

# Strange bedfellows raise question Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**Dear Annie:** Over the holidays, I stayed at my cousin's home. My cousin has two children, a daughter and a son. The son is 14 years old.

I noticed that the boy's grandmother slept with him in the same bed. I think she has a weird obsession with the boy. She is constantly touching him and rubbing his back. She always has to sit next to him. She pays very little attention to the younger granddaughter. Worse, the granddaughter told me that her mother also sometimes sleeps with her brother (instead of her dad).

I think it is extremely odd for these women to be sleeping with this young man, who also still sleeps with his baby blanket. Isn't he too old for this? What is wrong with these women? Should I say something? — *More Than a Little Grossed Out*

**Dear More:** Yes. We are surprised that a 14-year-old boy wouldn't object more to the sleeping arrangements, and we suspect he will put a stop to it soon. If the mother and grandmother are doing this over the boy's objections, however, that is completely inappropriate and potentially abusive. You could ask your cousin about this, saying you find it odd and possibly damaging. You also could mention it to the father, suggesting he step up and protect his son.

**Dear Annie:** I read the letter from "Help," whose husband naps when he



**Annie's Mailbox**  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.  
Kathy Mitchell  
and  
Marcy Sugar

gets home and then is up half the night. She seems to think everyone can handle regular nighttime hours.

If I slept every night from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., I would be more tired as the week went on, because my body wakes me up multiple times at night. When I don't set an alarm, I sometimes don't wake up until 10 hours after I went to bed. If I get up after eight hours, I often need a nap later because I did not get enough actual sleep.

While I agree that seeing a doctor might be helpful, his wife can also suggest that he stay up all night one time and then try to sleep from 9 p.m. until 7 a.m. He might be able to manage that. — *John*

**Dear John:** Why are you getting up so much at night? To use the bathroom? Because something (snoring, apnea, dryness, light, noise) is waking you up? While we understand that not everyone has a "normal" nighttime sleep cycle, a sufficient amount of

sleep is important to your health.

If the problem is snoring, dry mouth, excessive urination or apnea, please see a doctor to find out whether there is any effective treatment for you. But also check your bedroom to make sure there isn't a lot of light or noise, or electronic gadgets that glow or vibrate. This, too, can interfere with restful, restorative sleep.

**Dear Annie:** I am responding to "Actively Confused," whose wife battled cancer and now resents his activities.

I am a lung cancer survivor. My wife took care of me for the better part of 18 months, showering me and feeding me through a tube. She also worked full time outside the home. At the time, I didn't much care what she wanted to do.

As I progressed, I realized she needed to get out of the house and do things for herself, even though it meant going without me. That was fine. As my mobility improved, I would do things with her even if those weren't my favorite things. We both knew that I needed to be more active, or I'd just waste away on the couch. It takes a long time to get your stamina back, and I still haven't after four years.

Together, my wife and I are getting through this, and we both realize that neither one of us is what we used to be. With her, our children and good doctors, nurses, therapists and prayers, I am still here to try. — *Less Active, Not Confused*

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** You come to the mysterious door and turn the key in the lock, and to your utter delight, you see... Your answer to the question points to the direction of your happiness. How can you get there faster?

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Your early memories of faith or religion will have a bearing on your thought process today. Recognize that you are still being influenced by someone else's moral code even though you don't completely share it.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21):** Because of the way our minds work, whatever the endeavor, the first time is usually the most memorable one. It's time for another first in your life. Make it happen.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22):** You desire to grow your brain, yet there is a point at which reading too many unfamiliar concepts, words and styles makes you numb, immune to learning or sleepy. Take it in small bites.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** There's a subject that keeps revisiting your mind several times a day, and this is likely to continue until it's resolved. As much as you dislike confrontation, this is probably not going to happen without one.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Sitting quietly and waiting for inspiration won't work. The muses are likelier to visit you while you're walking, cooking, showering or driving. One good idea could change your life.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23):** You'll practice the kind of skill that is pretty easy to pick up initially but takes years to perfect. Keep at it. The mastery of common things

can be uncommon indeed.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21):** It's not about what actually happened; it's about the context, mood and feeling — the incalculable data — that have to line up with the actual events for the situation to work.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Do you have the manpower, tools and resources necessary to complete a job? It doesn't matter. You'll cross the finish line because of your sheer determination.

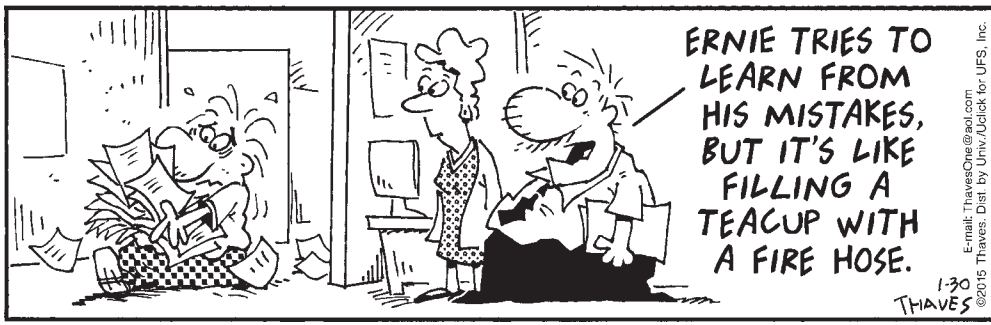
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Maybe you're not exactly in a state of harmony today, but you will be in the near future. Trust that, and build your resources for the later date when you'll need them.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Some social scientists have concluded that brainstorming in groups actually impedes innovation. Whether or not that's true, the groupthink will annoy you now, and you'll be brilliant on your own.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** There's poetry in simplicity, though — with the exception of nursery rhymes, haiku and limericks — it rarely happens in the reverse. You'll have an audience for the beautiful simplicity you concoct today.

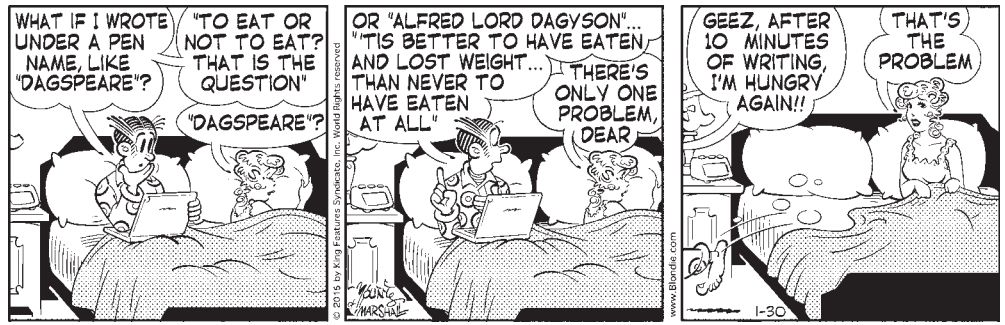
**SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 31):** If life is a party, you're the "it" guest this year. February is a whirl of fun. After March's call to clear out negativity and dysfunction, you'll work on the fundamental building blocks of good living again in May. July and August are focused on a moneymaking venture with a stellar chance of success if you don't give up. Leo and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 22, 31, 39 and 13.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



ERNIE TRIES TO LEARN FROM HIS MISTAKES, BUT IT'S LIKE FILLING A TEACUP WITH A FIRE HOSE.

## BLONDIE

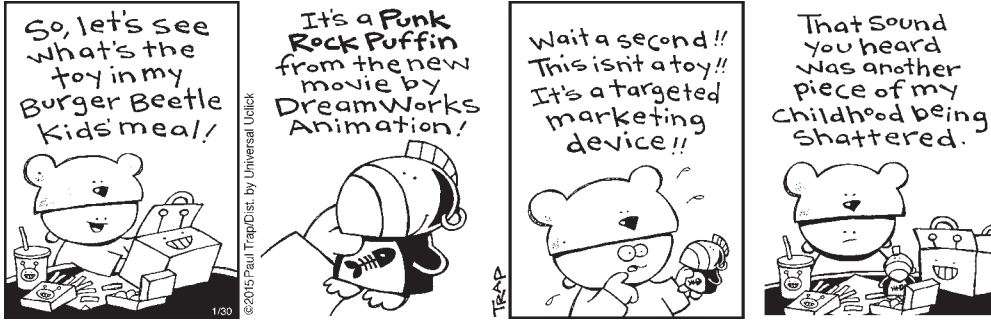


WHAT IF I WROTE UNDER A PEN NAME LIKE 'DAGSPEARE'?

"TO EAT OR NOT TO EAT? THAT IS THE QUESTION" "DAGSPEARE?"

OR "ALFRED LORD DAGYSON"... 'TIS BETTER TO HAVE EATEN AND LOST WEIGHT... THAN NEVER TO HAVE EATEN AT ALL!

## THATABABY



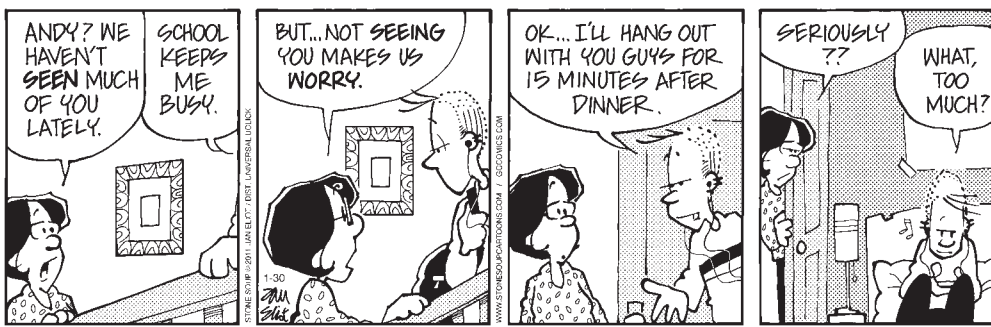
So, let's see what's the toy in my Burger Beetle Kids meal!

It's a Funk Rock Puffin from the new movie by DreamWorks Animation!

Wait a second!! This isn't a toy!! It's a targeted marketing device!!

That sound you heard was another piece of my childhood being shattered.

## STONE SOUP



ANDY? WE HAVEN'T SEEN MUCH OF YOU LATELY.

SCHOOL KEEPS ME BUSY.

BUT... NOT SEEING YOU MAKES US WORRY.

OK... I'LL HANG OUT WITH YOU GUYS FOR 15 MINUTES AFTER DINNER.

## SALLY FORTH

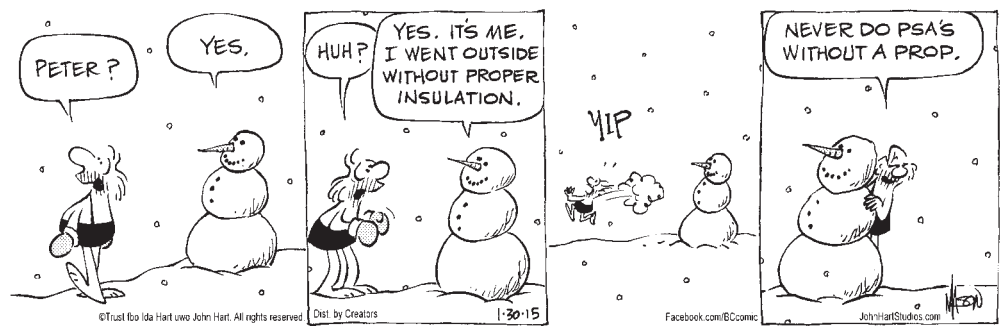


IN THE YEAR 2025. EXCUSE ME, MISS? MISS?!

HUH? OH, I'M SORRY. I... I WAS JUST...

LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING. YOU EVER WONDER IF EVERYTHING YOU PLANNED FOR YOUR LIFE IS NOT HOW YOUR LIFE IS EVER GOING TO BE?

## B.C.

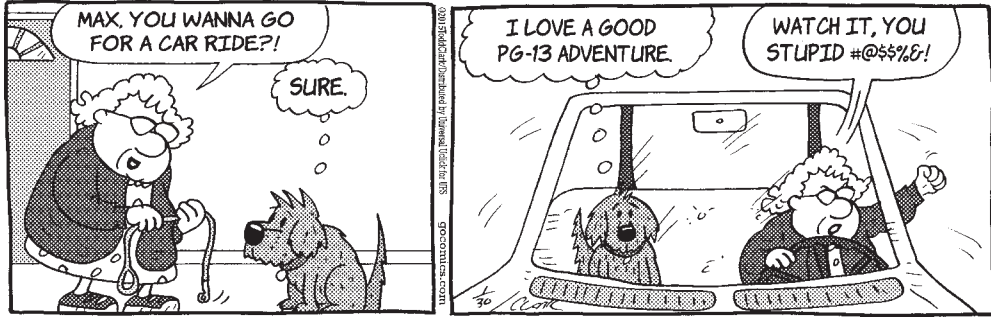


PETER? YES.

HUH? YES. IT'S ME. I WENT OUTSIDE WITHOUT PROPER INSULATION.

NEVER DO PSAs WITHOUT A PROP.

## LOLA



MAX, YOU WANNA GO FOR A CAR RIDE?!

SURE.

I LOVE A GOOD PG-13 ADVENTURE.

WATCH IT, YOU STUPID #@\$\$%&!!

## DILBERT



I BOUGHT A RUSSIAN MILITARY PET AND IT KILLED A PARTY CLOWN AT MY DAUGHTER'S POOL PARTY. I NEED TO DISPOSE OF THE BODY.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT I'M AN EXPERT AT GETTING RID OF DEAD BODIES.

WHAT'S THE BAD NEWS? YOUR DOLPHIN HIRED ME TO KILL YOU.

## SIX CHIX



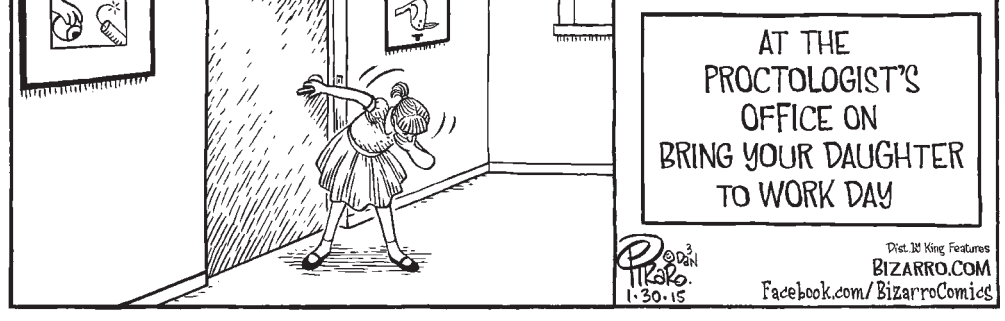
THIS LOOKS DELICIOUS!

LET'S POST IT ON FACEBOOK!

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## BIZARRO



AT THE PROCTOLOGIST'S OFFICE ON BRING YOUR DAUGHTER TO WORK DAY

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## MUTTS



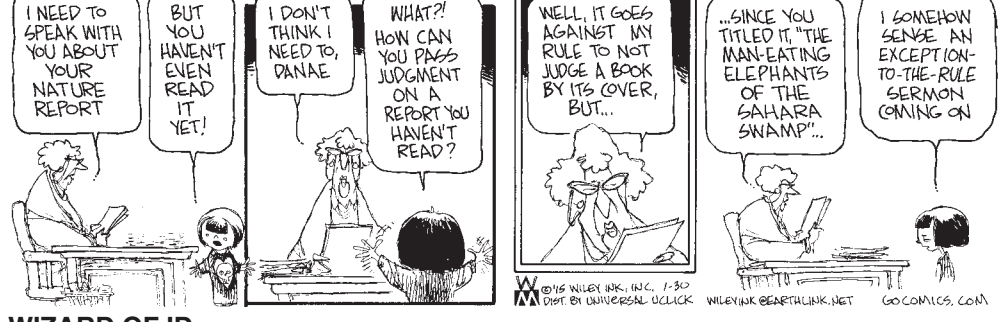
EARL- WHAT'S WRONG?

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EARL- WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU'LL FIND OUT.

## NON SEQUITUR

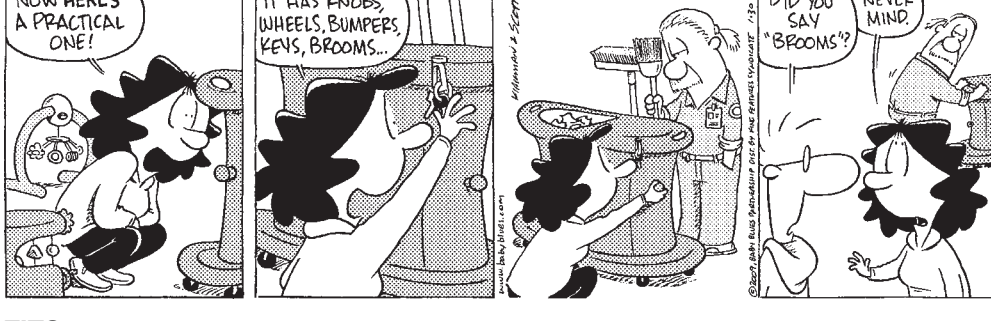


I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT YOUR NATURE REPORT

BUT YOU HAVEN'T EVEN READ IT YET!

I DON'T THINK I NEED TO, DANAE

## BABY BLUES



NOW HERE'S A PRACTICAL ONE!

IT HAS KNOBS, WHEELS, BUMPER, KEYS, BROOMS...

DID YOU SAY 'BROOMS'?

NEVER MIND.

## WIZARD OF ID

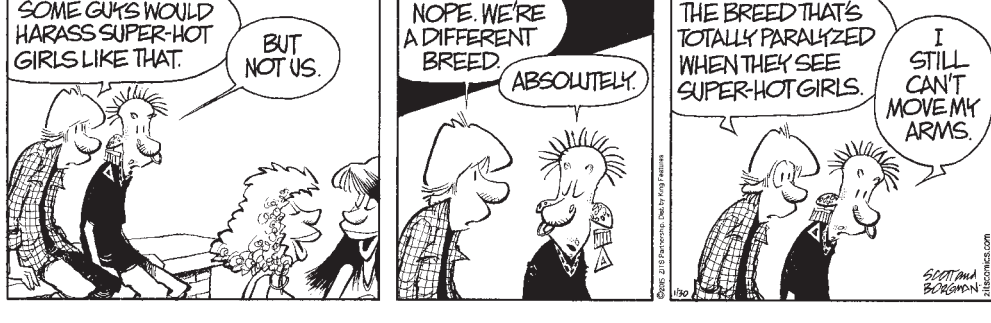


"SORRY ABOUT THE TURBULENCE, FOLKS. THE TOWER SAYS IT SHOULD BE SMOOTH FROM NOW ON"

IT'S OK NOW! YOU CAN LET GO OF THE ARMRESTS

MY HANDS ARE EMBEDDED INTO THE PLASTIC

## ZITS



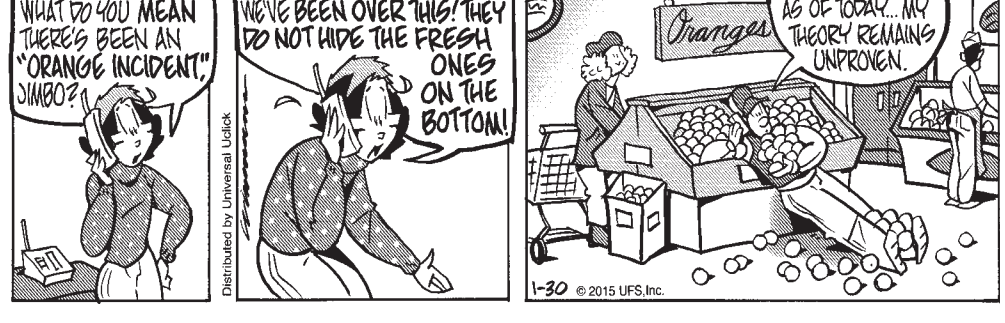
SOME GUYS WOULD HARASS SUPER-HOT GIRLS LIKE THAT.

BUT NOT US.

NOPE WE'RE A DIFFERENT BREED.

ABSOLUTELY.

## ROSE IS ROSE



WHAT DO YOU MEAN THERE'S BEEN AN "ORANGE INCIDENT," JIMBO?!

WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS! THEY DO NOT HIDE THE FRESH ONES ON THE BOTTOM!

AS OF TODAY... MY THEORY REMAINS UNPROVEN.