

# Man must make leap of faith

**Dear Annie:** Last year, I got out of a 10-year relationship. I thought she was the love of my life — until she cheated on me with one of my friends. I was devastated, and only recently have I started to be remotely interested in dating again. Lately, I've been on a few dates with this girl — let's call her "Lauren" — and she is amazing. She's so beautiful and talented and kind. Just being around her makes me feel like a better person. I want to take things to the next level, but there's something holding me back.

I'm not sure I can bring myself to trust someone with my emotions ever again. What's the point of making ourselves so vulnerable when it so often just ends in heartache? This girl has set off no red flags, yet I keep waiting for the other shoe to drop.

How do people ever move on after such dramatic breakups? — *In My Shell*

**Dear Shell:** Risk is what makes trust possible. It's the gap that lets us take a leap of faith. If there weren't the possibility of falling, the feeling of landing safely on the other side would mean very little.

That's not to say we should jump into relationships recklessly or walk through life blindfolded. It's only natural — healthy, even — for you to

## Dear Annie



By Annie Lane

Creators Syndicate Inc.

feel cautious after what your ex-girlfriend did. But this new woman has given every indication that she is worthy of your trust. Go for it.

**Dear Annie:** I am 20 years old and have been best friends with this girl since we were 5. She's practically my sister.

She's engaged to a guy she began dating back in high school. Although he is very nice and genuinely cares for her, he does not seem at all mature enough to be married. After a single semester at a local community college, he left to pursue his dream of becoming a musician. He lives with his grandmother and works at Target. He gets extremely upset if anyone so much as suggests returning to school.

A little under two years ago, they broke up for about two months because he had objections whenever she hung out with any males not

related to her. Despite his insisting he trusted her, it was clear he didn't. One night after they had gotten back together, my friend called me sobbing, heartbroken, because he had been jealous and said hurtful things again.

I'm worried that my friend is being naive. She has said she would marry him tomorrow if she could, although she plans on waiting till she is out of school. She has asked me to be a bridesmaid. I can tell that she's trying to make me like the guy better.

I know it is not my place to tell my friend what she should do with her life. I do believe that they love each other, and I want her to be happy, which he seems to make her. But I still fear that she's making a mistake. Is there any way for me to express my concerns without destroying this cherished relationship? — *Looking Out*

### Dear Looking Out:

As you know, your friend really wants you to like this guy, so the more she senses your disapproval the less she'll open up to you about the reality of the relationship. The best thing you can do is to continue being there for her, ready to listen whenever she's ready to talk, willing to give honest input if and when she asks for it. She's lucky to have you.

# Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** The narrative you put together in your mind to explain who you are, how you got here and where you're going is overdue for some scrutiny. In short, the story in your head is running the story of your life, so make it good.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** They want to know what you think and will seek your opinion to find out where you're coming from. There are better ways to show who you are than sharing your opinion, though, so stay alert to opportunity.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21)** Exercise, reading, studying music — these are not frivolous extras to reward yourself with when you are "good." They are keys to your happiness and as important as other things you do to keep life running smoothly.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22)** What would you like a second crack at? It's a day of do-overs. And if you've failed to make a desired impression on someone, you can use today's particular kind of luck to turn it all around.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** You've no desire to be singled out for praise, placed in a special category or treated differently from anyone else. However, when this happens (and it will happen) be ready to graciously receive it before you deflect the energy.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Choose your passions carefully. Some are more manageable than others. As for interests that are known to be difficult to control, for now it may be best to exclude them altogether. You have a sense about trouble, so use it.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** If it's not difficult, you won't be in the mood for it today. Only challenges that are worthy of your effort

need apply! The same goes for your amusements. You'll keep your standards high.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)** Even though your plans obviously shape your experience, that experience always happens in the present moment. If the plan isn't working well, be ready to throw out the script and wing it.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Your ancestors had to struggle for freedom. It's a different battlefield these days, but the battle is the same. The fight will continue with you. Be valiant.

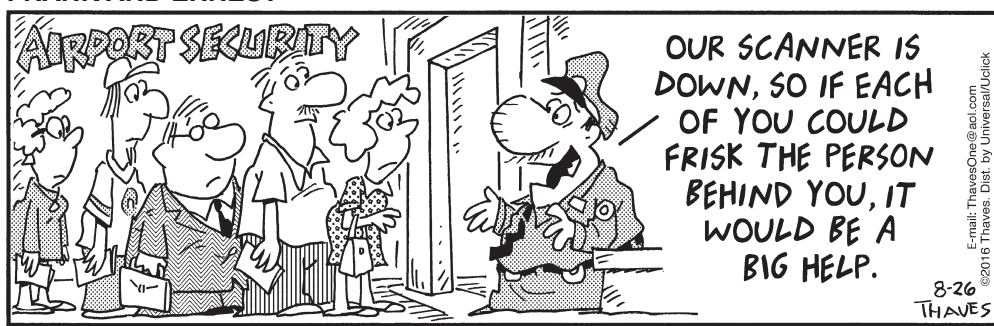
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Shiny things are often just reflecting the brilliance of some other source, like the sun. What you really need right now is not the reinterpretation of brilliance; you need the actual brilliance. Go to the original source.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** The nervous energy will keep building up until you discharge it. Start a project that will help you channel this in a positive direction. Tonight features fascinating chemistry.

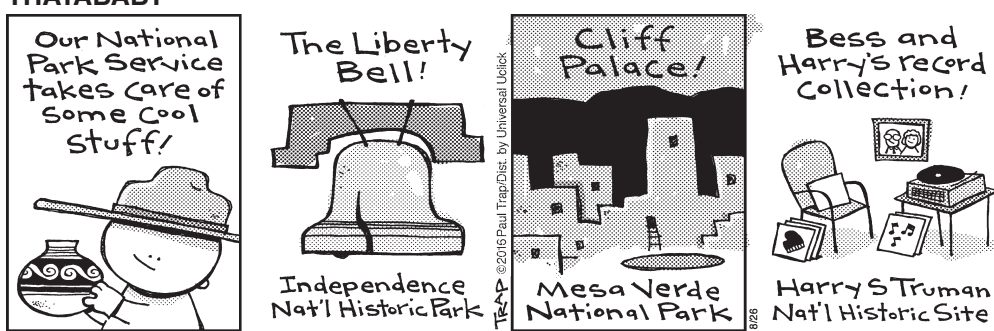
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** Contrary to popular myth, science proves that goldfish have memories longer than three seconds. And those who think that you, dear fish, don't remember who owes you big-time will have another thing coming.

**SATURDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 27)** Those on the outside might think you're acting on impulse or winning by luck when the truth is that you're acting out of a profound instinct for what's right and best and winning because you've been preparing for years to do just that. Exceptional relationships send you to new emotional heights in November and March. Leo and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 7, 10, 48 and 21.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



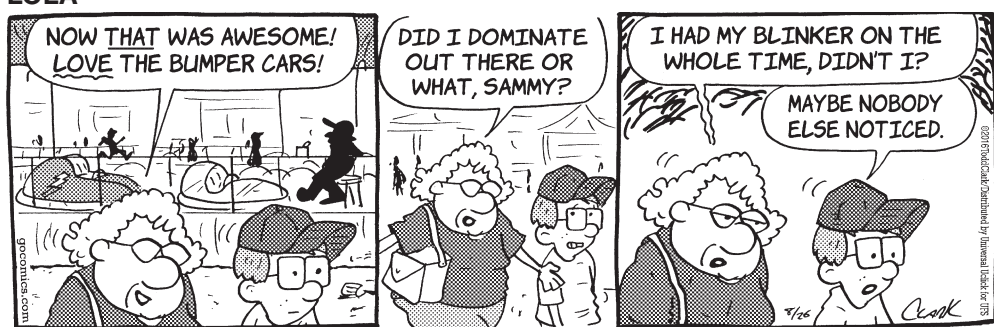
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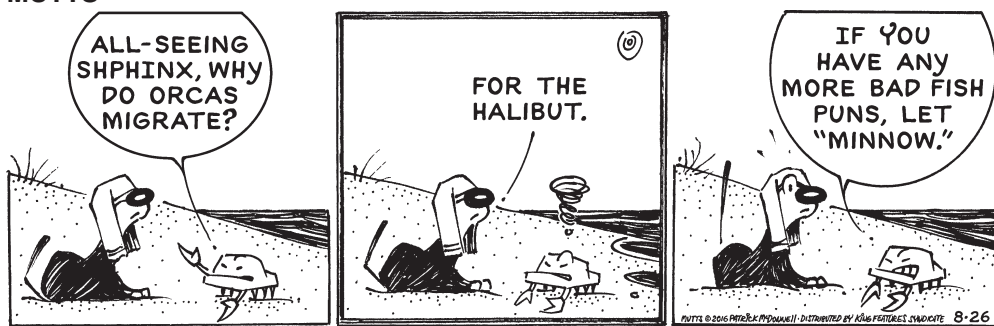
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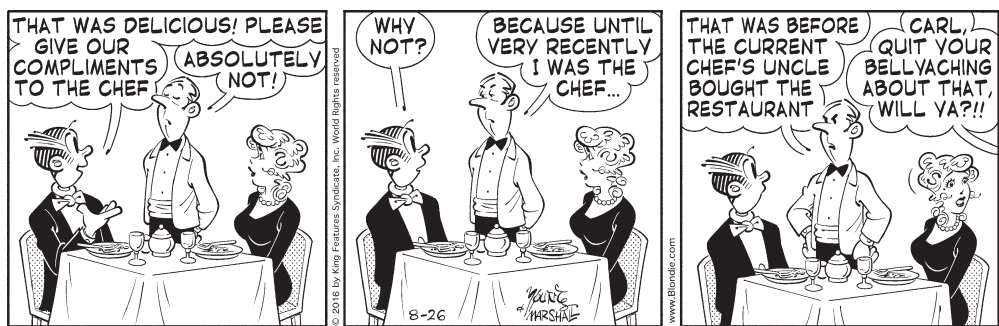
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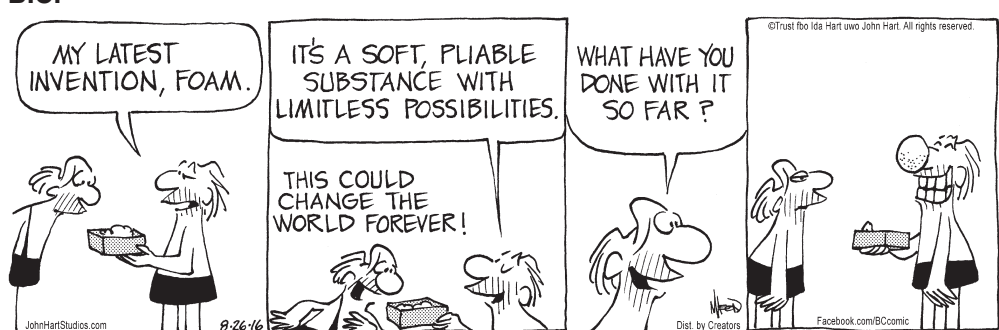
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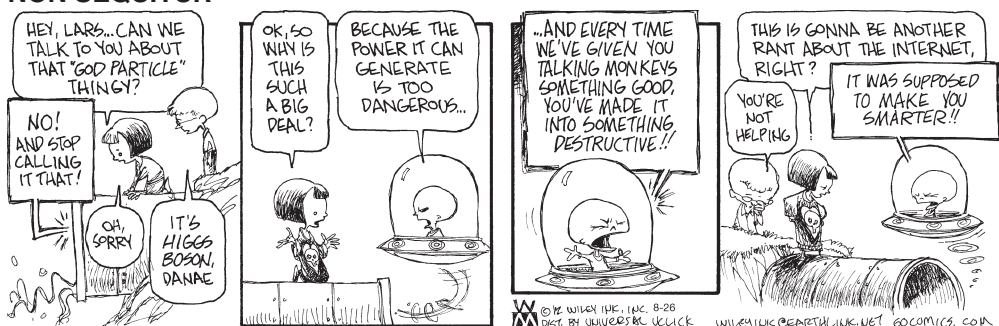
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## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

