

Husband is acting too nosy

Dear Annie: Is it appropriate or even normal for a husband to always ask who I am on the phone with or who just texted me? Or to stand behind me while I'm reading my email, unabashedly reading over my shoulder?

I don't have anything to hide, but I find this behavior intrusive and annoying. Sometimes, he will even ask for details about certain parts of my conversation. I don't dare refuse to answer for fear he will think I'm trying to conceal something. He has a quick temper and becomes defensive and angry if I question him. I hate conflict, so I just answer his questions to avoid his outbursts.

One time, my best friend confided something highly personal to me and specifically asked me not to tell anyone. When I refused to disclose this information to my husband, he got very angry, arguing that spouses shouldn't keep secrets from one another. I don't feel it's wrong to keep a confidence that has absolutely nothing to do with him. He did not agree, and I ended up telling him a less-detailed version of our conversation. But I was upset that he pressured me until I conceded.

Annie's Mailbox

Creators
Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell
and
Marcy Sugar



My husband doesn't automatically report his conversations to me, and I don't expect him to. Am I too private or is he too nosy? — *Nothing to Hide but My Annoyance*

Dear Nothing: He's way too nosy. Confidences between friends or family members do not have to be shared as long as they don't involve the spouse or the marriage. Saying that you were on the phone with "Myrtle" is sufficient information.

Some spouses tell each other every detail of every conversation, but that is up to them. In your case, your husband is badgering and pressuring you for additional information. Either he doesn't trust you, or he needs to control you. (It's also possible he is guilty of doing things that he doesn't want you

to know about, and this is why he is overly concerned with your phone conversations and emails.) What concerns us the most is that you feel you must constantly appease him because of his anger issues. Tell him to knock it off before he turns into a full-fledged bully and the marriage is in serious trouble. If he refuses, or if you believe his anger is dangerous or more than you can handle, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline (thehotline.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE.

Dear Annie: My wife and I are having a disagreement about how to sign cards and notes. Does the man's name come first or does the woman's?

I have always put my name first, but lately she says that her name should be first. So should it be "Tim and Marlene"? Or is it "Marlene and Tim"? — *Your Opinion, Please*

Dear Tim: Your wife is right. Etiquette says the woman's name comes first in all cases except where the signature is "Mr. and Mrs. John Smith" or some variation. Of course, not everyone cares, in which case, sign your names however you choose.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Repetition of exterior movements will eventually change your insides. Therefore, it really doesn't matter now if you don't believe you can succeed. Practice the movements anyway.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll attract admirers, including one who would be thrilled to know more about you. Perhaps you'll dare to share one of your more unusual goals — the one that's more charming than it is lofty.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). What starts off promising could wind up tedious if you let it go on too long. That's why your best strategy is to quit while you're ahead and leave 'em wanting more.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It takes strength to be sincere. What you've gone through in your life emboldens you to express your honest heart when you want to. Even so, you're entitled to your private life.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When you're around a certain someone, you become a heightened version of yourself, which lights up the other person in turn. It's no wonder you both enjoy the connection so much. It could be love.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You appreciate and value your friends for their individual talents and personalities. You'll get your diverse group together, and they will complement one another brilliantly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The place you leave will be a destination for another. That's why you endeavor to improve things while you have the chance. You'll have a partner in your improvement efforts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you

get the sneaking suspicion you're out of your depth, you won't let it throw you. Water signs swim. They don't sink. At the very least, they float.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You want to give big, but you don't want all the attention that comes with that, so you'll choose to give anonymously. Oddly enough, this will be more satisfying than getting the credit.

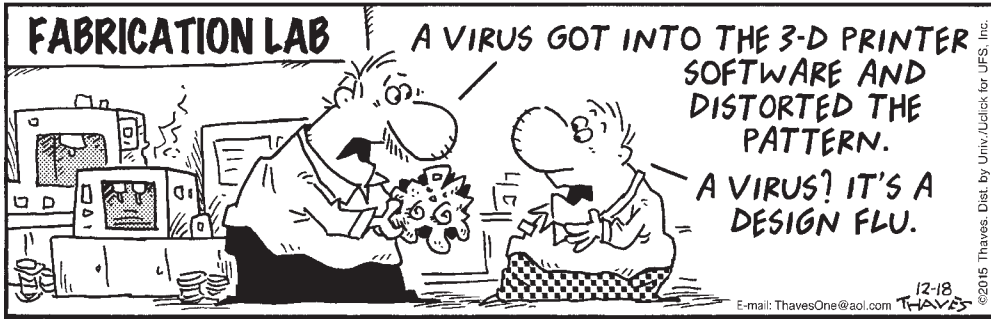
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Resist the urge to make yourself so available to what (or whom) you want. Putting the rest of your life aside will set a precedent and establish a power order that won't serve you well in the end.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't mind it when others make social mistakes, but you find it unbearable to make them yourself. That's a double standard and it's time to let it go. Everyone makes mistakes and someone will find yours adorable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Popular attractions everywhere usually have one thing in common — they provide an atmosphere where people have plenty to do. You can use this principle to your advantage today. Keep everyone busy and smiling.

SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 19). You'll act on your instincts and solve a problem for your group, the beginning of an unexpected trajectory. Later you'll look back at this as a time destiny smiled at you. Save your money in February and you'll have enough for a worthy investment in July. You'll thrive in a twosome throughout 2016 and still maintain autonomy. Leo and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 18, 4, 40, 17 and 38.

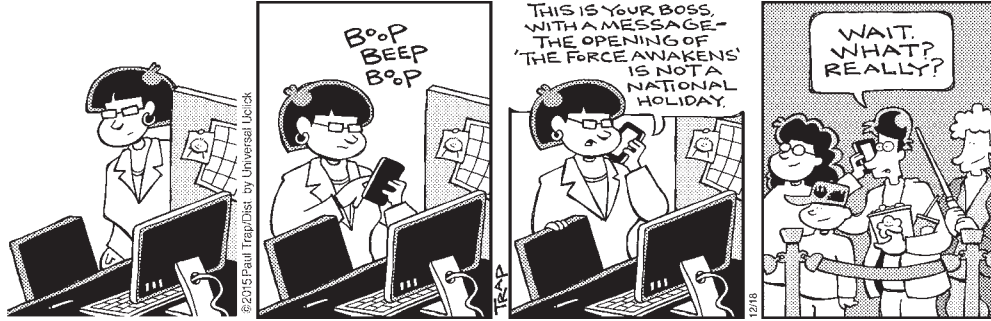
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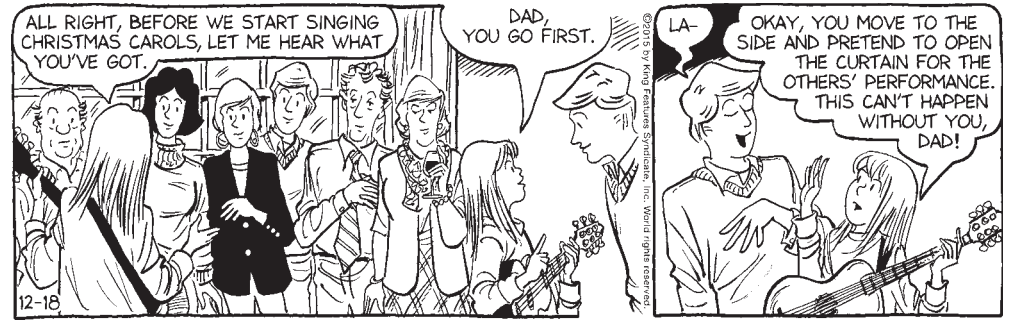
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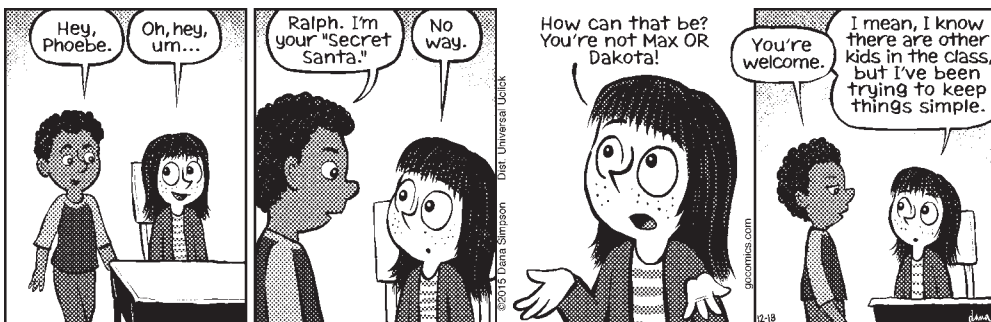
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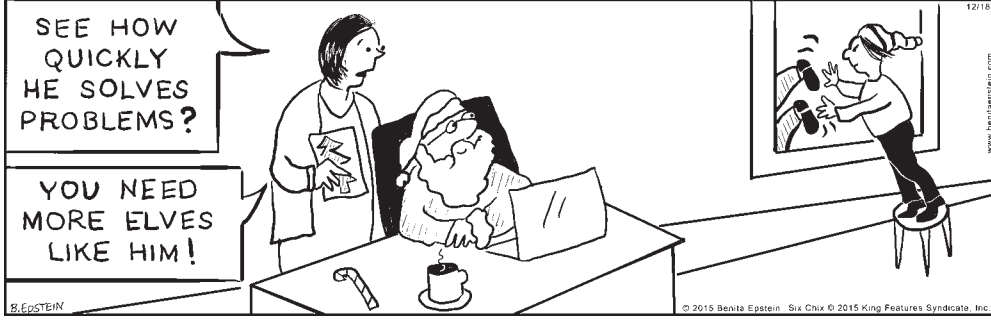
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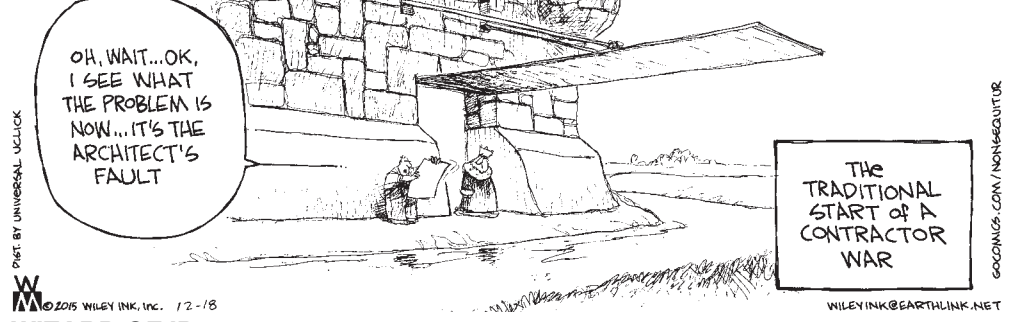
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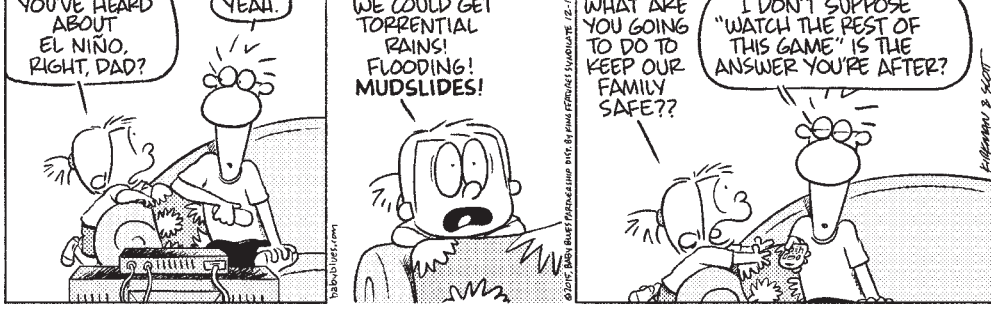
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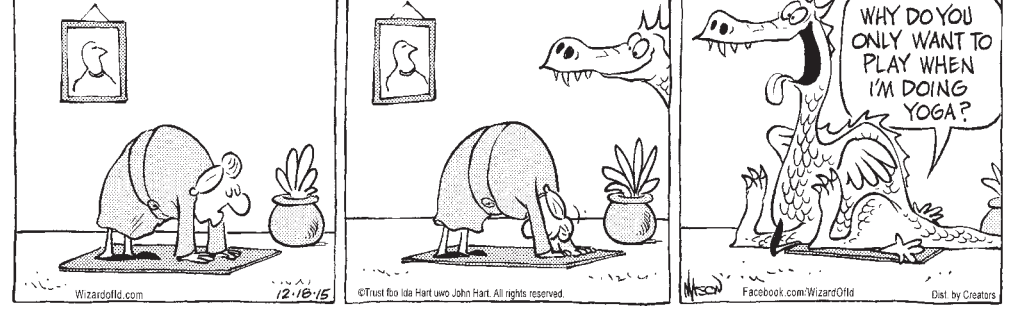
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