

CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



Tired of searing the roof of his mouth, Oscar made sure to wear his pizza-cooling system.

Neighbors' intrusion concerns reader

Dear Abby: I have a neighbor, "Mrs. Smith," whom I see often in another neighbor's yard, "the Joneses," when they are not home. I have seen Mrs. Smith pick vegetables from their garden and take them to her house, and Mr. Smith connect extension cords that run to their home in the winter months when the owners are away. The Smiths are well off.



JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

While it's possible the Joneses don't mind sharing their garden and electricity with this couple, it does seem unusual. We have security cameras in our yard to discourage the Smiths from coming onto our property.

Should I tell the Joneses about these people and, if so, what would be the best way to approach the subject? I would consider someone a good neighbor if they told me someone was coming onto my property like this, but I can't assume that others feel the same way — especially since they seem friendly toward each other. What would a good neighbor do? — *Neighborly in North Dakota*

Dear Neighborly: A good neighbor does unto others as he/she would like them to do unto him/her.

The next time you see the Joneses, casually mention what you have observed, suggest they might want to check their electric bill and let them take it from there — or not.

Dear Abby: I'm a 17-year-old girl and my boyfriend is the same age. We have been together for five months and I don't know what to do because he's so jealous. If I log on to Facebook, he gets angry. If I go to the park with my parents, he gets mad.

Two days ago, he said he wanted to see my phone. When I told him to show me his phone, too, he refused. He said only he can check my phone.

What should I do? — *Don't Know What To Do In Iowa*

Dear Don't Know What To Do: What you should do is dump this insecure, controlling boy immediately. What he's doing isn't flattering and it isn't normal. While his possessiveness may have seemed like a compliment in the beginning, for your own emotional — and

possibly physical — well-being, break things off now. And if he doesn't back off, get your parents involved.

Dear Abby: My husband is in his 80s and I'm in my 70s. We have a traditional marriage. Each of us has our own responsibilities around the house.

I wish I could take off the months of November, December, January and February to sit and read and do less. He does blow snow occasionally, but that's it. I still have the house to clean and laundry, ironing and cooking to do. How is this fair? And why do women put up with this? — *Getting More Tired By The Week*

Dear Getting: It isn't fair. And only you can answer why you have put up with it all these years. If you are unhappy with the division of labor in November, December, January and February, then negotiate a new labor contract. Begin with the premise, "each according to his ability ... and YOUR NEED."

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter



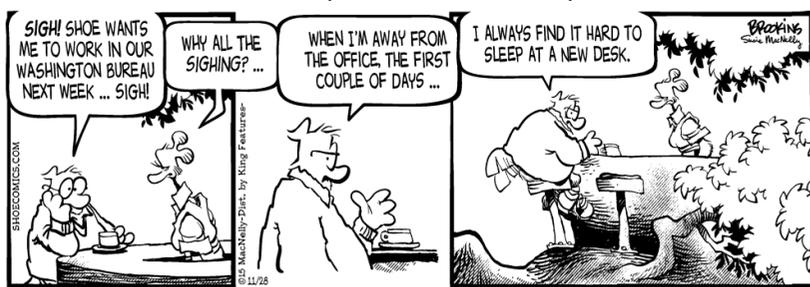
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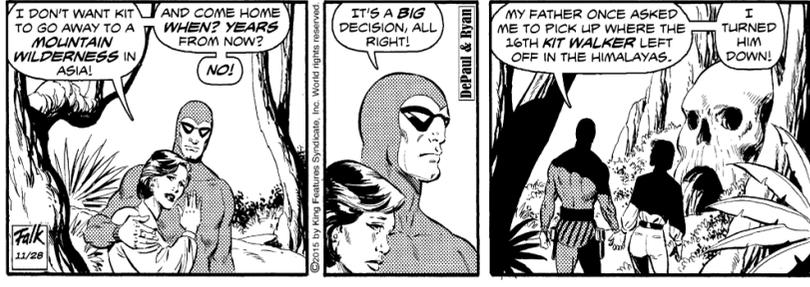
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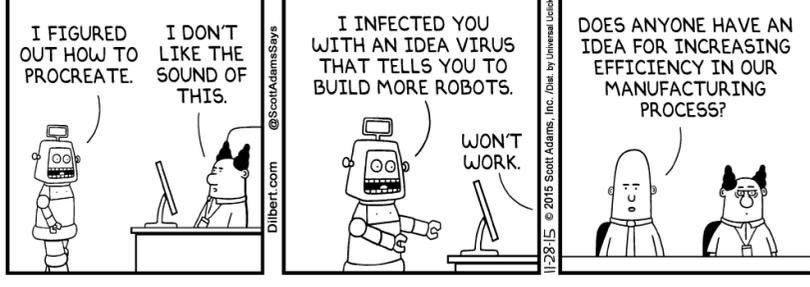
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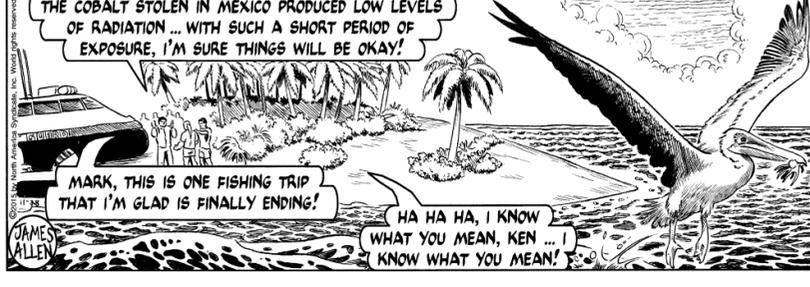
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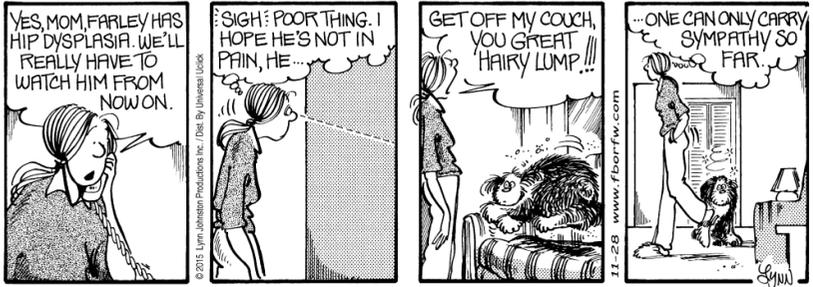
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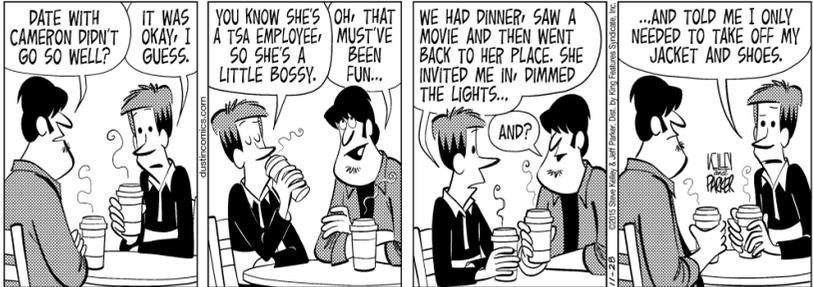
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DUSTIN by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Daily Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even though you don't want to play favorites, there is someone in your life who you love saying hello to and hate saying goodbye to. You'll figure out how to spend more quality time together.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's not all distraction and whimsy. You will establish boundaries that will help you be at peace with your devices. We have incarnated at this time to experience the lessons inside the wonders of the modern world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Once you make peace with the past it will have less influence over your present. Most likely, this is just a matter of letting go of guilt and blame. You weren't perfect, and neither were they.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today's main issue will arrive on the scene with such a humble presence that it's impossible to tell yet how important it will be to you in a week or next month. This is one to watch, though. Write down some thoughts about it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A loved one will lean on you with more than the usual amount of problems, but don't worry. This person is not expecting you to fix them all, only to make facing them a little less lonely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Time heals. Wanting the healing process to be faster won't

make it so. Relax and give it time. Impatience is a very unflattering tone.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It is very difficult to discover your own blind spot. But trust that it's there. When someone points out where you've made a mistake, this is a gift. You'll be grateful for the enlightenment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some say that love doesn't exist except in evidential form. Others say it's a verb. Lately it feels to you to be a pre-destined agreement made between soul mates. It's like you're knitted to another with invisible thread.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You can't help it that you're curious about how other people live. This makes you an excellent conversationalist now, even though it might also lead you to learn more than you wanted to.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A friend will be so much more to you than merely a companion on the raft of life. There are certain friends who seem to show up with their own ships, ready to set sail for an epic adventure.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). By creating happiness for yourself, you will help others be happy, too. Let that be your guiding principle as you sort out something that's been causing you stress. This isn't selfish! It matters.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Loved ones can push your buttons, because experience has taught them where those buttons are. It comes with the territory of intimate relationships today.



HOLIDAY MATHIS