

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Baseball is shaken to its core when it is discovered that even some of the beer vendors are using steroids.

Three babies are not enough for mom

Dear Abby: My husband and I have three children. Before we were married, we discussed that I wanted a big family. He said he didn't want kids at all. This didn't bother me because I had been told I would never be able to have children. We ended up not only having one "surprise" baby, but three.

My dilemma is I desperately want to have more children. My husband has not only said no — he's said HELL no, over his dead body. Then he got a vasectomy. I feel I'm between a rock and a hard place. I am considering going through a sperm bank. What is your advice? — *Mom of Surprise Babies*



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

Dear Mom: You knew before you married your husband how he felt about having a family. You thought you would never have children, but have been blessed with three. Be grateful and quit winners, because if you follow through with what you're considering, you could wind up raising your children alone.

Dear Abby: My mom once said that her younger sister had an unwed pregnancy in the early 1940s and gave up a baby girl for adoption.

Mom told no one else but me about this. She later said her sister had confessed it to her husband late in life and that he had reacted violently.

I recently attended a family funeral and had a conversation with my cousin, who said he was concerned about possible dementia in his mother because — among other things — she had asked him about his older sister. (He doesn't know he had one.)

I didn't say otherwise, but I'm debating with myself if I should say anything or just keep quiet. My aunt died last week, after being a widow for several years. — *Keeper of a Family Secret*

Dear Keeper: If there were anything positive to be gained by revealing this secret, I would advise you to tell your cousin. But there isn't. So keep your mouth shut.

Dear Abby: During our many years of married life, we have lived in six neighbor-

hoods. In two of them, there was a married couple comprised of a housewife and what I would call a "garaged husband."

These husbands spent all their spare time working and putting in their garages. One of them worked on his motorcycle and truck; the other rebuilt an antique truck from the ground up. Both created excessive noise with their projects.

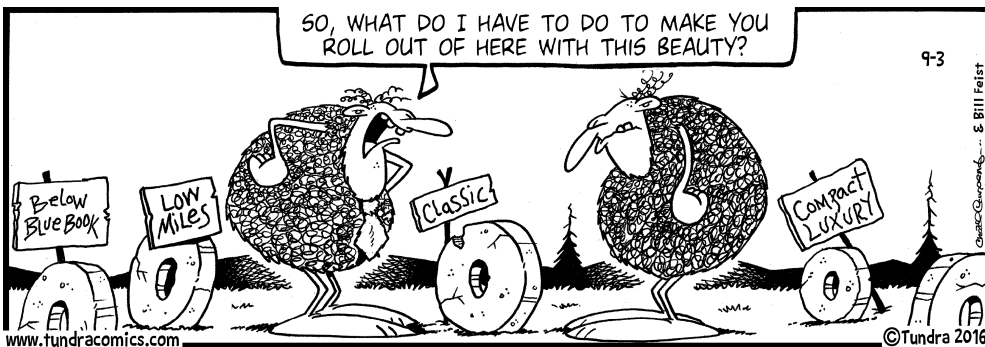
One of the men eventually moved his bed into the garage and, not surprisingly, the marriage ended in divorce. The second man spends more time with his youngest son (who also stays in the garage most of the time) than with his wife.

Have your other readers made similar observations? Is this a version of the "man cave" syndrome where men like to hang out? — *Another Husband in Oregon*

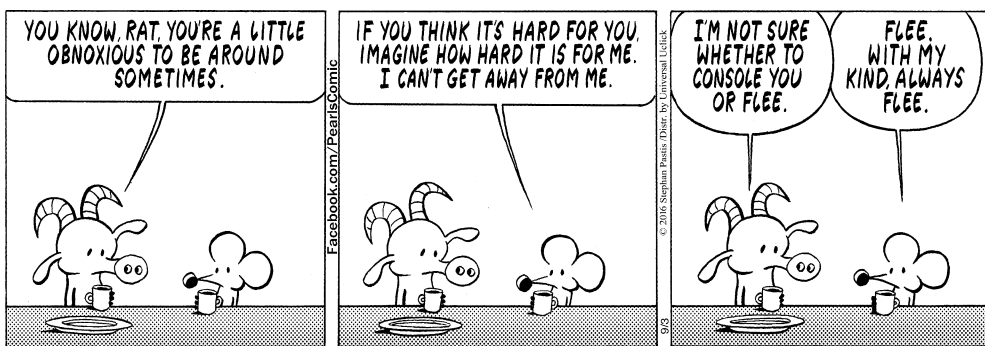
Dear Husband: I will leave your question open to readers, but I think variations of "garaged husbands" might be ones who render their spouses "sports widows."

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



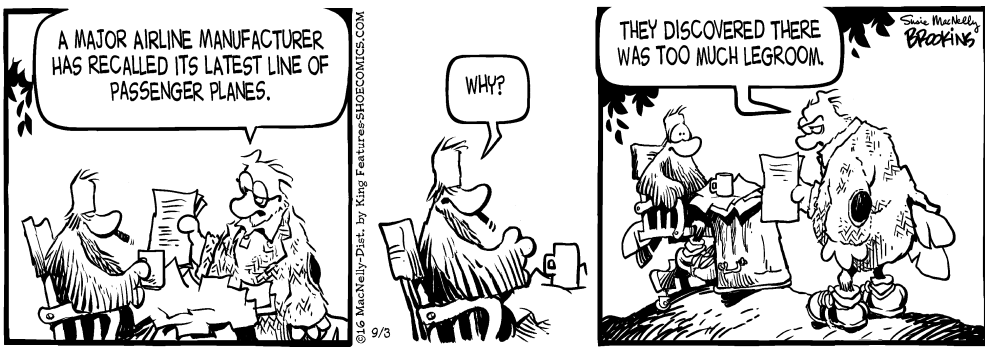
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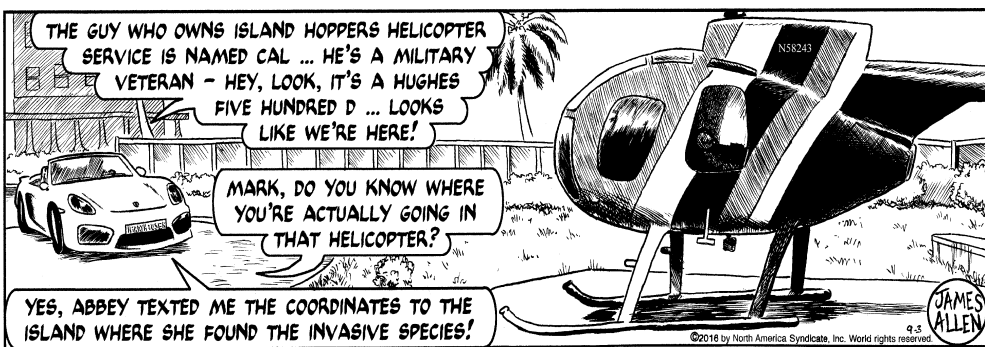
THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk



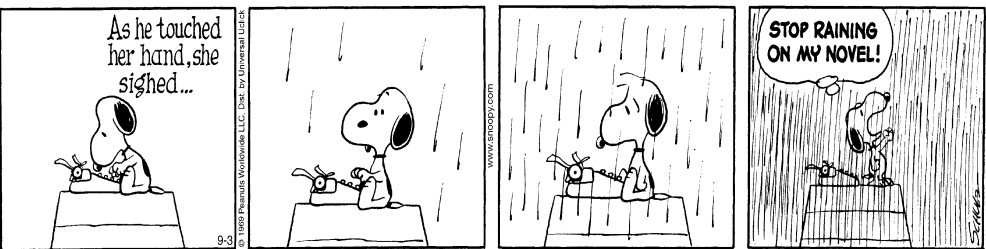
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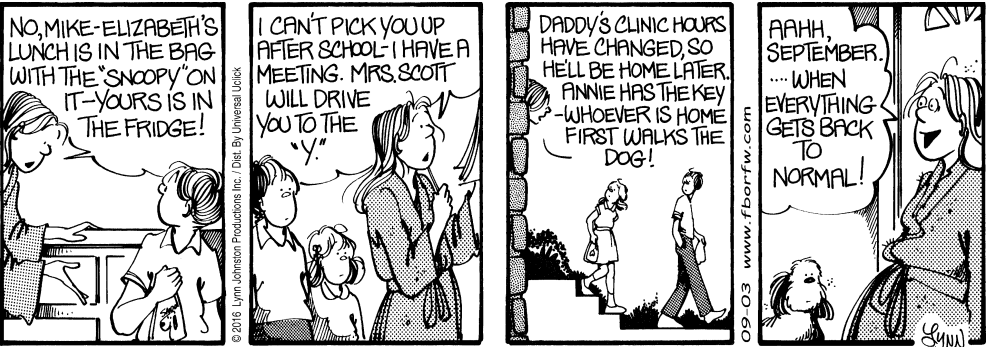
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BABY BLUES by Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



ZITS by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your burning desire for knowledge will lead you to the edge with a decision to make. There are some veils that shouldn't be lifted, some secrets that are better boxed up.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As for those who seem to be having more fun than you, and are rude enough to post it in the most glamorous light, no doubt just to annoy you — well, your presentation is equally annoyingly glamorous to them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). No one is confident at all times. If such a person exists, rest assured he is not well-liked. Push on through your fear, doubt and skepticism, and you'll inspire those around you to be brave.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your moods will wax and wane with the ever-changing moon that is your guiding luminary. Lunar bonus: You will innately know how to channel your emotions to their most powerful advantage.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whatever you're in for, better or worse, you're in it with other people. Furthermore, they need your leadership and your protection. If you don't watch out for their quality of life, it will go down for all of you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's not pessimistic to plan your escape strategy before you enter the date, party or relationship. Knowing there's an out will relax you, and you'll have a better time.

Along these lines: You can take anyone in small doses.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You admire someone who is deeply creative because, whether you realize it or not, you can relate. You would not have the capacity to be so impressed were there not the germ of these same talents inside of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Can two people who don't like the same things, have few similar talents and have little else in common get along? Yes, and beautifully so! In fact, getting to know one another will be a delight and an adventure.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To an outsider you appear to be a person staring into space. This is because they don't realize that you're visualizing the big picture, and they don't hear the magnificent whir of the wheels turning in your mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll open your heart to a playful, carefree, childlike spirit — at least for part of the day. When the recess bell rings, you snap back to responsibility mode faster and more completely than most.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Not every flag is a red flag. Don't let the labels and judgments you make about others prevent you from seeing the opportunities in front of you. Instead, go forward with an open mind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll please an important person in your life with a small gesture of kindness. The warm response that follows is part of a pattern that's become so addicting to you that you'll want to please this person for years to come.