His sex drive is too much

Dear Annie: I am 26 years old and have been in a wonderful relationship for four years. "Cody" is my best friend, and we are extremely compatible.

Here's the problem: His sex drive could run circles around mine. Sex is the only way he feels appreciated, loved and needed. Cuddles and kisses don't sate his desire. This puts immense pressure on me to accommodate him, and I'm starting to resent it.

If Cody does something sweet for me, such as taking me to dinner, he will make a casual joke about how I should thank him in the bedroom. I have sat him down before and told him how his comments make me feel and that I don't like the emphasis he puts on sex. He either brushes it off, saying I'm too sensitive, or gets upset and says I should do the things for him that he enjoys.

I love him and want to make him happy, but shouldn't that go both ways? I don't want to feel like sex is his favorite form of currency. Any advice? — California

Dear California: The fact that Cody likes sex and prefers it to other things is neither unusual nor worrisome. But we don't like the way he brushes off your concerns, blaming you for being "too sensitive." This is an indication that Cody is immature and dismissive of your feelings. Pressuring you is a form of controlling the relationship. You may



think Cody is terrific and your best friend, but we think otherwise.

Sexual compatibility issues don't disappear. In fact, they tend to get worse over time, especially when compounded with the other traits Cody displays. If you are determined to stay with Cody, please get couples counseling to see whether you can make this better.

Dear Annie: I am 70 years old, but still enjoy an active life with numerous outdoor activities. My problem is "Ralph," whom I've known for 50 years.

When he has nothing else to do, Ralph phones me to talk ad nauseam about all of his health issues, ailments, pharmaceuticals, etc. He never asks how I'm doing, but immediately starts cataloging his myriad problems, none of which are critical.

I have a few issues myself, but I never discuss them with anyone, because I cannot conceive of anything more boring than listening to someone complain about their aches and pains.

Fortunately, I have Caller ID and can avoid Ralph most of the time. He's a good person and a loyal friend, but this has become an obsession I'd like to remedy. How do I address this with him? — Bored in New York

Dear Bored: We know many people who enjoy giving "organ recitals," but no one likes to hear them. You need to be honest with Ralph. He probably has no idea how he comes across. Do him a favor and tell him nicely (and with humor. if you can manage it) that his fixation on his health, to the exclusion of everything else, makes a friendly chat difficult and a little depressing. Ask that he limit his complaints to one per conversation so you can discuss other things of interest.

Dear Annie: I am writing in response to the letter from "Logansport," who does not like it when people talk during performances. I, too, find it rude.

I simply ask the talkers, "Don't you like the performance?" And with that, they usually take the hint. I said that to two senior women last month, and though they looked daggers at me, they stopped. After the intermission, however, they moved to another aisle so they could keep talking.

We often hear about how rude young people are today, but I believe these young ones often grow up to be rude senior citizens. — Danville, Ill.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's not who you know, but how well you know them that matters now. Let your sharp social instinct guide you toward deepening the relationships that will enrich you the most — a Libra will be high on the list.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). What could have been? The prospects are interesting to ponder if you have the right attitude. Keep that optimism. You chose the way you chose for a good reason, even if you've forgotten it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). This might be an awkward transition period; however, you can trust that soon all involved will settle into a mutually agreeable role. More specifically, they get used to you being the leader. Don't apologize.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your joie de vivre is appreciated by those with similar gusto. This could be the start of a beautiful, fruitful and lucrative partnership. Follow through. Do whatever you said you would, even if what you said was a social nicety. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have fans,

are everything to someone. Nurturing is easy for you when you remember that you don't need to do anything. Just be loving. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). New job,

and then you have super-fans. In fact, you

business deal, hot date — whatever the occasion, it behooves you to Google yourself, recheck your Facebook page with new eyes and/or generally sweep social media for the impression you make.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Though you're mostly nurturing, selfless and accommodating, your inner star wants to shine. The situation calls for you to perform, protect what's yours and fight for what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Work will bring disputes. The banter is exactly what's needed to improve your project or product. Having to cater to a variety of needs will make you stronger, smarter and wealthier.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't want to dish it out; nor do you want to get served. And yet you may still find yourself in the middle of the argument. Back away slowly

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Make no mistake — you're a powerful force in this world. What you want during this time will reveal your character. You'll learn something about yourself and also be shown a direction to grow in.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There are those who will discount your contribution. This is a test. To pass, you must disagree with them and come to your own defense. Speak up. Be loud. Affirm that you're the master of your fate.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Can you put up with a nagging neighbor or a family member who constantly needs money? Well, you'll certainly give it a shot. While you're at it, try to tolerate your friend's partner with a smile if you can muster it.

TUESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 10). Your best is more than good enough. This is your year to get on your own side, celebrate your uniqueness and work with your talents. Your personal life gets easier in March when petty differences no longer seem important. April brings a deep connection. June will sound off the wedding bells. Capricorn and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 13, 33, 39 and 50.

FRANK AND ERNEST











STONE SOUP

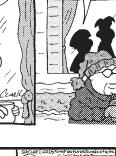




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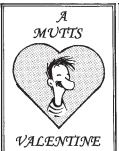


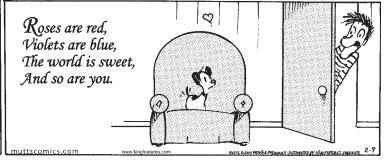
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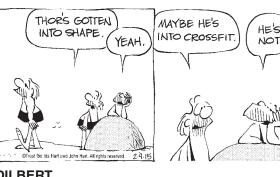


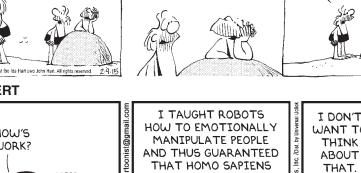


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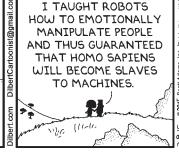
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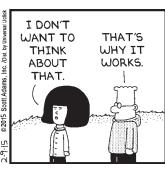
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