

# Grandma worries about boy

Dear Annie: I have eight grandchildren and I love them all. I make sure to spend equal amounts of time and care with each one of them.

The problem is my son's 3-year-old child. My son and his wife live with his mother-in-law in another state. I have been unable to see this grandson, because the wife and her mother are so afraid of colds that they will leave the grocery if someone so much as sneezes.

When I first flew down to meet the new baby, my son called me in the rental car to say that I was not allowed to come because I had a cold three weeks earlier. I was able to negotiate meeting them at a nearby restaurant, but I was not allowed to hold the baby. The mother-in-law came and took the child home before the meal was served.

Yet, my daughter-in-law refuses to vaccinate the boy against more serious diseases. She also lets him climb out of his car seat because he fusses in it, which exposes him to the risk of death from a minor car accident.

When I send Christmas presents, she opens them early and hands them to the child, never

## Annie's Mailbox

Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar



saying they are from me. I have sent him clothes, but have never seen a picture of him in anything but a T-shirt and diaper. At the age of 3, he is still drinking formula from a bottle and eating very little real food.

I am worried about the mental and physical health of this child, not to mention my own sadness that we can't have a relationship. Is there anything I can do? — Perplexed Grandmother

Dear Perplexed: Is your son not involved in these decisions? It doesn't bother him that his son isn't belted into a car seat? Or that he is still getting most of his nutrition from infant formula? And we won't get into the antivaxx movement, which, although well-intentioned, we disagree with.

Please gently suggest to your

son that he speak about these things with the child's pediatrician, to be certain he is caring for his son in the best possible way. If he disagrees with his wife's child-rearing methods, he should not be a coward about it. Even so, there are limits to what you can do about your relationship with your grandson other than continue to keep in touch, visit whenever possible and maintain the most compassionate communication you can with the boy's mother.

Dear Annie: "Out of the Loop" says her grown daughters send wish lists for holidays and birthdays that include e-books. If she wants to send something they can open on the actual day, she ought to look into gift cards. Plenty of places offer them for e-books.

These days, gift cards for many businesses, online and not, are available at grocery stores, drug stores, big-box stores, etc. It's one-stop shopping for you and the kids can buy whatever they want. — Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Virginia: Thank you for mentioning a gift card for an e-book, or more generally, for an online store that carries e-books.

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** It's important to believe, but if you believe too firmly, you'll miss something crucial that comes with doubt. That would be bad for everyone. "Absolute faith corrupts as absolutely as absolute power." — Eric Hoffer

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Don't let anyone tell you that without the current set of problems, happiness would prevail. Wrong. The current problems are part of the happiness, as long as you have the ability to overcome them — which you do!

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21)** Your work is subtle and classy today, but make no mistake, you are changing things. It's all different because of you! Every person you talk to is an opportunity to make your mark on the world.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22)** Give yourself more time to play around with ideas and try things on for size. This is especially true in relationship matters, which are best taken at a leisurely pace right now.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** There's a right way and a wrong way to ask for things. The only way to tell which is which is to try all the ways. You might be surprised at what is effective — it's not what you would have predicted.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** If you succeed at something that doesn't matter to you, is it really a success after all? And if so, whose? Tonight will bring an opportunity to invest your attention and money in the welfare of others.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Are you really in debt to someone or not? You feel like you are, but you're forgetting all that you've contributed to this person and discounting the

currency of your quality attention and talents. **SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)** Those who travel in a pack, keeping their crew close at all times, will be an intimidating presence on the scene. You're more likely to interact with the lone wolf, as you can relate to fearless individualism.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Using your creativity will be key to your happiness. Tonight: Every question you ask will lead to a better one. And if you don't get an answer, that should tell you something, too!

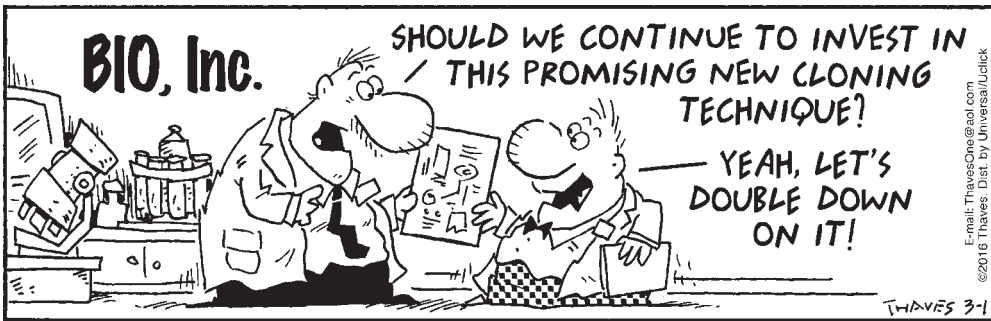
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** You could be well-behaved, but you may choose not to be, as things threaten to get deadly boring around you. You can wake them up, make them laugh and stimulate an appetite in them that they didn't even know they had.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Not everyone in the group is wonderful, but with enough people working toward a noble goal you'll still get a powerful result. Ignore pettiness, see the big picture and help the others do so as well.

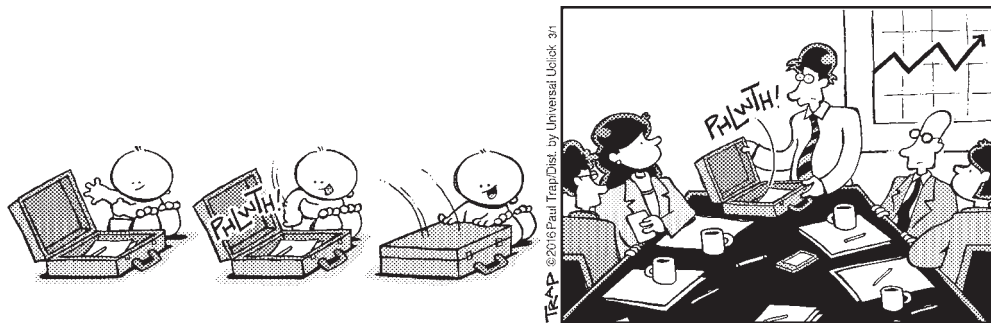
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** Because you're strong and you have more to give, you'll be asked to give more. Be careful not to fall into the trap of resenting this. It's an honor bestowed on a select few.

**WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 2)** You connect people and they, in turn, will connect you with good fortune. Key introductions over the next 10 weeks will help your business thrive while building your community. A travel adventure is in the works for 2017. While saving and planning for the big trip, break things up with a number of short day-trips. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 46, 30, 21, 17 and 5.

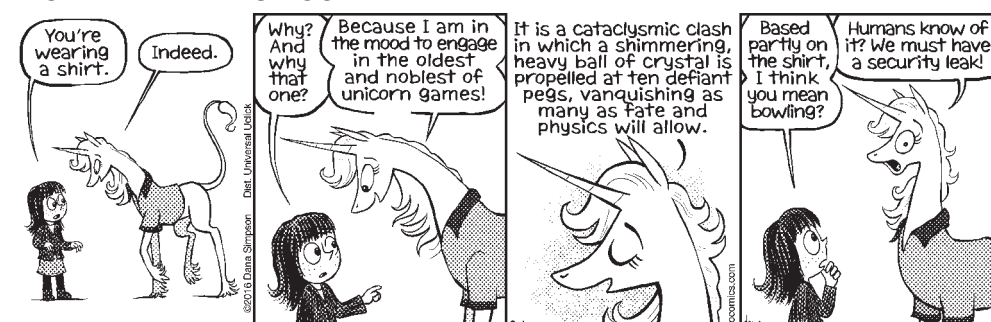
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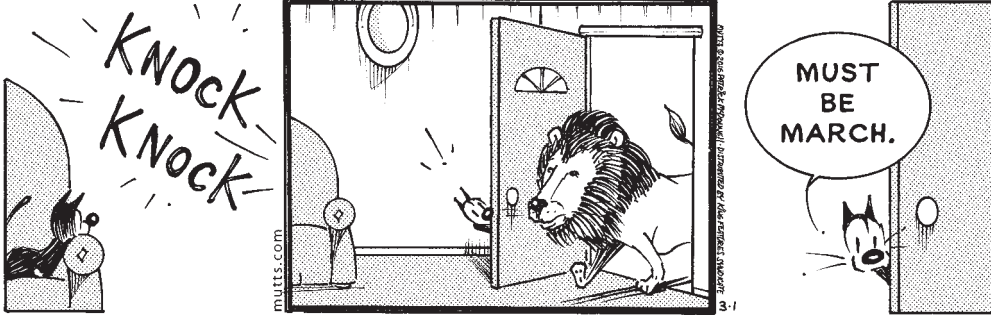
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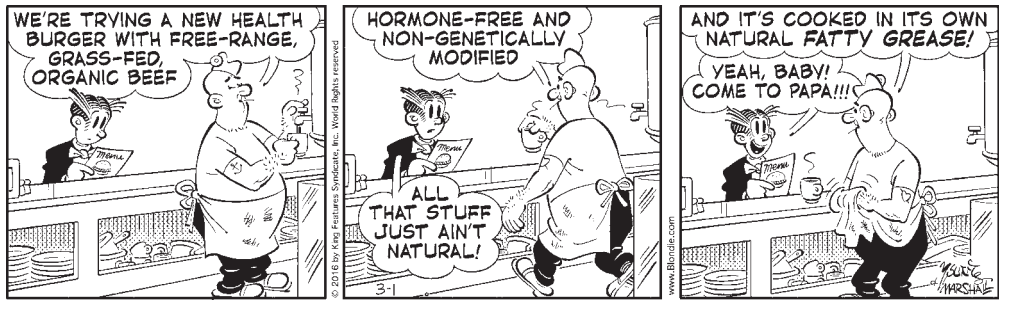
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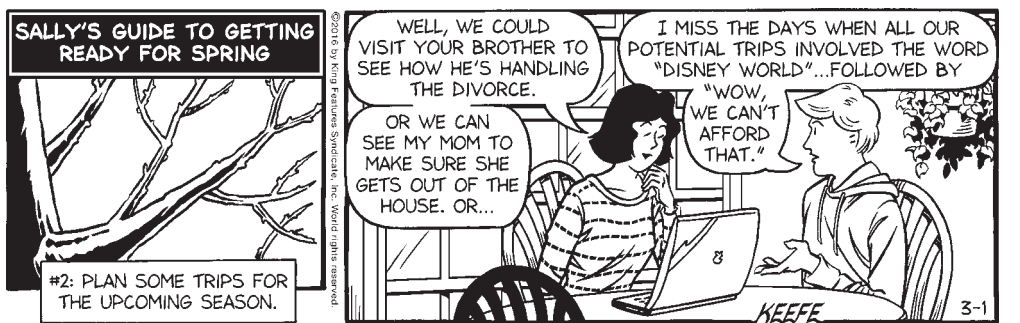
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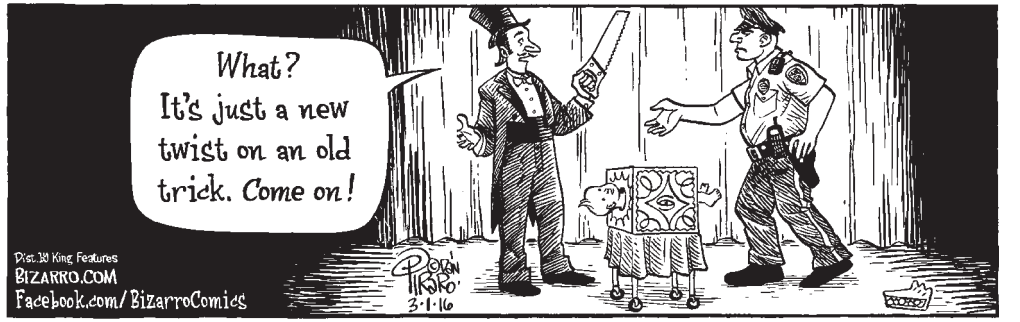
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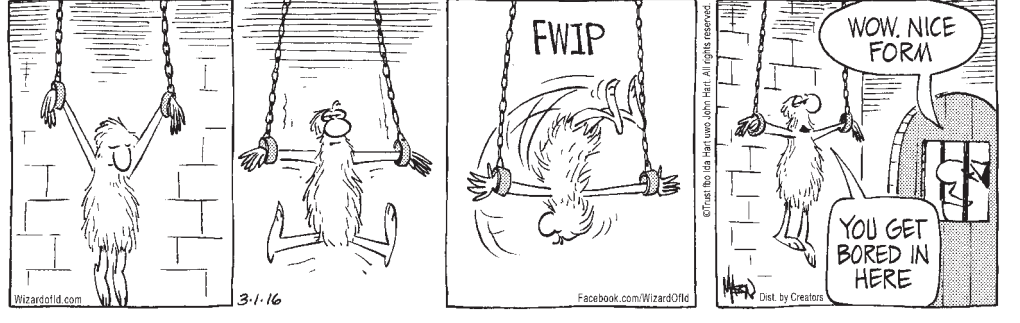
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## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

