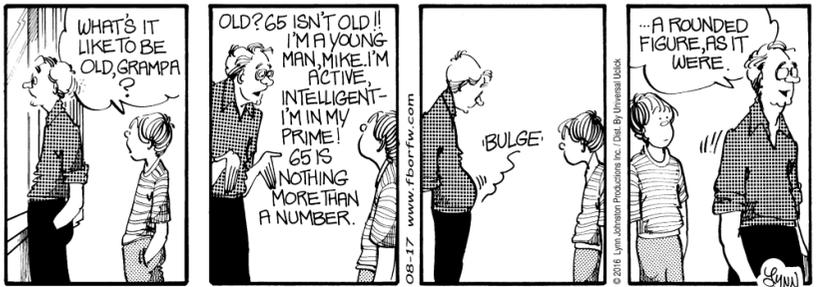
**PEANUTS** by Charles Schulz



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**FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE** by Lynn Johnston



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## Daily Horoscope

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Self-acceptance creates the congruence you need to move forward. If you're not self-accepting enough to feel comfortable in all you do, baby steps toward self-love will still make a positive difference.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** When you think, "I don't have time for this!" but then "this!" is all you're doing, it's a signal that the disparity between your higher self and lower self is at its ultimate tensile strength. What gives? Roll toward your chosen side and hang on.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Your social graces will put you in an excellent position with a group you might have been intimidated by once upon a time. Now you realize you're in the same league, and you're about to find out more about the games.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Set the paces. So what if they have to run to keep up with you? They need the "exercise." Besides, they are depending on you to keep them at the top of their game.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Commitment is the essence of style. Once you've made your choice, wear it and wear it hard. And if you didn't make your choice, and you're dealing with the product of un-intention, this is all the more reason to own it.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You'll be impressed by someone's talent, productivity or

behavior. Truly, it's because you have these same capabilities. You've exercised them in the past. You'll do it again in the near future.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Don't expect a smooth, straight ride. Roll with the turmoil, keeping your goal in mind the entire time. You'll likely land with what you desire, safe inside your grasp.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** This is no time to let things linger. If ignoring the problem isn't working and you simply can't leave the situation alone, gather up your inner fire and get ready to deal directly, head-on. Kill it with one punch.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** The one who shares a bad mood with you is a true friend. Some would call this emotional dumping, or venting, but you just call it "having a gripe." There's a bond building here.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Even though social media makes this harder and harder, to a large extent you're still in control of what people know about you. You'll spend some of the day shaping your image to maximum effect.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Try not to blame the ignorant souls who throw a wrench in the works out of sheer inexperience. Those who know better will do better. Teach them and help them practice until they get it right.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** The superstar may exhibit great strengths but that doesn't mean they can show you the way. The best instructors will be the ones with marginal talent who have made just about every mistake there is to make.



**JEANNE PHILLIPS**  
**DEAR ABBY**



**HOLIDAY MATHS**