

Gay friend needs some distance Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dear Annie: I am a 13-year-old boy, and I'm too embarrassed to talk to my parents about this.

I have been best friends with "Danny" since the first grade. We are like brothers. A few weeks ago, Danny and I were at my house, and he said he had something to tell me but was afraid of my reaction. I finally got him to confess that he thinks he is gay and in love with me. I was shocked. He said he wanted to kiss me to see what it was like. I didn't want to, but agreed to try. We sat on my bed and kissed for about a minute. I wasn't grossed out by it, but it seemed weird and uncomfortable. When I told him that, he bolted.

The next day at school, I tried to talk to him, but he wouldn't even look at me. After a few days of this, he finally came by my house. We talked about what happened, and I told him it doesn't matter that he's gay, because he is still my best friend. But he said if I can't be his boyfriend, he doesn't want to be friends anymore. He said it would hurt too much. I told him I can't change the fact that I'm



straight. He said he hates me and left.

I don't know what I did wrong. Danny won't even speak to me. I finally worked up the nerve to tell my older brother, who said it's just like when you get dumped by a girl — you don't really want to be friends with her afterward.

I can't accept losing my best friend over this. What can I do to get him back? — *Confused Best Friend*

Dear Confused: Your brother is probably right that Danny is too hurt to be around you right now. He also may be embarrassed by his admission that he loves you. That made him vulnerable, and he has retreated to protect himself. He also may not know how to behave around you, no matter how

accepting you are. He, too, is confused.

We suggest you give Danny some space. He needs time to process the rejection and then decide whether he can still be your friend. Continue to act as normally as possible around him. We hope he eventually can find his way back, but please understand that not all friendships go the distance.

Dear Annie: Would you please do everyone a favor by reminding them to keep to the right side on sidewalks, concourses, escalators, etc.? It would improve our ability to go from one place to another.

Walking in airports or at sporting events can be very difficult. You have to buck the traffic coming toward you. — *R.M. in PA*

Dear R.M.: You make an excellent point. When driving, we keep to the right. If we did the same when walking busy streets, concourses and stadiums, etc., we could prevent a lot of pedestrian accidents. And one more thing: Please don't hog the sidewalk by walking with six of your friends side-by-side. It's annoying.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Another reason not to judge people is that they only show you what they want you to see. You're so perceptive that you usually see much more than they would like, yet less than everything.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There is no reason to pretend to have more than you really do. You're in a competitive position just as you are. You are wise to accept your limitations, and you may even highlight them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). That challenging situation you face has a different solution from the perspective of kindness than it does from the perspective of loyalty or aspiration. Prioritizing your values will help you find the most fitting solution.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The deliciousness of delight comes to you when something good happens this afternoon. What's even more delightful is how you'll share with a fellow water sign (Scorpio or Pisces).

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll play many roles. You know better than to waste all of your energy trying to make the small roles bigger than they should be. You may have a small part in one scene, but you're the top-billed star in another.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Quick fixes aren't so quick if they cause you to be indebted to someone in the far-off future. You prefer to handle issues in real time and do it by yourself if you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be playing a strategic game and much will boil down to your level of confidence. Your position is only as good or as bad as you think it is. The same is true of their position.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Give yourself the breaks you need when you need them. The treadmill of daily life is like an actual treadmill in that when you jump off, your body needs time to adjust to the unmoving floor.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are not only loyal to the group you were raised with; you are also loyal to the larger community. Those two loyalties may clash now. Let love guide you.

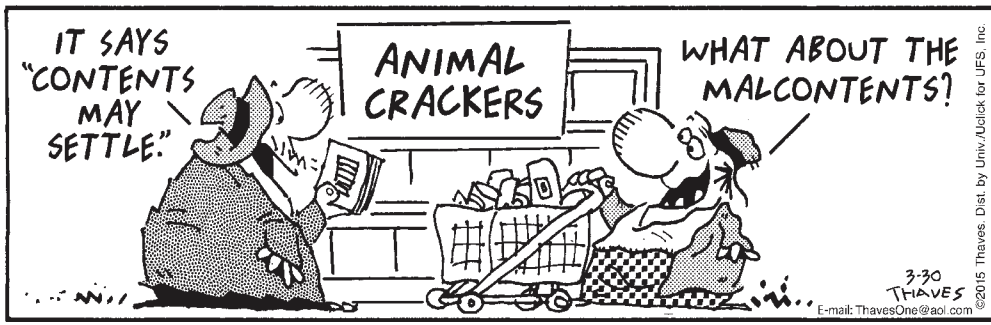
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have the courage to bear what looks to be a heavy responsibility, and that bravery inspires you to volunteer before the others. You'll learn that it's not as hefty as first appearances suggested.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have an affinity for the outsiders of the world. You recognize genius, admire free thinkers and revel in creative expression. With practice, you will embody that which you appreciate.

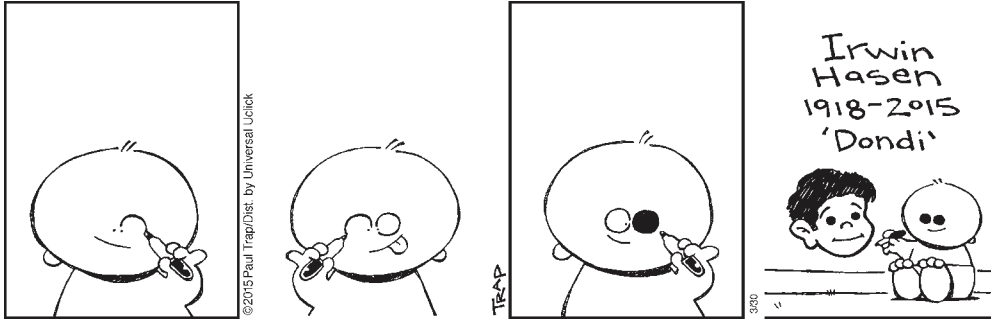
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The afternoon features new input. You'll likely have an immediate and visceral reaction to the events, and you'll probably be right in your assessment. Still, it will help you to listen to other opinions.

TUESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 31). This is your year to lighten up, have more fun and stop taking things more seriously than you need to. April shows you even more flexible, curious and outgoing than usual. New friends in May lead to a lucrative career direction. You'll make a presentation in June. Coordinate an event with many moving parts in July. Gemini and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 20, 44, 16 and 50.

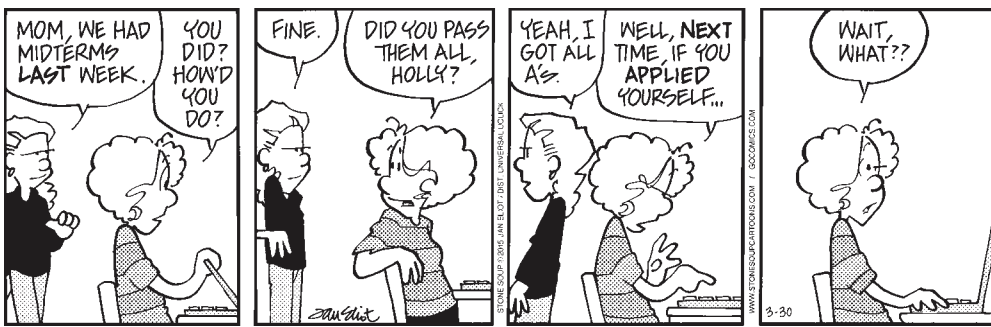
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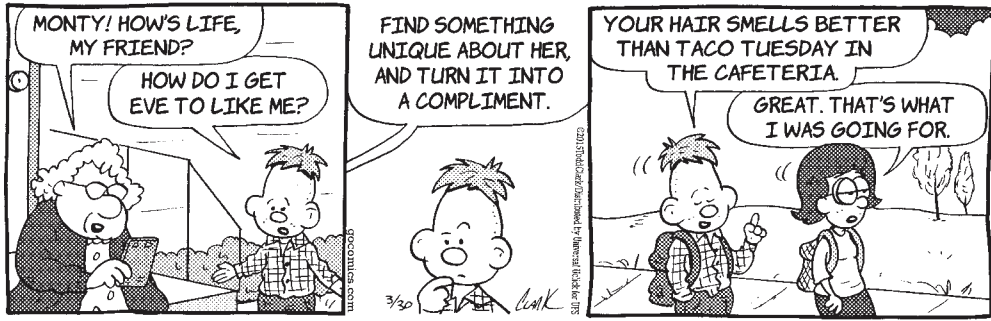
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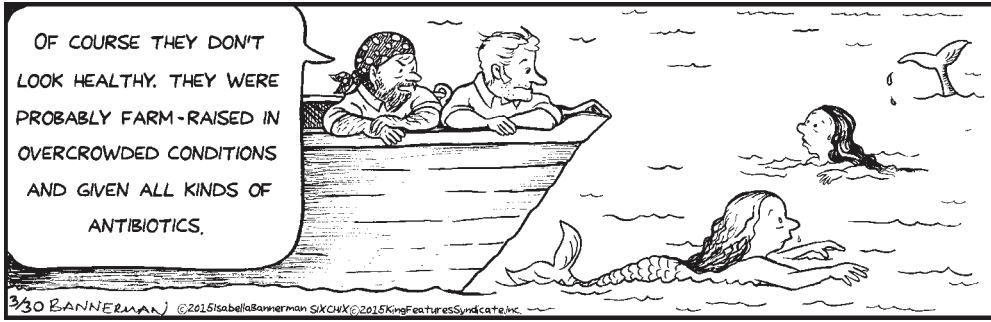
STONE SOUP



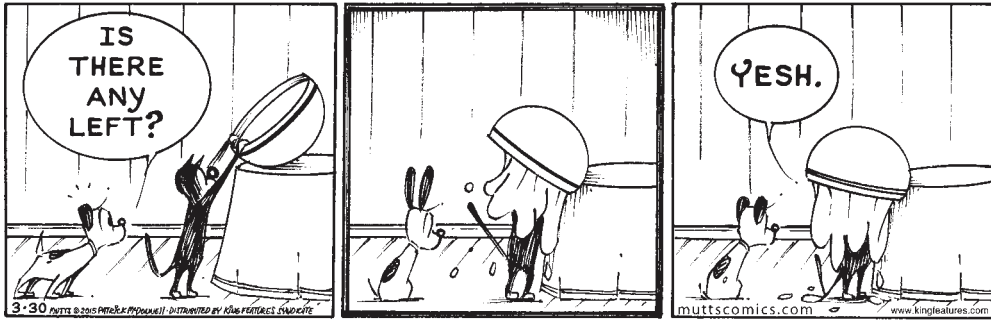
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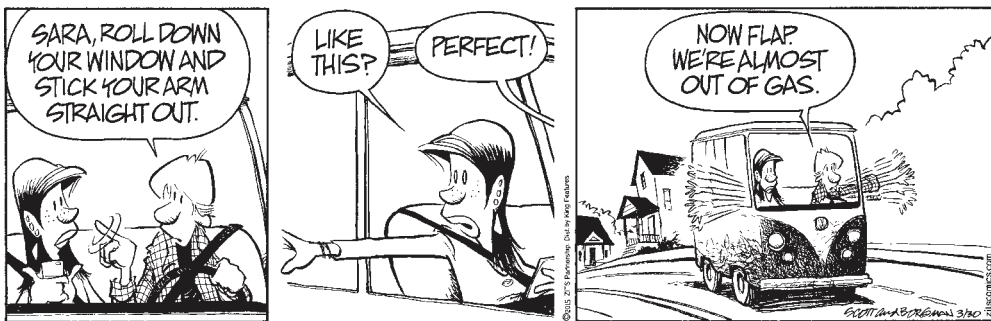
MUTTS



BABY BLUES



ZITS



BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



B.C.



DILBERT



BIZARRO



NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

