

Former schoolmate shows old habits

Dear Annie: I am a 19-year-old full-time college student and I work part-time at a fast-food place. I started my job two years ago, and for the most part, I enjoy it and have made several friends.

Eight months ago, "Ally" joined our team. I happened to have attended elementary school with Ally. We always butted heads back then, but my first impression of her at work was a good one, and I was happy to think she had matured. Or so I thought. As time went on, her true colors reappeared. Despite my initial kindness to her, she has singled me out and treated me horribly.

The problem is that everyone else seems to love her. Even worse, she was promoted last month, which was surprising considering she's so new. Now it would be difficult for me to complain about her to my supervisor. She's my supervisor.

I'm tired of letting Ally push me around, and it's lonely to know that I'm the only one to whom she does this. I don't want to start any trouble. I just want peace and for these petty matters to disappear. I am frustrated with myself for letting this girl get under my skin. What can I do? — *Fed Up in Jacksonville, Fla.*

Dear Fed Up: You could complain to a supervisor above Ally, but no one else is apparently witnessing her unkindness toward you, so that might

Annie's Mailbox

Creators Syndicate Inc.

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not help. Here's a different tactic: Ally may still think of you the way she did in grade school. Why not take her aside and ask, politely and nicely, what's going on? Let her know you were happy to see her when she first showed up and hoped you could start fresh. Even if she denies her poor behavior, she will be more aware of it and that could be enough. Of course, if it doesn't work, another option is looking for different job.

Dear Annie: My wife began rationing sex almost from the day we married. I tried everything to improve the situation, but nothing worked. She thought once or twice a year was more than enough, and after 15 years, she stopped entirely.

I wanted to be true to our marriage vows, but frustration finally prevailed and I discovered a world full of women who were ready and willing for sex with no strings attached. It was not as satisfying as that within marriage, but

I was a 35-year-old male in excellent health and with a strong sex drive.

Women who think they can solve their marital problems by sleeping with their legs crossed have a rude awakening, trust me. If a man is not getting it at home, he will get it elsewhere. — *Formally Frustrated in Arkansas*

Dear Arkansas: If your wife began rationing sex early in your marriage, it is likely she had a problem to begin with, and it doesn't sound as though you found her to have other qualities that made up for it. We agree that wives who eliminate sex risk the marriage. But blaming your wife for your philandering is an excuse to cheat. Get into counseling or get a divorce.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Frustrated Pastor's Wife" whose husband is not always paid for wedding and funeral services.

I have had to help plan several funerals in my lifetime. In each case, the funeral director provided the suggested amount to give the pastor for his or her services. I appreciated this guidance, as it made it much easier to know what to give when I was already overwhelmed with a loved one's death.

Perhaps the pastor could talk to the funeral directors in his area and ask them to raise this issue when covering costs. The same could be done with wedding planners. — *My Two Cents*

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The person you love has opinions you don't necessarily agree with. That is fine with everyone; the tension makes for interesting conversation, and you are quick on the respond.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Here is the bubble of happiness that surrounds you today; it's as if you are traveling the world with your heart completely open yet no one can hurt you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Wherever you are, you're there for a reason. There's something to learn, something to gain, something to absorb about the circumstances. Stay open.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you set an example, you do so by words and deed. You do so by your very essence. Be peace. If you can be peace, you'll be the softest for anyone you love to land.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You will handle your responsibility with confidence. You've had plenty of practice, after all. You'll be well-rewarded for this, as long as you stop the bad habit of worrying over things that are not in your control.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can't help the feeling that you deserve more — love, respect, tenderness and attention. You'll make subtle changes in your behavior to attract just the right kind of treatment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Activities in several different areas of life will make you well-rounded and, actually, happy. Stray from that to-do list and you'll have something impressive to add to your "ta-da!" list.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Avoid talks. Avoid meetings. Most of what happens will happen because of someone's

sense of purpose. If someone asks, "Can we talk?" it usually points to a lack of purpose.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Find the strength in tenderness and the tenderness in strength. Seek resolution to a problem you are having with a female in your life. The way to healing is through surrender.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Pay attention to the tone of voice you are using when you speak to yourself. In the afternoon, you will spend money to make money, and then you'll spend it again to-night on fun and entertainment — a worthy cost.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Life comes to you with new vividness. You will remember the details that escaped you. Bonus: Optimism might not come easily, but your willingness to practice positive thinking will pay off.

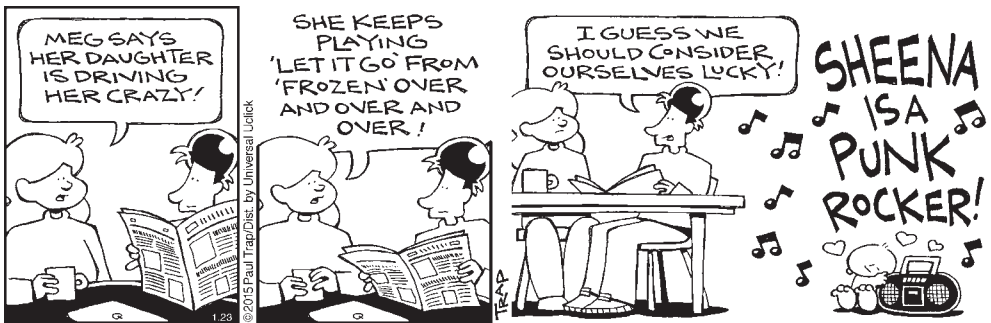
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Half-completed or unclear commitments should be cleared up now. This is probably a "doing" matter, as opposed to a "talking" matter. Training, discipline and repetition are favored.

SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 24). In this logical year, there will be neither rewards nor punishments, merely consequences. You'll love what comes from your forthright and loving actions. A professional development opens up financial opportunity in March. Dive in and do the hard work in June. Money when you follow through with June's action plan. Pisces and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 25, 22, 17 and 33.

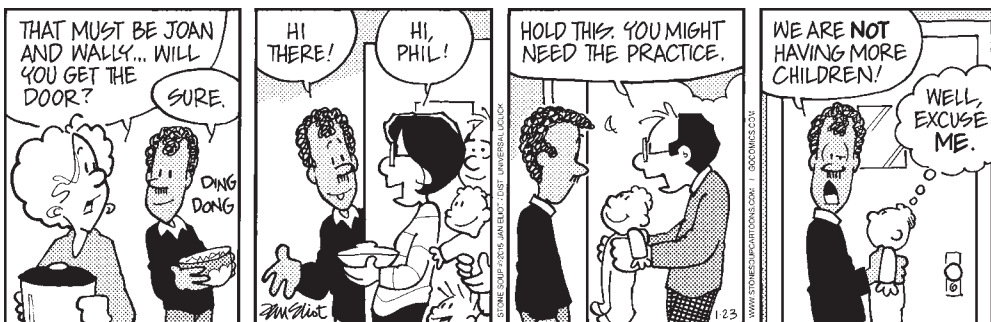
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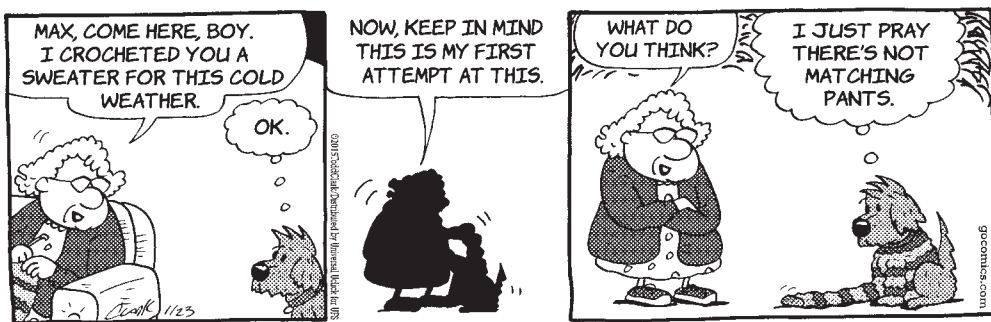
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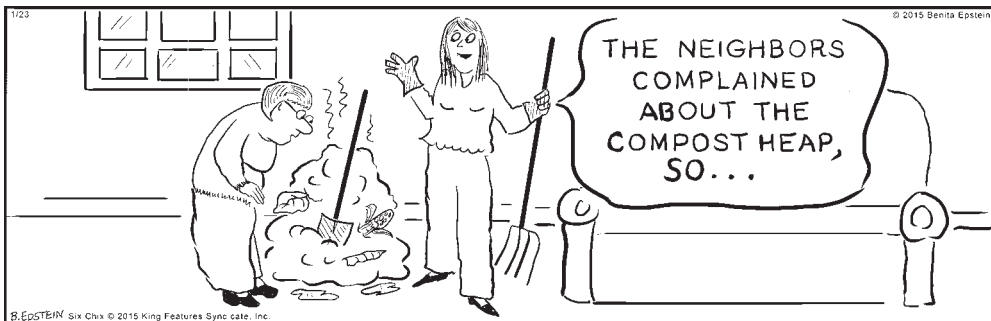
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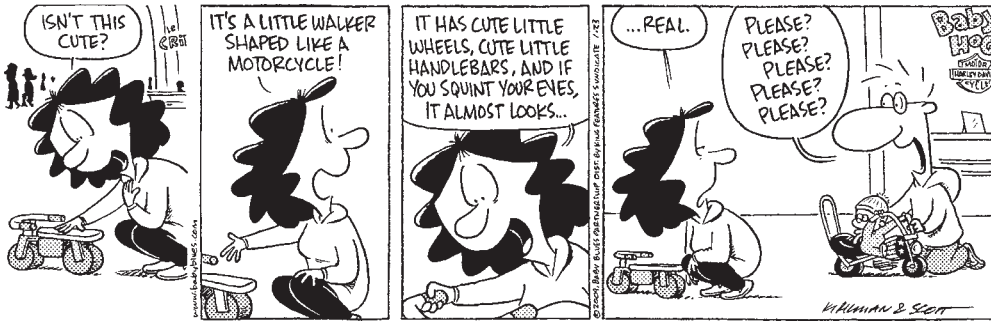
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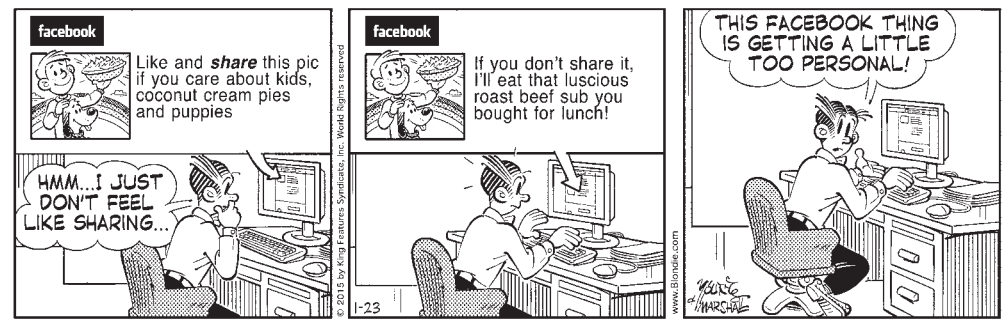
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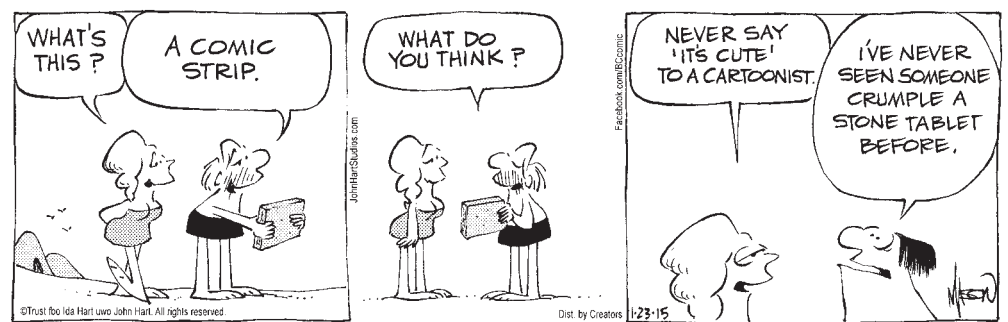
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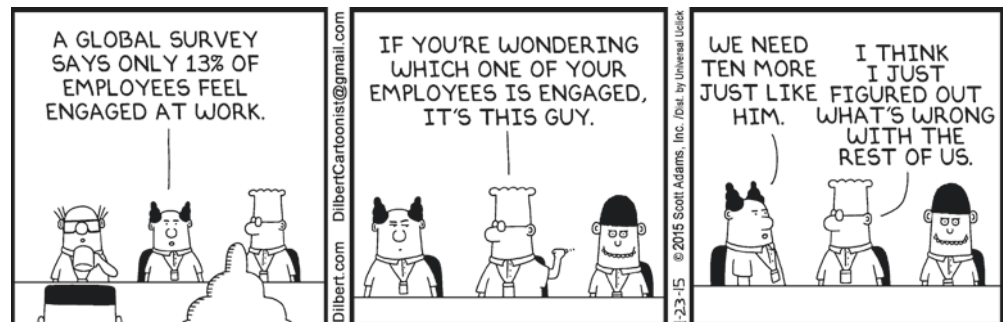
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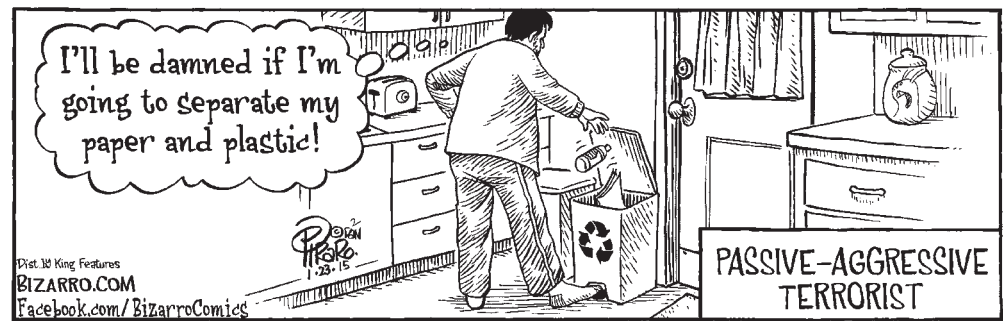
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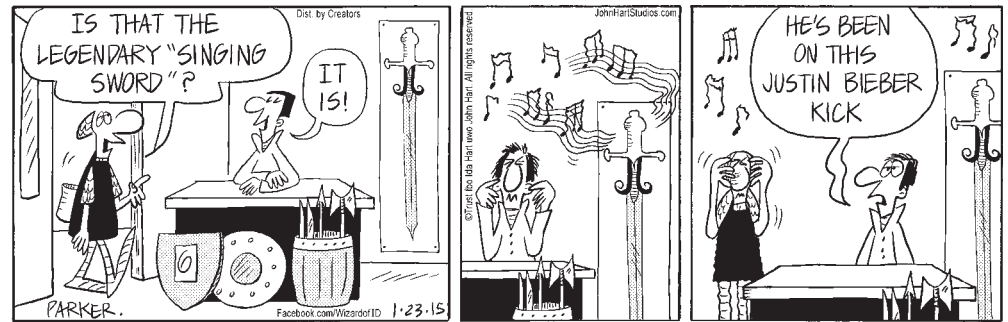
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