

Woman needs to stop singing

Dear Annie: I work in an area where we are allowed to listen to the radio during work hours. This is great, as I enjoy the music. The problem is, one of our co-workers feels the need to loudly sing along to the songs. It is extremely annoying and also distracting.

I am hoping this letter will be an eye-opener to all of those people who act like they are auditioning for a talent show at work. This is not the place. If you feel the need to sing, go to a karaoke bar. Even my earplugs can't drown out her voice. Any suggestions? — *Not Taylor Swift*

Dear Not: Have you spoken to your co-worker about not singing? Or at least singing more quietly? You don't need to disparage her talent. Simply say that you find the singing rather distracting and could she please tone it down so you can concentrate on your work. Be nice. Be friendly. You'd be surprised how cooperative people can be when you approach them kindly. You also can ask your supervisor to speak to this co-worker, explaining that her vocalizations make it difficult for some people to get their jobs done efficiently. And you might want to invest in a set of good quality



noise-canceling headphones that will put her on mute whenever possible.

Dear Annie: For the last 25 years, my brother's wife, "Ruby," has been stealing my pain pills and whatever else she thinks she needs or can sell to her friends. At first, I was unaware of this. I thought I was miscounting my pills or dropping them on the floor. But one day, I picked up a new pill bottle and noticed that half of them were missing. I had just come home from knee surgery and needed that medication.

After that incident, I developed more devious and secure ways to protect my medications. Someone (Ruby swears it wasn't her) used a pry bar on two small bathroom safes and again stole the pills. Worse, she replaced a few with identical-looking pills that I didn't

notice right away. I had a terrible reaction. I'm lucky the pills she substituted didn't kill me.

I finally bought a small safe that connects to the wall. Then my mother's jewelry started disappearing. So we put all of the house valuables in the safe. This worked well until Ruby lifted the spare key from sister's purse.

I was under so much stress, that my therapist recommended I move out, but I am disabled and my funds just don't stretch that far. Fortunately, my sister sold her condo. We plan to rent a house together and move my mom in.

I know that Ruby will never admit that she's the thief. She thinks this is a victimless crime. But if I don't get my pain meds, I can barely get out of bed in the morning and my whole day is shot. — *Need My Prescriptions*

Dear Need: If someone is stealing, but you cannot prove it, your best recourse is to lock up your valuables where no one has access but you. If your sister has a spare key, she should not keep it in her unlocked purse. We're glad you are moving to a more secure location. And thanks for the warning about taking the wrong medications. That can be lethal.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's time to convince the childish part of yourself that your higher-minded self is worthy of just as much respect as the other authorities in your life and then a whole lot more.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're in a position to be a tiebreaker; however, it is very likely that you will see both sides of the argument and agree with neither. Don't vote just because they ask you to. There has to be another answer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're learning the intricacies of an existing power dynamic. What will it take to become so self-sufficient you no longer have to deal with this? Someone is going to be put in charge of you, so it may as well be you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The work doesn't have to be pretty; it just has to get done. Make this your mantra when too many ultimately meaningless details call out seductively to you like sirens on the rocks.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've a genuine respect for younger people, as you see the unique creatures they are — better equipped for the future than anyone before has ever been. Older people also have your admiration and loyalty, in a different way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are sacred places in the world that are kept secret from people who wouldn't understand them. Your humble spirit will ingratiate you somewhere that a proud attitude would never be invited.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). No one is the same in every situation. You'll be around a person who brings out a rarely seen side of you and shows you something about your

potential that you didn't realize before.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There are many ways to get attention. People around you now seem to be pulling out all the stops to get yours, some by being attractive and successful, others by being loud and needy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your instruction will be valuable help. You'll also be excellent at matching individuals to the jobs they are best suited for and the people they are most compatible with.

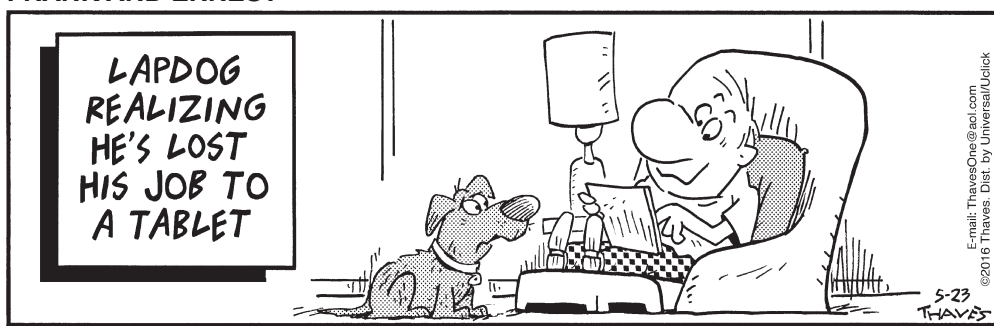
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Don't assume you're being understood or even heard. You may be surprised at what people are taking away from your conversation, and unless you check in and ask for feedback you won't really know.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The funny people in your life are probably about as high-maintenance as they are intelligent — and so worth every ounce of attention you pour into the relationship.

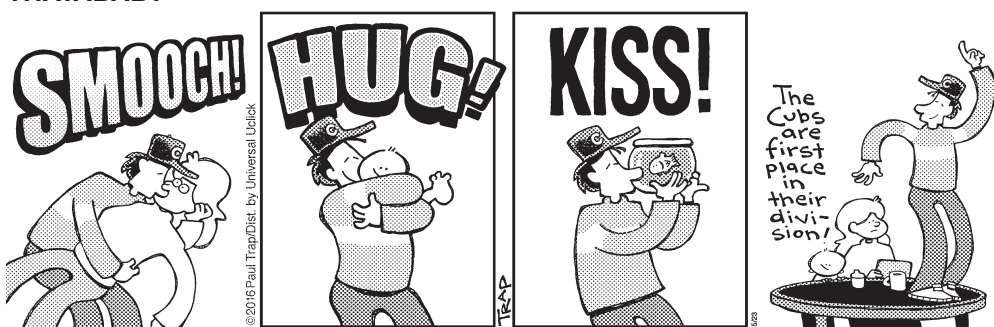
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). When you don't know what's going on behind the scenes, waiting for it to come together can be anxiety-provoking. The more you learn about what's involved in a production, the easier it will be to flow with the timing of it.

TUESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 24). It's a DIY kind of year. You may not wind up as autonomous as you expected to be, but you'll have a much higher quality of support around you, because of your independent spirit. Love decorates the next 10 weeks with surprises. The fantastic story that unfolds in September is one for the memoirs. Pisces and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 1, 22 and 18.

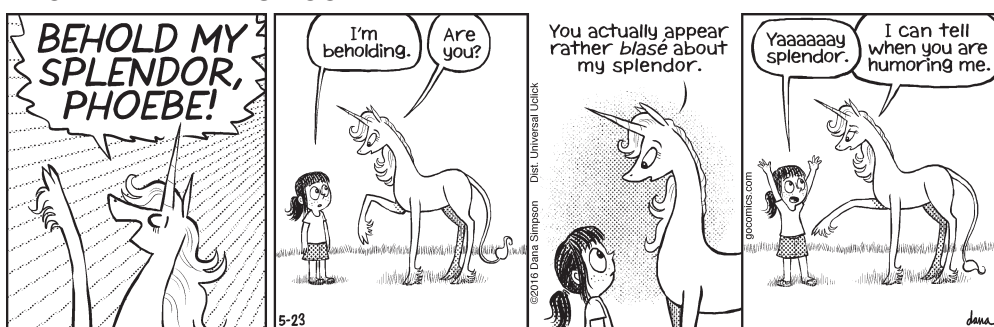
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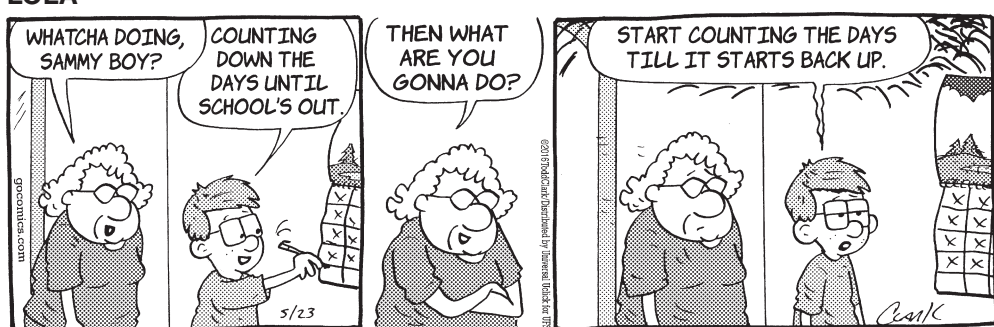
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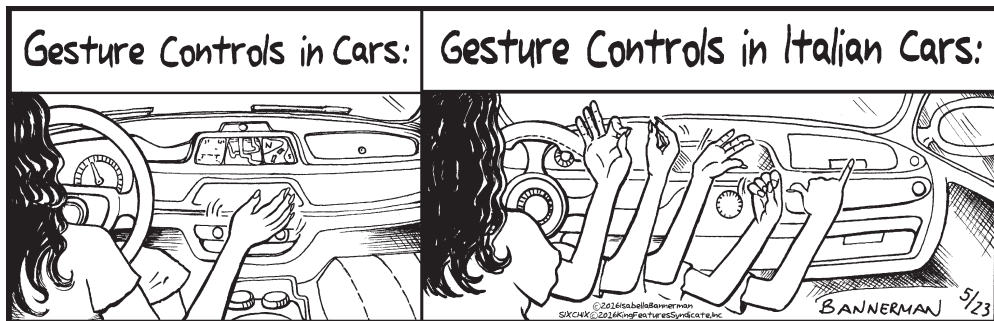
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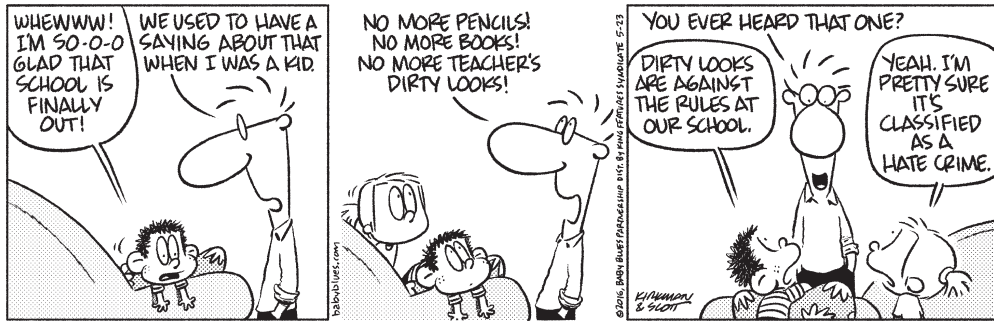
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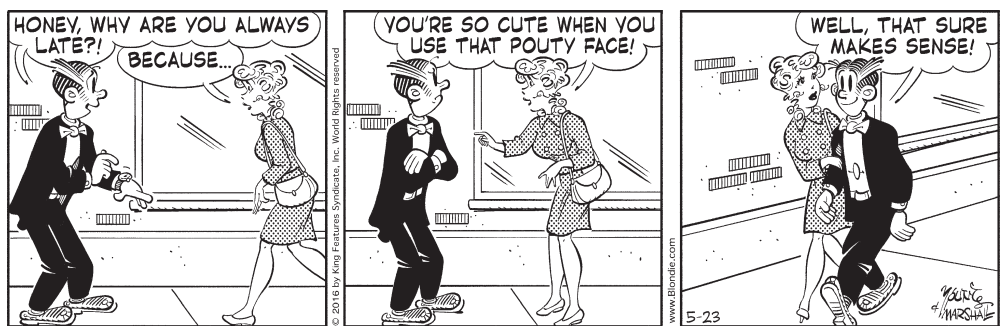
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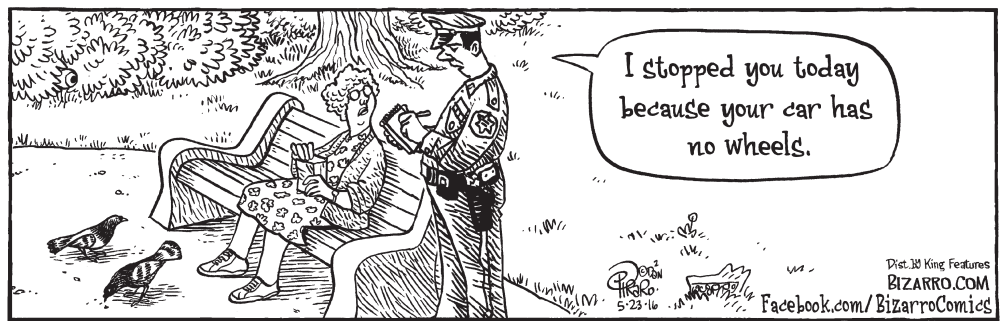
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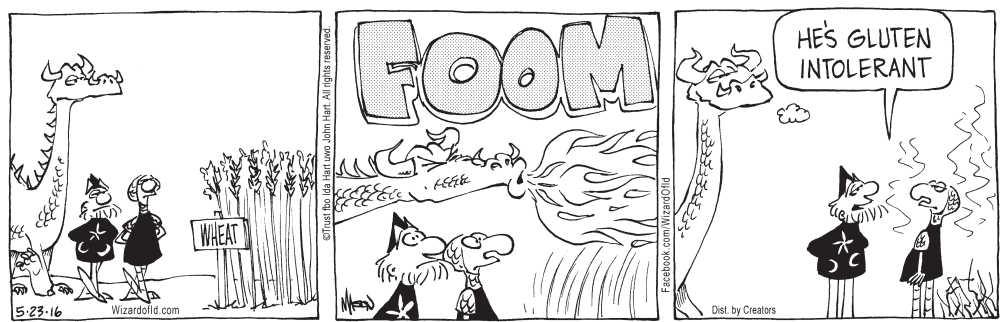
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