

Girl's boyfriend worries mom

Dear Annie: My daughter, "Chloe," who is not quite 18, dated "Ted" for two years. Things started out fine. Even though neither her father nor I approved of the relationship, we never told Chloe. After two years, she admitted to me that Ted was emotionally abusive, calling her names, pointing out every flaw she had. She was never good enough. If she was happy, she was too happy. If she was sad, she was told not to cry. Chloe had a couple of panic attacks and lost more than 20 pounds. Meanwhile, almost everyone who knew Ted suspected he was gay but unwilling to admit it.

Near the end of the relationship, Chloe told me that Ted had been pinching her and lightly slapping her face. A friend who had been in an abusive relationship warned Chloe that these are the signs of an abuser "testing the waters to see what he can get away with." I was beside myself with worry. I tried to get Chloe to talk to a therapist, but she refused.

Six weeks ago, Chloe finally decided to break things off. But last week, she told me she made a mistake and wants to take him back. I told her Ted is not welcome in our home because of how he has treated her. I cannot condone this relation-

Annie's Mailbox

Creators
Syndicate Inc.
Kathy Mitchell
and
Marcy Sugar



ship, and now Chloe lies to us in order to see him. Am I wrong to keep this man out of our house? — *Beside Myself*

Dear Beside: No, but it would be counterproductive. Chloe understands that this relationship is not healthy, but she wants a boyfriend, and Ted has convinced her that he loves her. It's not love. It's control. But if you prohibit him from entering your home, Chloe will simply sneak around. That means you won't know what's going on. It allows Ted to isolate her from her family and prevent you from helping.

Please tell Chloe that you love her and want her to be safe. Let her bring Ted to your house so he knows you are keeping an eye on him. Be civil to him so she doesn't spring to his defense. But also give her the number of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (theline.org) at

1-800-799-SAFE, and tell her she can come to you no matter what.

Dear Annie: We are a married senior citizen couple who don't understand why "No One To Share This With" is so upset that her husband watches pornography. Maybe he is just watching the wrong kind of pornography.

My wife and I often watch X-rated videos that we make ourselves. We start by jointly writing a script, and then we get into costume, set up a video camera on a tripod, and act out our roles until we are exhausted from great sex. Our hobby is a lot of fun. It spices up our married life and gives us our own homemade "pornographic" DVDs for our memories.

Maybe "No One" could solve her problem by sharing our kind of hobby with her husband. — *Anonymous Happy Couple*

Dear Happy: Somehow we think that wouldn't appeal to her. A lot of spouses justifiably find pornography (of any kind) to be disrespectful, although that doesn't really apply to filming yourselves, rather than watching someone else. We know that many couples role-play in the bedroom, and some of them record the results. As long as both spouses are in agreement and no one is hurt, we say it's entirely their business.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). An African proverb suggests that until the lion has a historian, the hunter will always be a hero. As you present the story in your own point of view (because it's the only one you have), you try to be fair.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The mission of the weekend includes heavy work that doesn't feel all that difficult given the nobility of the goal. (If the hard work feels arduous and pointless, you're on the wrong mission.)

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Life gets better when you're a witness, not a judge. When you rid yourself of prejudice and release yourself of the need to have an opinion, you'll see the truth clearly.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You can't radiate a beautiful aura while feeling dark inside. That's why the time you spend feeling good is well worth the effort. If you were to be 10 percent more selfish, what would you do next?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Most parents would prefer their children to be courteous, obedient and respectful, but also sensible enough to fight ferociously for themselves when necessary. The weekend will highlight both your mild and feisty qualities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You fought for your principles, and that took guts, but not as much as it will take to live up to them. You're in that process now. Feel good about yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Some say you should follow your impulses as long as they don't lead you to intentionally hurt another person. Unfortunately, the pain is the same whether or not the infliction is intentional.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll put yourself out there and be seen by someone whose opinion really matters to you. You may not realize at first that you are on this person's radar, especially if your presentation is digital.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Relationships that start with attraction can end in repulsion, but it rarely goes the other way. Obey your aversions. Tonight, you'll pick up on the details that others miss.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You may find yourself pulling away from someone without consciously knowing why. Figure it out, because the knowledge will help your other relationships. Hint: Maybe this person somehow always causes more work for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are attractive, in demand and, like most people in that position, slow to add new people to your world. You appreciate casual interest from others, but intensity will scare you off.

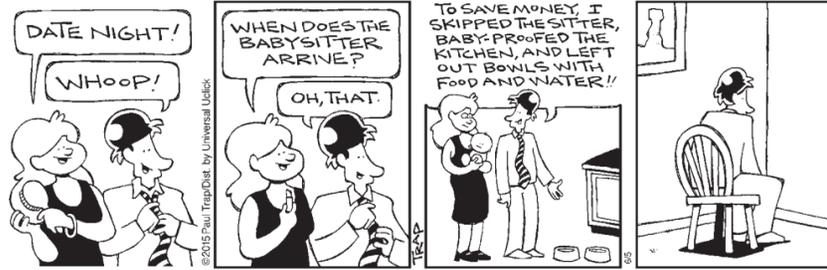
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What good are blessings in disguise if they never reveal themselves and no one makes the effort to recognize them? Ask your blessings to unmask themselves.

SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 6). Love takes time, and you'll give it the best of your attention this year even when you're crazy busy. You'll find a new work niche in July. Younger people will credit you for their success. Start socking away money so you'll be ready for an exciting November investment. Your true riches will multiply in 2016. Pisces and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 42, 35, 1, 38 and 47.

FRANK AND ERNEST



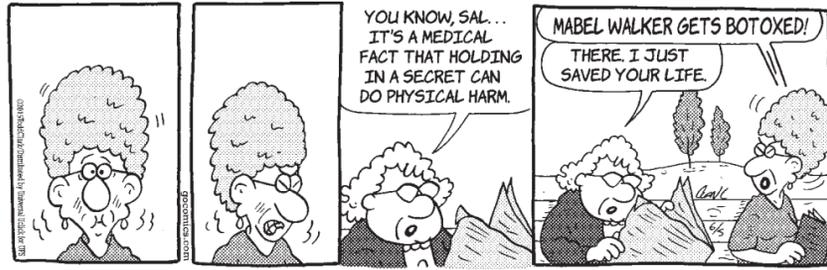
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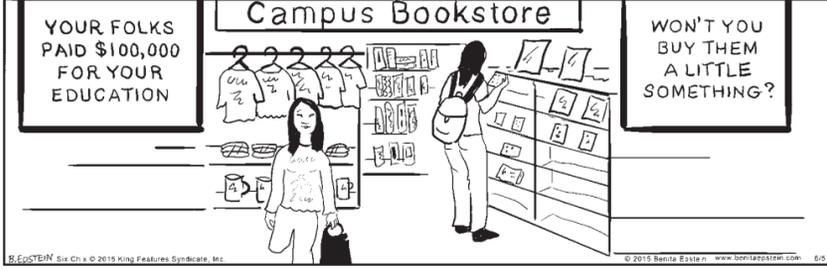
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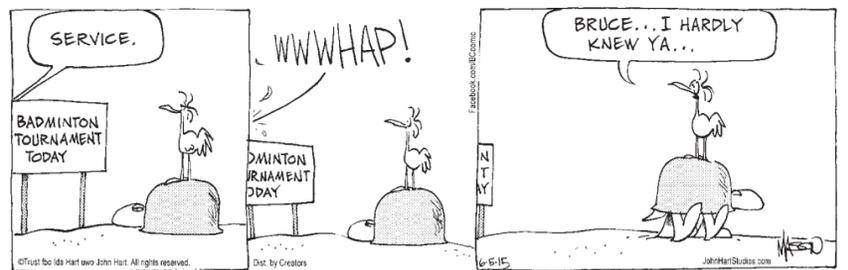
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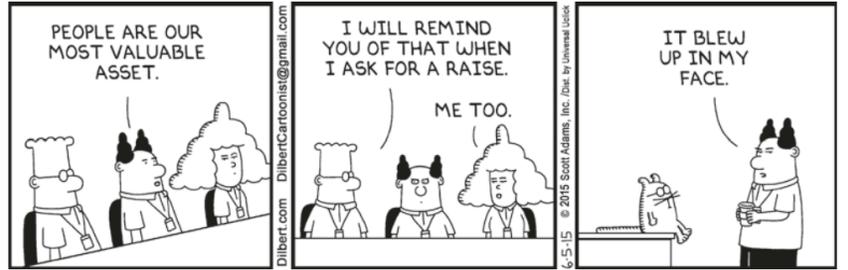
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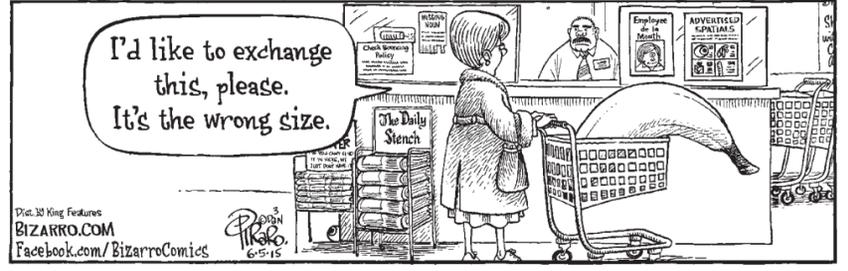
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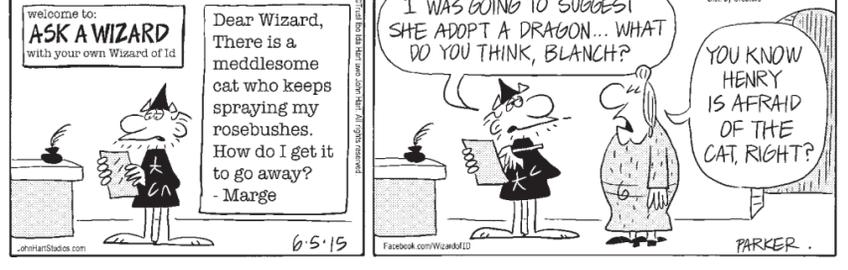
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NON SEQUITUR



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ROSE IS ROSE

