

Yes to suicide, sometimes?

Dear Annie: Every so often, you print a letter from someone who is concerned that a loved one has expressed a desire to commit suicide. Depending on the circumstances, what's so terrible about that?

When you have lived a full life and are in failing health, ending your life certainly seems to be a reasonable consideration for many. You know you are not going to get better, so why not end your life in the most humane way you can design for yourself?

Dying is the last thing we do, so we may as well make it easy on ourselves. I'm 81 years old, have been married for 50 years, have two dozen grandchildren and great-grandchildren, am in fair health and live comfortably. Should those circumstances change for the worse, I know how to end my life successfully. — *But Not Just Yet*

Dear Not Just Yet: There are already laws in place in three states that permit the terminally ill to hasten their deaths. If one is not expected to live much longer, and what's left is mostly painful, we agree that the person should have some control over his or her death.

But too many people decide on suicide because they are depressed. They aren't in poor physical health.

ANNE'S MAILBOX

CREATORS SYNDICATE INC.

Kathy Mitchell

and

Marcy Sugar



They aren't terminally ill. They are in psychological pain and don't believe life will ever improve. Laws must distinguish between those who might be helped through counseling or medication, and those whose doctors concur that, medically, there is no future beyond a few months. Anyone who would like additional information can contact Death With Dignity (deathwithdignity.org).

Dear Annie: I am writing in response to "Anonymous," who is undergoing chemotherapy and thinks people who want to visit are expecting too much of her to put on makeup, clean her house and shop for refreshments.

Recently, both my husband and I were diagnosed with different forms of cancer. Family and friends visited, brought meals, phoned, emailed, texted and more. Typically,

I would do all of the things Anonymous listed to welcome guests into our home, but it was too much. I determined that I preferred to welcome family and friends rather than push them away. So I might be in nightclothes with no makeup, with my bald head exposed in all its glory. I offered bottled water if I had it.

Having the support and love of family and friends lifted us above and through the difficulties of our treatments and surgeries. My husband is in remission now, and I begin 33 rounds of radiation next week. My advice to those in our circumstances is to consider the benefits of allowing caring people into your world when coping with serious health issues. Feeling the love, and letting others lift your spirits when you may not have the energy to do so yourself is extremely valuable to recovery. — *The More the Merrier*

Dear More: No one expects a seriously ill person to look great, have a spotless home and bring refreshments as if you are hosting a lighthearted get-together. You are wise to see that friends and family simply want to spend time with you and provide support. We wish you and your husband complete recoveries.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are those who find the treasures of others to be more interesting and exciting than their own. If those "treasures" can be stolen or seduced away perhaps they weren't so precious after all.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Thinking about what you're going to do may be even more important than doing it today. Visualization will give you stronger intention. It will pump up your energy and it will help you understand the "why" of your actions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may do what's appropriate when you're around others, but when you're alone you will bare your soul, examine it, know it, accept it. This practice of coming clean you-to-you is basic hygiene for the spirit.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's said that there are no bad jokes, only jokes that are badly told. This point could be argued, but you can't bother with that now. You're too involved in figuring out how you're going to tell your "joke."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Styx is the name of a mythological river that runs between Earth and the Underworld. The river is named for a goddess with miraculous power. Today your own miraculous power will be found along the boundary of two worlds.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've been fantasizing about having more people on your side, and truly this is something you need in order to take your life in the direction you've been dreaming about. Get out there; make more friends, and get more fans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's possible that someone is falling in love with you. It's also possible that this is more attention than you need or want right now, but what's to be done about it? You're lovable,

and you can't help that!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are things you write down to remember later, and then there are things you write down to enforce them now. Writing strengthens your intention and focuses your life force.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sir Winston Churchill defined success as "the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm." Indeed, your optimistic spirit will attract amazing good fortune.

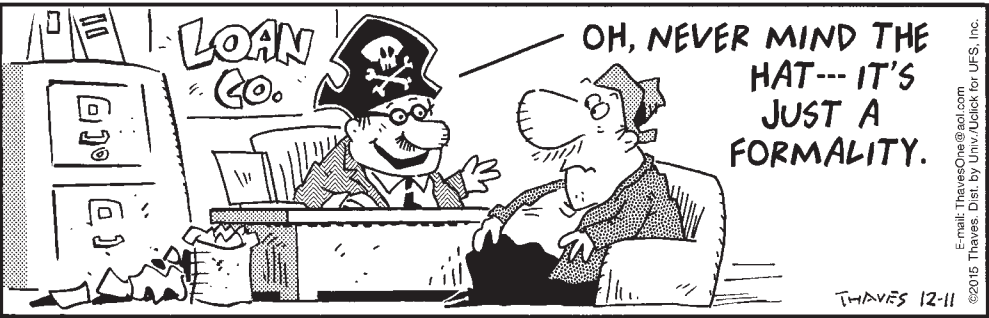
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are the best witness around now, and if you suspect that your version of an experience goes deeper than others, you're right. No one sees the intricate details the way you do or feels the undercurrents so acutely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The good experience is your pleasure. The bad experience is your teacher, more valuable and costlier, too. Generally people pay more to be educated than they would pay to be merely entertained.

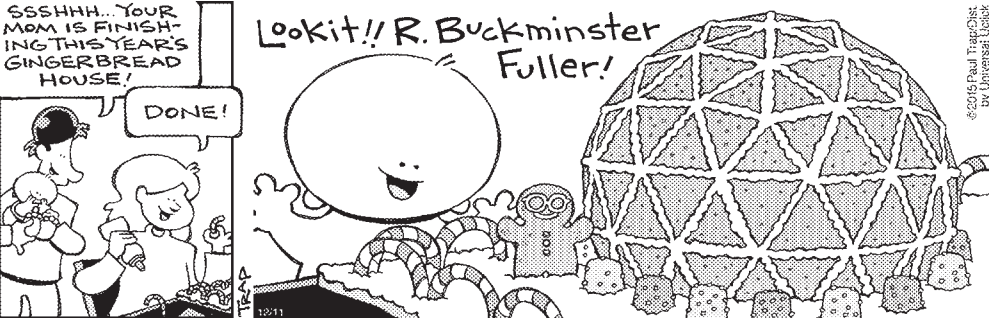
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). As for the one who always seems to call you with some kind of personal agenda, you're feeling just bold enough to have a little fun with this. Shake it up. Make it known that you see what's really going on.

SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 12). Congrats — what you've been working toward for the last two years is finally happening for you! Save some of that January bonus. You'll connect with others trying to do good in the world and bond over a shared goal in January. The fun new influence in February will also be a part of your summer travel plans. Cancer and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 1, 6, 33 and 50.

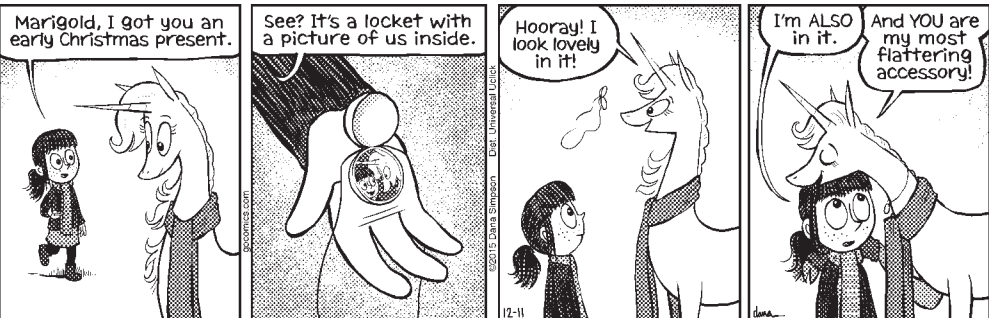
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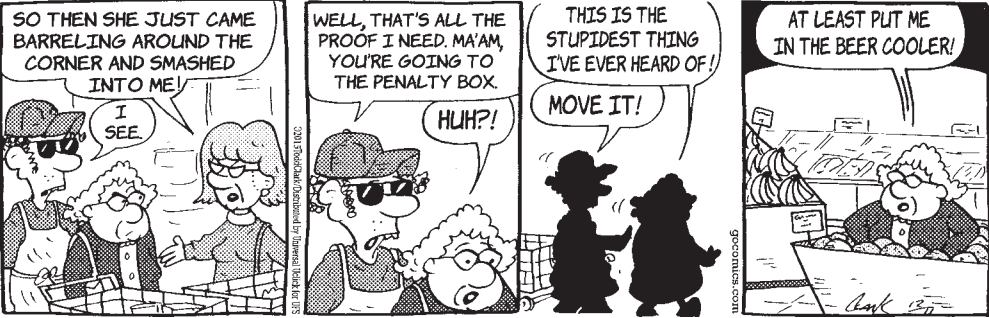
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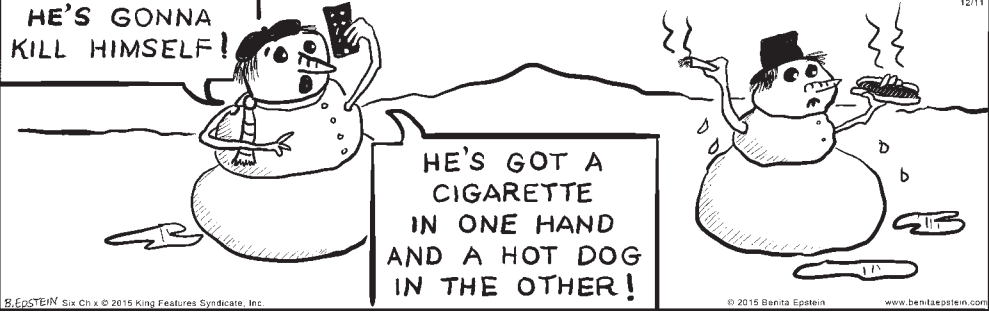
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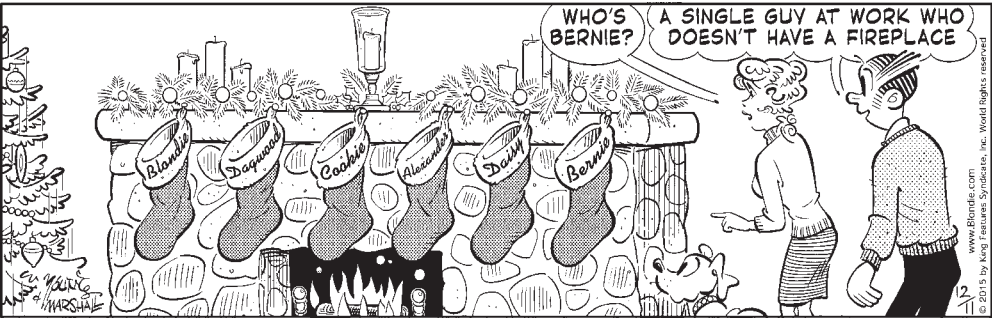
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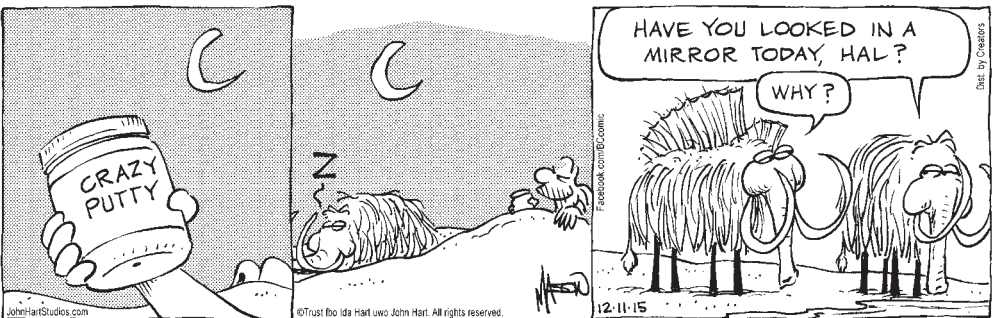
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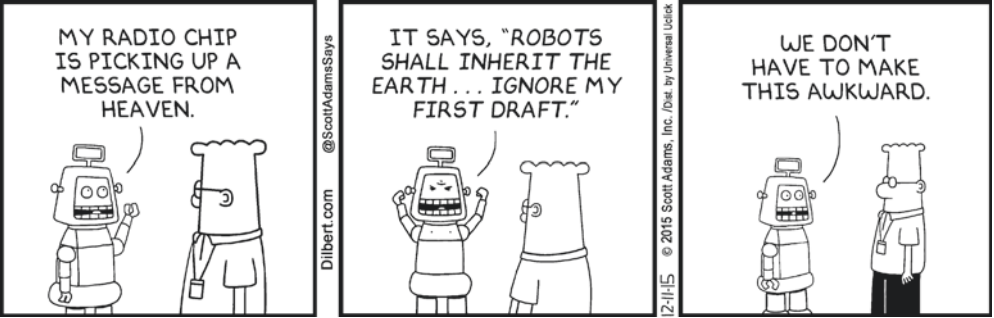
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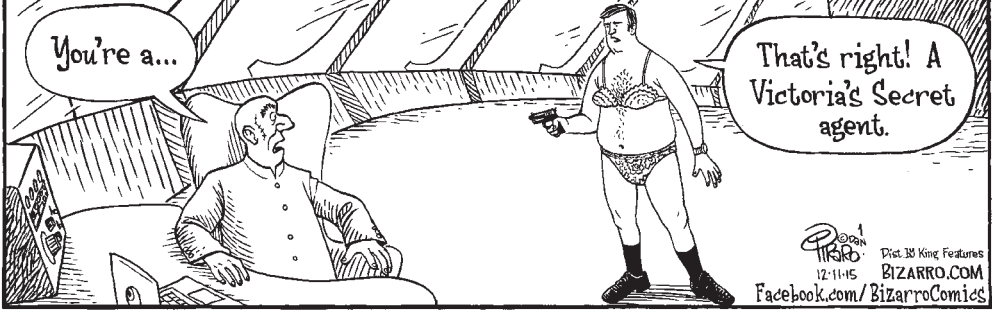
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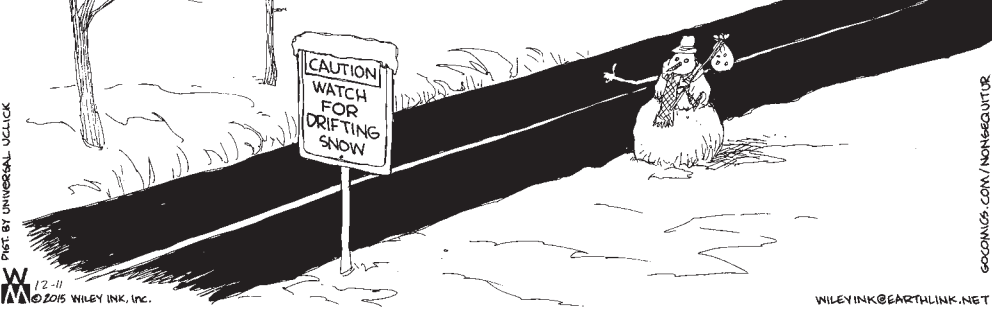
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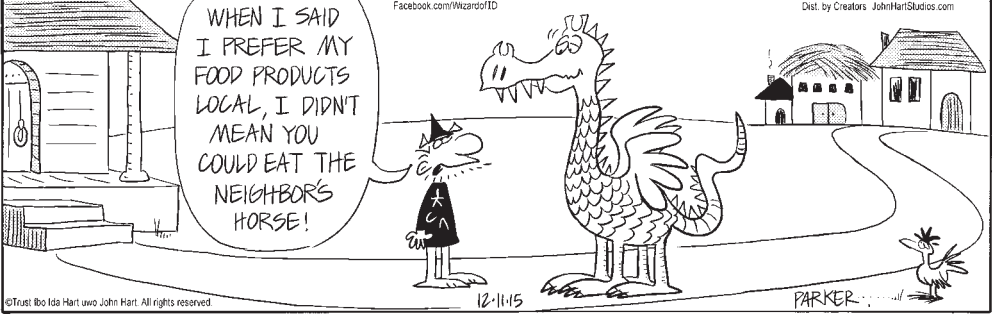
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