

Friend has no boundaries

Dear Annie: Morgan and I are from the same hometown, and a few weeks ago, she moved to the city where I live now. Though I'd never met her, we have a ton of mutual friends back home (or so I thought). She asked whether I'd show her around. I remembered what it was like to be new in town, so I was happy to help.

Morgan and I got along well and had a lot in common. The first night we went out, she asked whether she could sleep on my couch because it was so late. I said sure. Then she stayed the next night, without asking — and then the next. One morning, when I woke up, my car was gone. She had taken it to the store without even asking. She must have dug through my purse for the keys.

On top of this, she just got a job at the same store where I work. I started to get a little nervous about the lack of space, and I told her I needed to set some boundaries and hang out less.

This week, she asked whether she could live with me for a bit. I said no, but she won't stop bombarding me with calls. I asked a mutual friend what Morgan's deal is, and he told me that she's crazy and all our friends stopped talking to her years ago. Now what do I

Dear Annie



By **Annie Lane**

Creators Syndicate Inc.

cooler with my co-workers, yet I can't. The majority of the people I work with aren't big sports fans. The one other dude in my department spends his free time knitting sweaters for his pug. (I'm not even making that up.)

I come in Monday morning after a big Bears win, and people don't have a clue what happened 18 hours earlier. Jimmy Butler drops 53 on Philadelphia, and I want to compare his skills as a two-way player to MJ's yet have no one to talk to. The Cubs are in first place. The sorry, lovable-loser Cubbies, who haven't won a World Series in over 100 years, are in *first place*, and people in my office could not care less.

I like my job, and I do like the people I work with. It just feels as if there is a barrier, as if there is a side of me that they could never understand. How do I connect and get them to care about this stuff? — *Secret Sports Guy*

Dear Secret: If you focused more on doing your job, you'd be less bothered by the fact that your office isn't a sports bar. Sure, it's nice when we share the same interests as our co-workers, but it's by no means a requirement. Find time to connect with your fellow fans outside the office. Work is for work.

do? I feel really guilty ignoring her. — *Suffocating*

Dear Suffocating: Run; don't walk. You set boundaries, and she disrespected them. You told her she couldn't live with you, and she wouldn't take no for an answer. All this and you've only known her for three weeks.

I'm sounding the stage-five "clinger" alarm. Stop letting this girl into your life. Don't feel guilty; don't entertain any sort of dialogue. If you give her an inch, she'll take a mile (along with your keys, wallet and Social Security number).

Dear Annie: I work for a stationery company, and most of my co-workers are women. I am what you might call a guy's guy. I am a fan of every Chicago sports team (Cubs, not Sox). After a big game, I want to talk about it over the water-

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). One connection leads to another. Soon you will find yourself moving in the circles you've wanted to be a part of for some time. Also, you are coming into a lucky time for travel, and this weekend will be an auspicious time to book it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). This is no time to worry about being well-rounded. Do what you do, and do it better than anyone else. Focus on your strengths and other people around you will offset your weaknesses.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you had a time machine, maybe you would do it differently, but then you wouldn't be the person you are now. Considering the number of fans you have, you must be doing all right. Maybe you should let those regrets go.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The younger ones think you're wrong, and the elders don't see eye to eye with you, either. Maybe it is your job to disagree. Every generation has a right to define its own era.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The one that got away will glisten in the mind's eye with an unreal sparkle that makes all the ones that didn't get away seem dull by comparison. Pining for the missed opportunity is a poetic and unproductive use of time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You feel and give stronger than you did yesterday. It's like your life is suddenly infused with 10 percent more passion, and that 10 percent is all it takes to bump you into the realm of sweet success.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As for the one you loved... well, you still do, after all this time. It's definitely not something to keep to yourself. This is the stuff of life! Articulate and celebrate what's in your heart.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Hip and trendy people help you out with what they know and so do the traditional and practical types. The more open you are to different ideas, methods and information, the luckier you'll be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be cautioned by those who were wronged, scammed or ripped off in some way. Listen to the warnings, take precautions and then resume thinking in your usual positive way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It isn't what it was, and it's not what it could be. What you have on your hands is a bona fide work in progress, and rest assured you will work it and progress it to the very best of your ability.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Those beautiful words you're hearing are true. They might be difficult to live up to, and it might be a very long time before you taste the fruit of their promises, but you can rest assured that the words are not false.

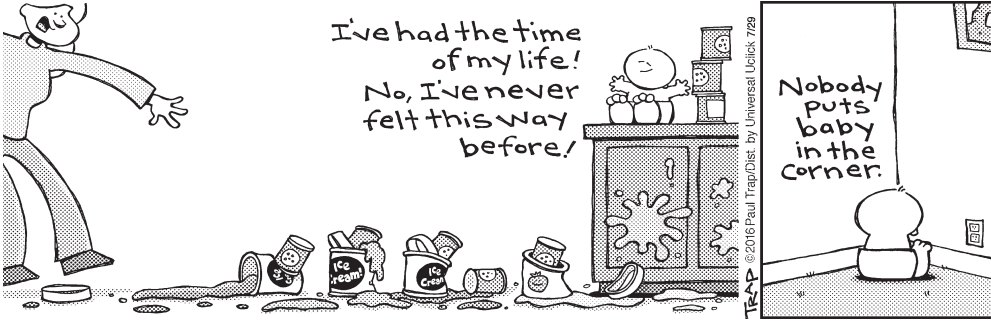
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Relationships are worth the big efforts. Get out of your element and share a brand-new place with a loved one. You'll have a unique and unforgettable experience that's just for the two of you.

SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 30). You'll finally win what you've been fighting for in August. Immediately figure out your next plan; you'll be surrounded by amazing potential additions to your team. Reconnect with someone from the past for an even more exciting adventure than you had last time. January is your lucky time for investing. April will bring a windfall. Capricorn and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 30, 22, 26 and 1.

FRANK AND ERNEST



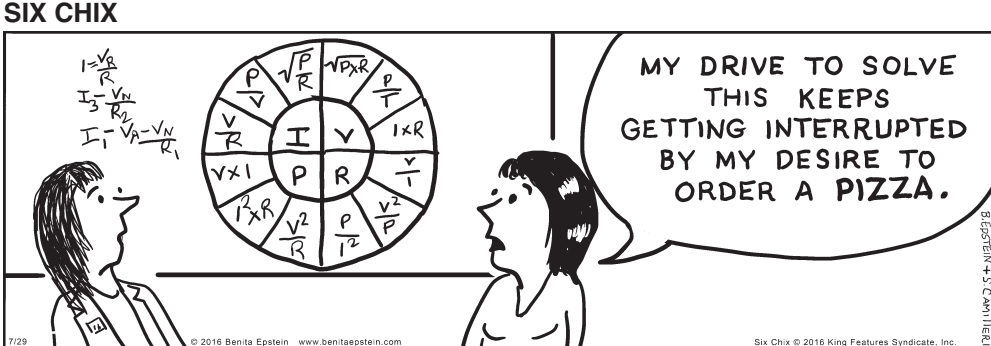
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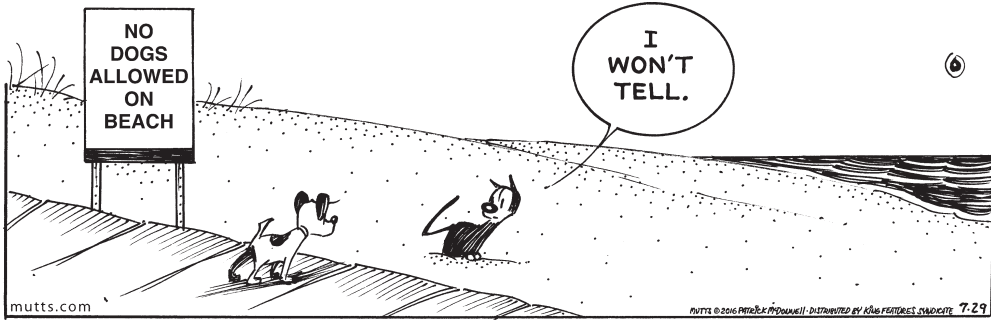
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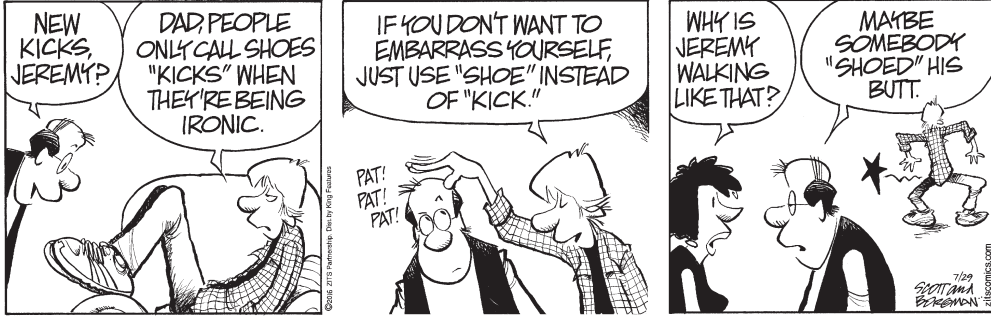
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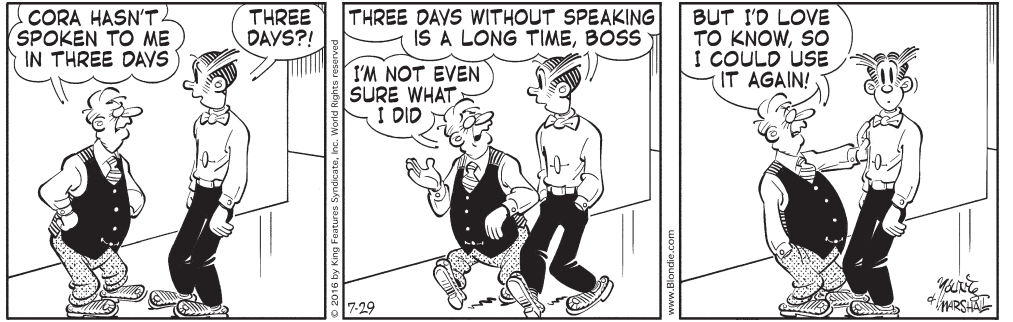
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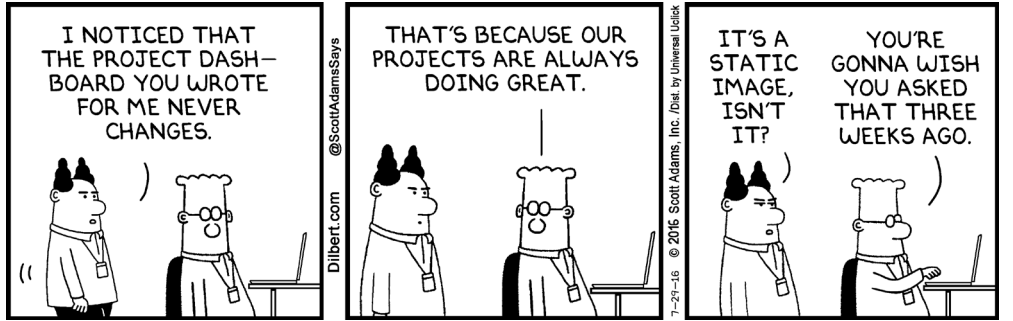
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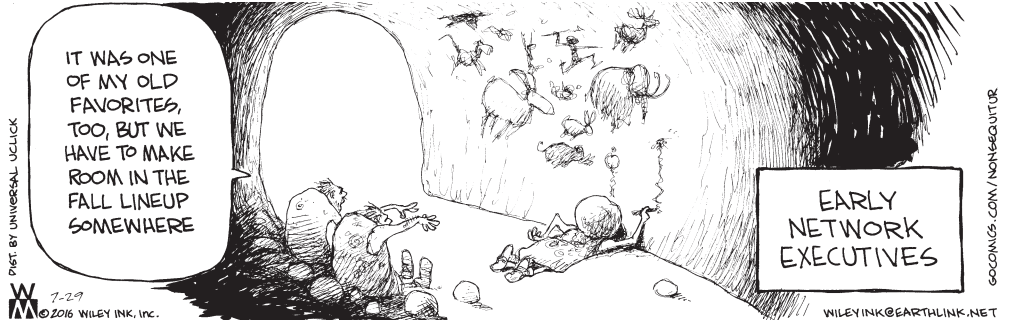
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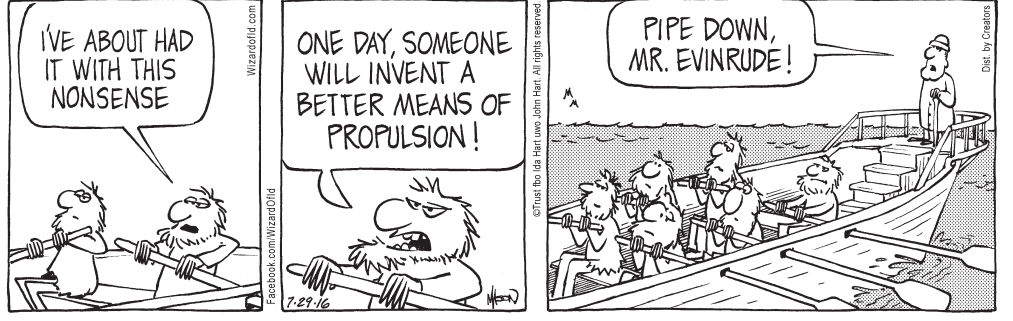
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NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

