

Sneaky sister takes the photos

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dear Annie: My sister and I traveled independently to Nebraska in order to care for our mother after she was hospitalized. We were there for two months, taking turns sleeping on an air mattress by her bed. Mom finally was well enough to travel back to my home so I could care for her here.

During the time we spent in Nebraska, my sister and I went through Mom's apartment, getting rid of things and sorting through pictures and other stuff. The second night that I slept by Mom's bedside, my sister suggested I stay there and she'd sleep on the sofa. I agreed because I trusted her. My mistake.

While I was in Mom's bedroom, my sister went through Mom's stuff, put things she wanted into boxes and sealed them. When I noticed the new boxes, she said she had just rearranged things to fit better. I'm pretty sure she took several pictures that I wanted, along with a few other items. She denies this and says I don't know what I am talking about. I have no way to prove what she did, but those items have never turned up, and it's been two years.

Mom passed away recently, and now I have to see my sister at Mom's memorial service. She's going to act like nothing happened. I am so hurt by what she did. How can I not scream out what a liar she is? — *Still Angry*

Dear Angry: Our condolences on

Annie's Mailbox

Creators Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



your loss. A memorial service is not the best place to confront your sister, who will deny your accusations in any event. You could snub her, being polite and friendly to others but decidedly cool to her. You also could simply ask her, "When you get a chance, could you please send me copies of any photographs of Mom that you have? I miss her." And leave it at that.

Dear Annie: After 20 years overseas with the military, my husband and I are being sent home. This means his family members will be close by.

I can't stand his family. They are rude, arrogant know-it-alls. My husband assures me it will be fine, and he is excited to see these people. I say a leopard never changes its spots. These people barely tolerated me when I first met them. Please advise me what to do about this. — *Not a Spotted Leopard*

Dear Leopard: It's been 20 years. Surely you have changed in that time.

Why wouldn't they? You might discover that they have changed just enough that you can find common ground. These people are important to your husband. Instead of approaching this with dread, please open yourself up to the possibility that it will be better than you think. And if not, do what many others in your situation do: let your husband see them without you. But give it your best shot. Your husband will appreciate it.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Sinking Ship in Pennsylvania," whose husband neglects or yells at their 8-year-old son.

I was the oldest of five, with an alcoholic, abusive father who was in the military and spent most of his time overseas. And when he was home, he spent it either in a bar or with a local barmaid. I always knew he didn't want me. I've spent my life being treated like a second-class son to my brother and sisters then and now.

If this father also thinks no one outside of the family sees how badly he is treating his wife and child, he is out of his mind, because you cannot hide this. One of these days, "Jack" will suddenly turn on him, back him into a corner and unleash all of his anger on him, telling him how worthless he thinks he has been as a father. I know, because that's what I did. — *Been There Done That*

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's said that the smallest good deed is greater than the grandest intention. You'll prove the point today with something you do spontaneously and unselfconsciously.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you can't find time to exercise today, exercise your insides with laughter. Laughter makes your health better and your life longer. When you laugh, it's because you can relate. It's like your common sense is dancing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The attitude of your aim will make all the difference. You may not reach that flag, aircraft or star you're shooting for, but you'll get much further than the person trying to shoot at something on the same plane.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). All the seemingly good advice you hear today quite realistically is not. It's because you can't win in the future by doing the same things that worked in the past. Be inventive.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Experience may be the best teacher, but her methods are not for the faint of heart. The strong (like you) won't mind how she tests you first and teaches you second.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are a lot of talkers around you. Don't be seduced by their pretty words, because words are not enough. What people do only matters if they really do it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). "What could have been?" is a question that seldom produces many helpful insights. The tendency is to fill in the blanks with a projection of a highly unlikely reality that is more glamorous and prosperous than this one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You may feel that you are being experimented on, and that is not entirely untrue. But don't be too paranoid. Instead, give the experimenter a run for his money.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's not like you're trying to fit in, but when you happen to go where people think, believe and do as you do, it's a natural byproduct of the experience. Enjoy the perks that come with this, including close friendships.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll be tempted to go in for a quick fix. It might be the right answer for you, but don't do it unless you're sure. Examine all of your options first. You'll regret acting out of impulsivity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have a unique way of connecting ideas and understanding the relationship between things. Some will find your methods "trippy," but that won't keep them from admiring and respecting you.

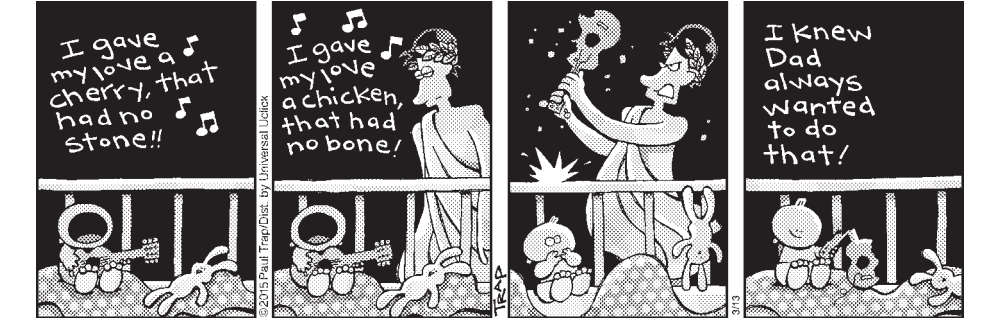
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The pressure to be happy is too immense. Don't succumb. People are not always as happy as they seem. Social media lies, and so does your internal voice at times.

THURSDAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 14). What you're looking for will be less important than the journey. As soon as you win at one game, you'll be on to the next. Power players will teach you the ropes in May. June will bring a windfall. Visitors will spice up your June. September will be a magical month during which improbable things will happen for you. Capricorn and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 2, 22, 28 and 39.

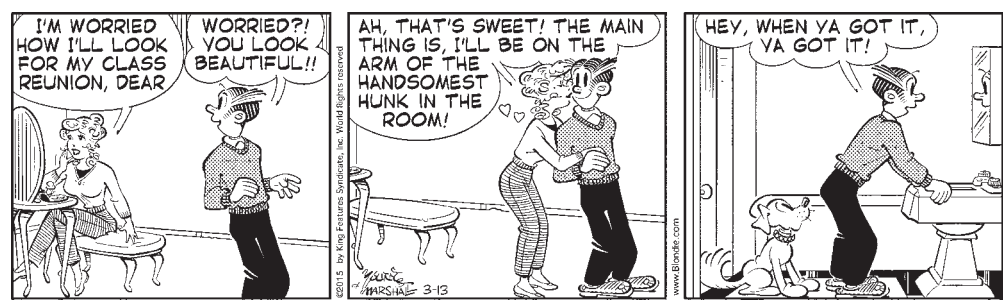
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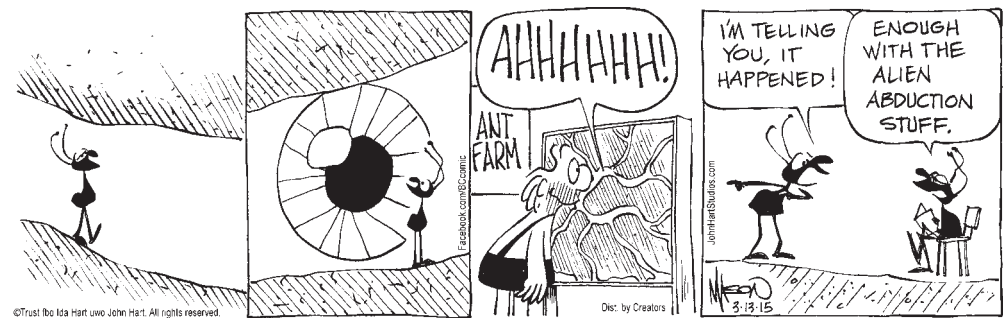
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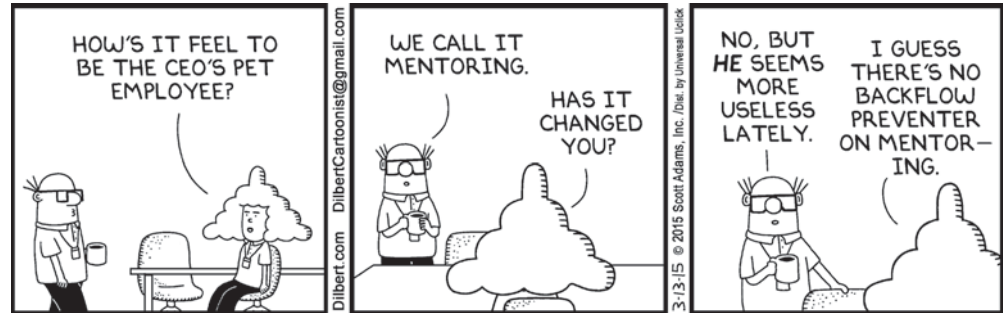
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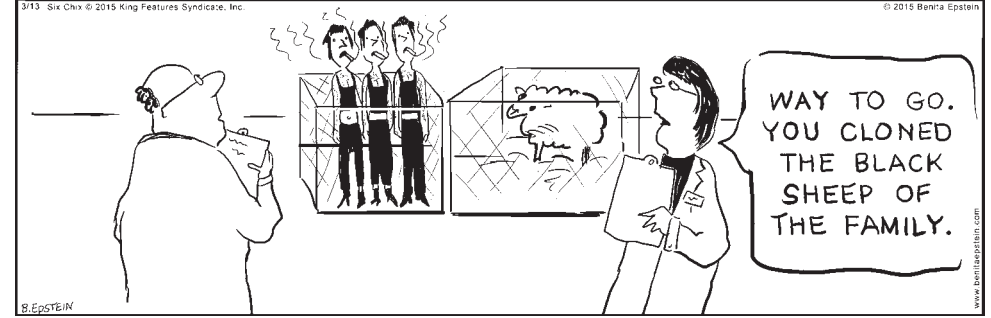
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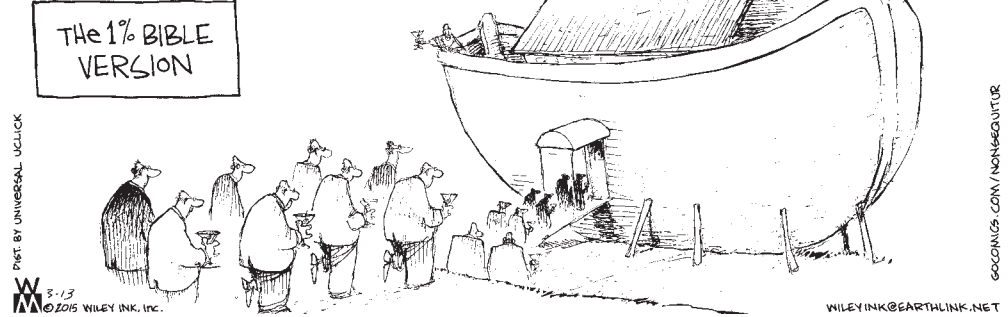
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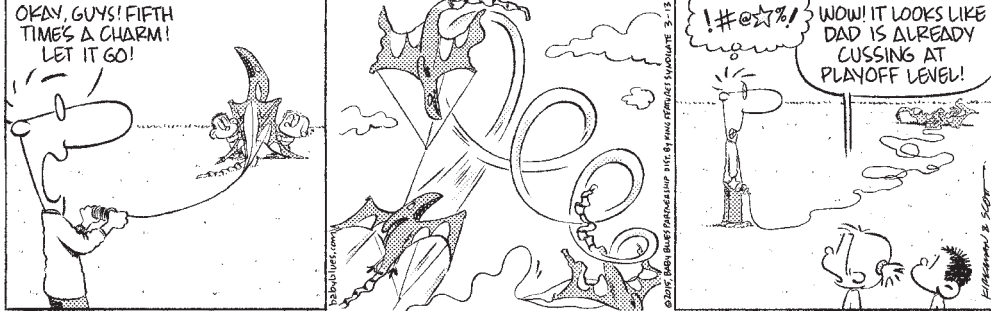
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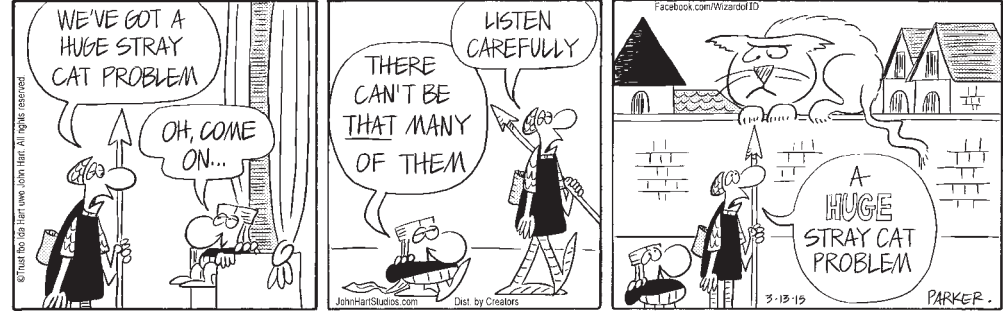
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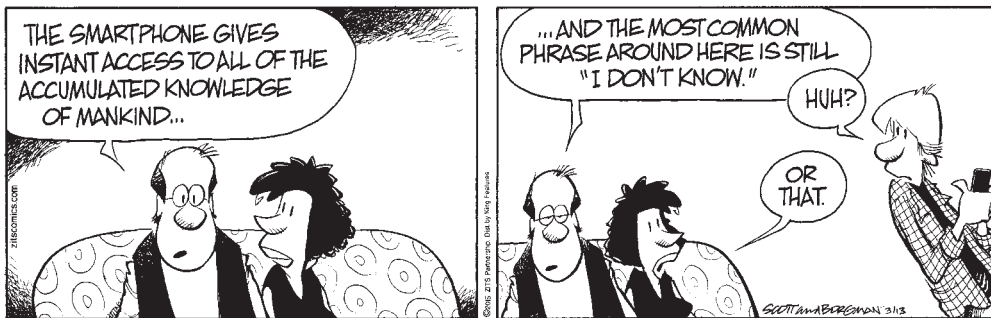
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