Ex-fiancee plays mind games

Annie's Mailbox
Creators Syndicate Inc.
Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar

Dear Annie: Several months ago, my fiancee of two years announced that she wanted to date other people. Although I knew things had not been good between us, I was devastated.

We met on the Internet, and I saw that she was back on the same website. I talked to her, hoping she would give me a sign that she wanted to get back together, but she said she wanted to see other men and that I should see other women. I was desperate and even logged onto her page on the dating website, hoping to get through to her. After a few days of her not responding, I started getting messages from other women. I made a date with one of them, and we ended up having sex afterward.

I felt terrible about it. I called the woman and told her I couldn't see her anymore because I was still in love with someone else. I continued to call and text my ex, even though I knew she was seeing other men. This went on for about six weeks.

Last week, my ex and I had a wonderful day together and ended up cuddling under a blanket on her sofa. Things started to get romantic, and she asked if I had been out with or had sex with anyone. I answered truthfully. She became angry and said she did not want to see me again.

While I'm not making excuses for something I should not have done, I am confused by her attitude. She said she expected me to know that she still loved me, even though she never responded when I tried to get back together. Why did she insist that we date other people? Am I as bad as she is making me out to be? I don't know what to say that I haven't already said. — *Heart Torn Out*

Dear Heart: We suggest saying "goodbye and good riddance." Your ex wasn't satisfied with you nor committed to your relationship. If you got back together, we suspect she would break your heart repeatedly. She also expects you to read her mind, which is unfair and manipulative, and gives her a reason to leave whenever she gets bored. We agree that you should not have hopped in the sack with the first woman you met, but you were essentially unattached and free to do as you pleased. We know you are heartbroken, but we hope you can also see that you dodged a bullet with this woman. You deserve to find someone who cherishes and respects you.

Dear Annie: "Not a Creepy Guy" said his son's fiancee thinks he's creepy, for no particular reason. Another reader said all young women think middle-aged guys are creepy.

I am a woman in my mid-30s and I have worked in health care for the past 10 years. I have discovered that any amount of polite, friendly attention can quickly turn a man, no matter his age, into Mr. Creepy. I have been grabbed and cornered and had to endure inappropriate comments. Now I do not treat any man as a safe and respectable human being. — *Better Safe Than Sorry*

Dear Better: We have to wonder what men you are encountering that they are ALL like this. You should never have to tolerate being grabbed and cornered, but your experience seems so lopsided that you might want to reconsider your work environment.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some of the best teachers you will ever have are not even alive right now. You'll be drawn to great minds and talents and will find them in many forms and mediums.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sometimes it seems that a partnership can only support one person's happiness at a time. This indicates a lack of mutual interests. More commonalities need to be discovered or developed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You've been overly modest — so hard on yourself, in fact, that you can afford to fluff your ego up a bit. For instance, you'll come across most beautifully when you have a notion that you look pretty good.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This will be a very productive day for you. The wheels of your mind are turning, and they will go even faster when greased with motivation that comes from having a worthy opponent.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You may not know what a loved one is thinking, but today's turbo-charged powers of empathy will help you understand what this person is feeling. By recognizing and speaking to those feelings you can start a healing process.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are those who believe they are weak and hobbled, thus deserving of sympathetic gifts from the world. Do not offer such gifts today. Instead, focus only on the strengths, talents and potential for self-sufficiency in others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are organized, serious and ready to dedicate yourself to a difficult long-term project. A group of similarly focused individuals will help you, as long as you avoid the bullies and buzz-kills in this mix.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Creative bonds are just like romantic bonds in many ways. They work best when there's chemistry, mutual admiration and logistic compatibility. When you find all three, this is not a connection to be wasted.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Don't take the behavior of your "frenemy" too personally. Often relationships that are both affable and competitive are complicated in ways that have more to do with history than with the present situation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). What matters more to you is not the playground you're in but the playmates there with you. Good thing, because the "equipment" may be dilapidated. Watch out for this and other hazards.

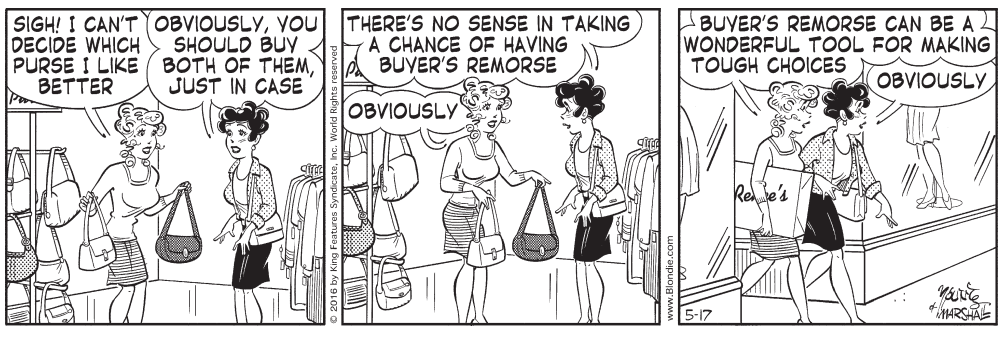
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Salesmanship is a conversation, and thus it's dependent on good listening and careful navigation of topics. Success happens because you get to know a person before making the pitch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'd like to give second chances, but just because a person recognizes, acknowledges and pays for a mistake doesn't mean there won't be more of the same in the future. The real question is: Can you afford to risk it?

WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 18). You will have greater control over your words and actions this year, and fewer regrets in the future. Someone special will work to keep you interested, entertained, informed and engaged. Lifestyle upgrades will happen in July. You'll see a wonderful part of the world in November. A December investment will pay off in March. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 28, 14, 32 and 16.

FRANK AND ERNEST

BLONDIE



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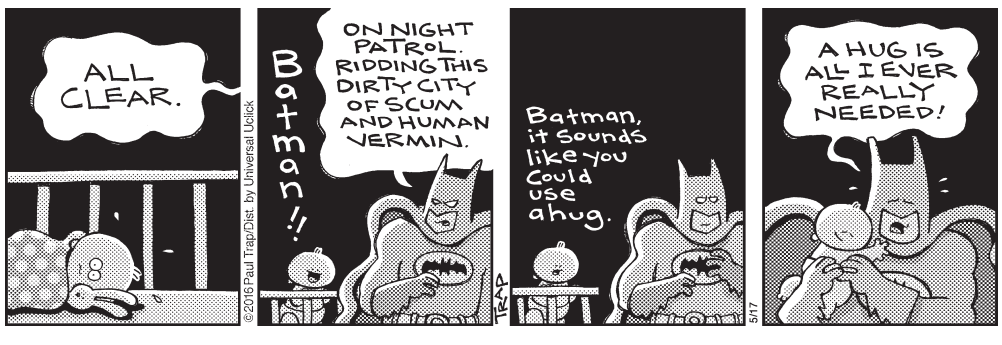

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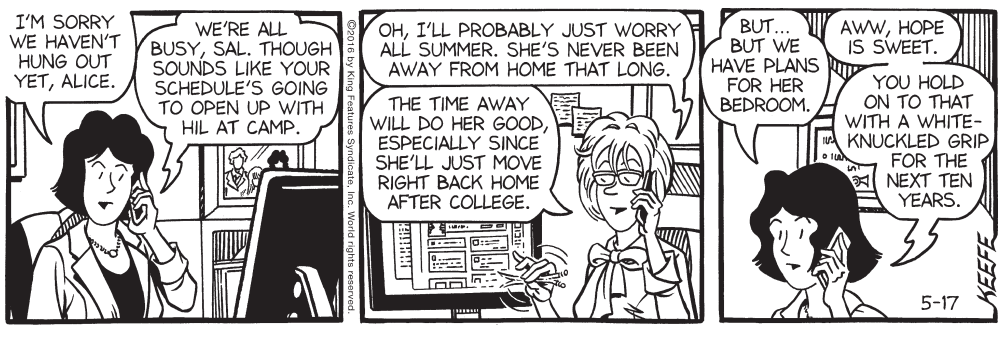

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

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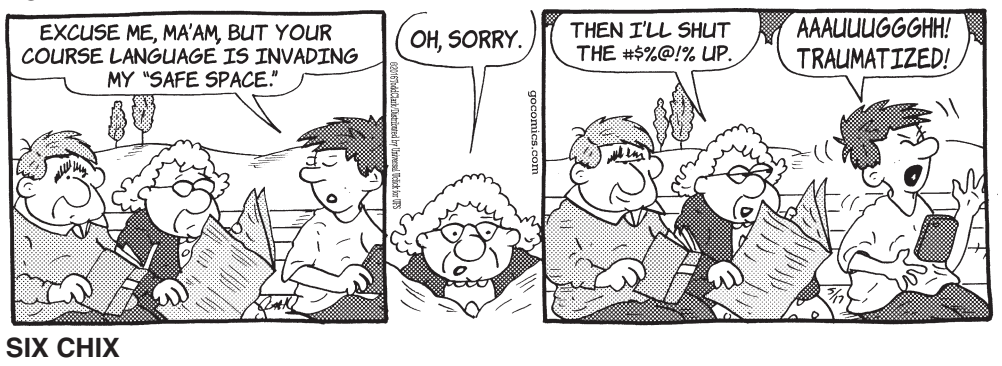

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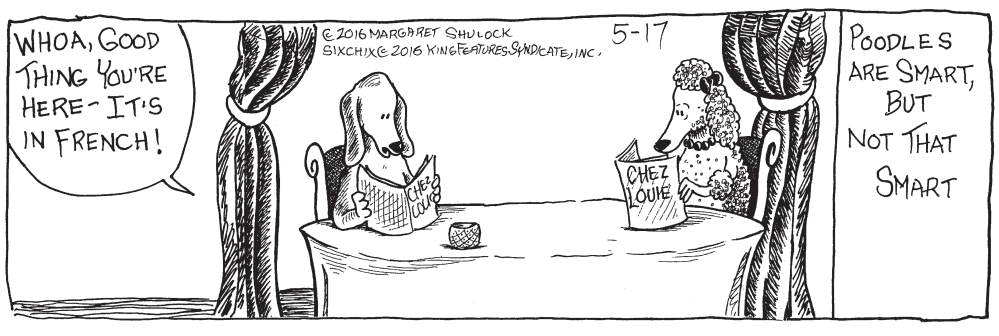

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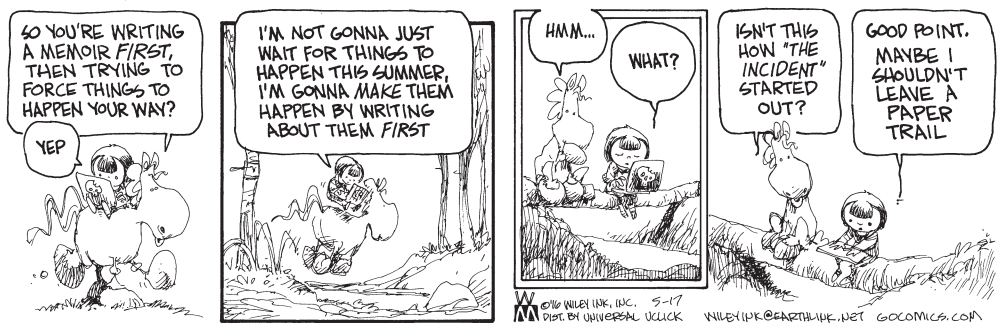

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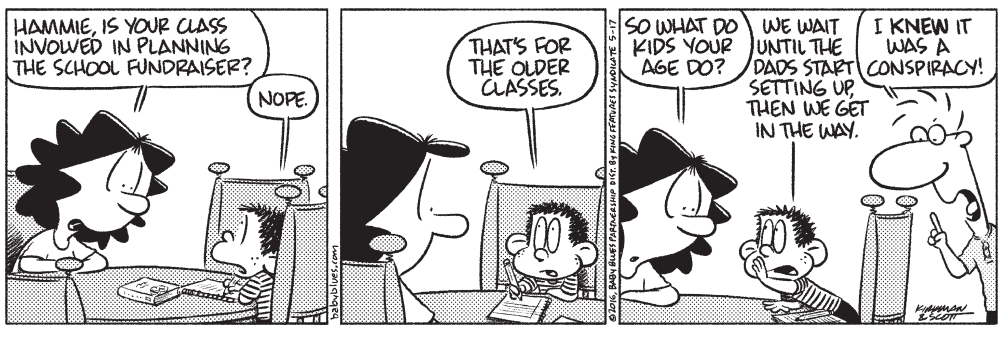

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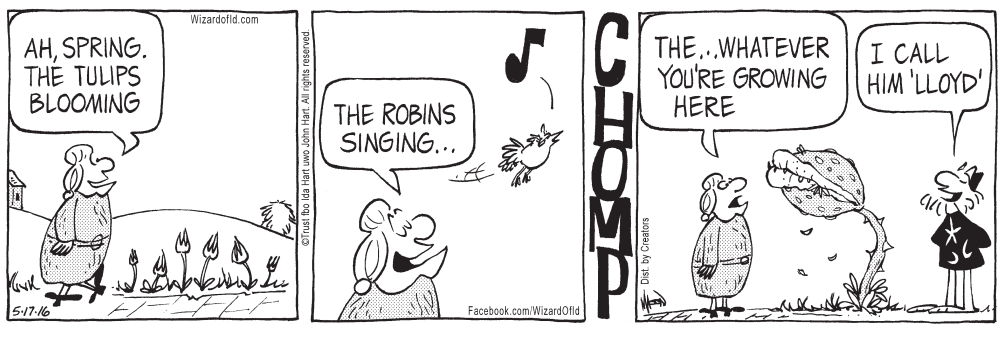

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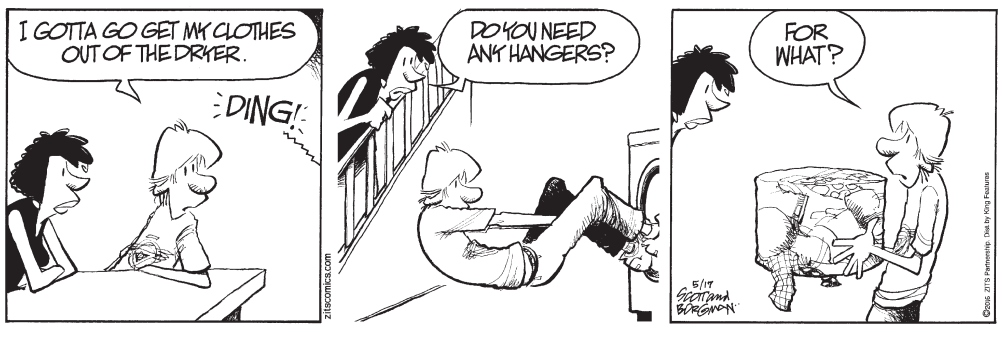
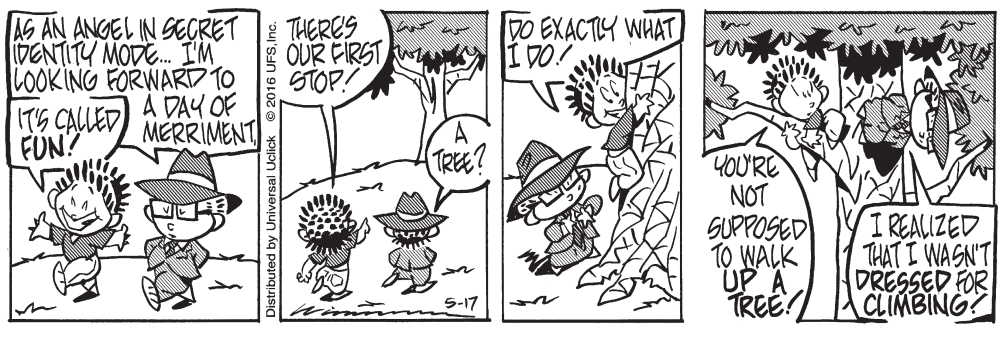
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