

Snooping and trust issues

Dear Annie: Why do women think it's OK to snoop through boyfriends' phones or social media? It's such an invasion of privacy.

For background: I'm a guy in my late 20s. I'm trustworthy (I think). I've never cheated on a girlfriend. Yet a few women I've dated over the past few years have snooped. One read my emails when I left myself logged in on her computer. (I found out because a few emails were mysteriously already marked as read. Not great at covering her tracks.) The other didn't exactly snoop, but I noticed when she was showing me something on her phone that she had been Googling my ex-girlfriend's name. I took both those things as red flags. I want to date someone who is secure enough not to be jealous or suspicious.

I was talking to a group of my female friends about this, and all except one admitted that they've snooped, too. Most said they know it's bad, but one girl defended it: "If he's got nothing to hide, what's the big deal? And if he

Dear Annie



By Annie Lane

Creators Syndicate Inc.

is messing around, I'd rather know so I can move on." Isn't that sad?

I guess I'm just venting at this point, but I would love to hear your take on this one. — *Disappointed Dude*

Dear Disappointed: My take is the same as yours. Trust is the foundation of a good relationship. If you feel that you can't trust your partner, to the point that you'll invade his or her privacy, then what's the point? There is no love without trust. Have faith in your relationship, and it will flourish or not, but at least you'll have given yourself wholly to it. I hope the next woman you date understands this.

Dear Annie: I need some guidance. I'm new to the dat-

ing scene after my very long-term relationship fell apart earlier this year. I feel like a newbie. What's normal? I haven't dated in almost 10 years. Back when I was on the scene before, people weren't all meeting each other through apps. That whole prospect scares me, so I've been trying to meet guys the old-fashioned way so far.

Anyway, I've been seeing this guy for a little over a month, but we've only gone on four dates. Is that average, or is he not interested? My most recent boyfriend and I lived together for several years, so I'm used to hanging out almost every day. I find myself wanting to text or call this guy throughout the week. I don't want to suffocate him, but if he's not really into me, I'd like to find out so I can move on. — *Anxious*

Dear Anxious: I know it's easier said than done, but for goodness' sake, relax. Going out once a week is normal. Enjoy the slow pace, and focus on yourself. If love is going to kindle between you two, it will need oxygen.

Tomorrow's horoscope

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Chances are, you're having trouble stopping an unwanted behavior or thought pattern. This is the time to drop the effort. Focus on what you want to start instead. What's going to take the place of this pattern? Start with that.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Make it up as you go along. The one who will do this with you today is a true friend, maybe even a true love; that's what it takes to throw out the rules and open the gates and just trust the other person.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Did you ever think you'd be here? Look around with your "if I weren't me what would I see" head. That little thing you've been frustrated with has a pretty easy solution that will be illuminated by this perspective shift.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've more leeway than you think in a situation. Still, you don't want to push against the boundaries — not worth the backlash. So go slowly. Take a small step toward your preference and, ultimately, your freedom.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Most things won't be investigated until there's a problem. But why wait for trouble to find out what's really going on? Be proactive. Use curiosity now to build bonds and you won't have to use it to sort through a mess later.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When people move differently to the beat of the music, it's entirely possible that they're not really hearing the same music. Today will bring a classic case of "vive la difference!"

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Doing things the conventional way will cost you conventional amounts of money; that is to say, you'll be paying a lot. You could keep hundreds in your

pocket through creative thinking.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Theoretically, were it you in the scenario, you would behave in a certain way. Then again, life doesn't happen in theory. Since you won't know until you're in it (and you don't plan to be in it!), it's best to withhold judgement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a person who feeds the needs of your soul in a way that others cannot. The more attention and appreciation you give this person, the more your soul gets fed.

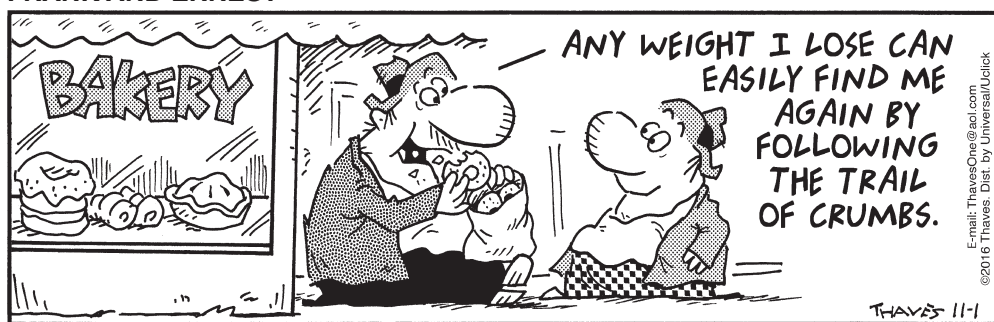
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Short-term strategies will have flash and impact, but if they don't lead to your long term goal then they are a detriment to your plans. Play the long game.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your impulse to put extra effort into appearances is right on. The way you present yourself may matter more to you than it does to the others, and that's just fine. You're the one who has to walk around in you!

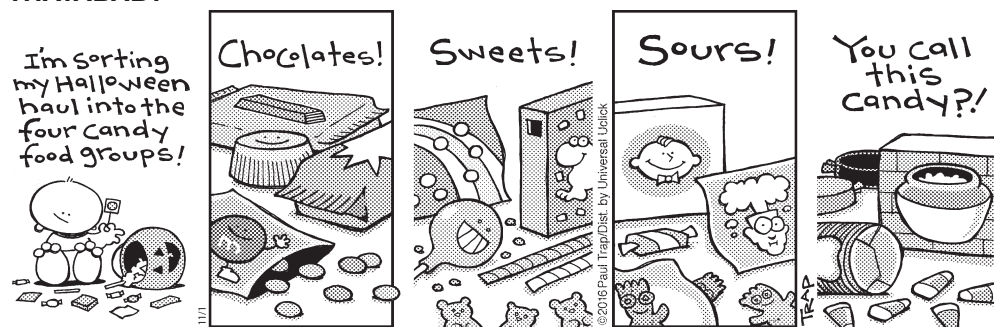
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's impossible to learn and grow if you don't sleep. Sleep is where life's processing happens. It's where the healing and rejuvenation happens. The value of rest cannot be underestimated these days.

WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 2). People offer decent advice, but the whisper of fate that comes from inside you this month is what you'll follow to augment your fortunes. Resolving a parental or authoritarian relationship will free up new energy. In January your fortunes will multiply as a direct result of your friendships. You'll be cash rich in March. Libra and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 9, 22, 21 and 16.

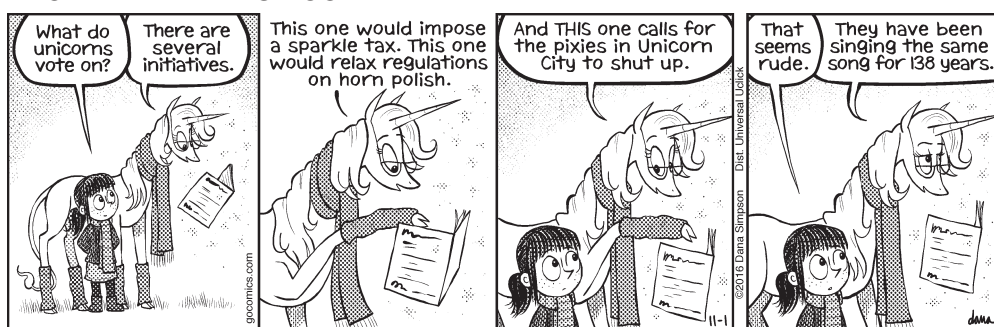
FRANK AND ERNEST



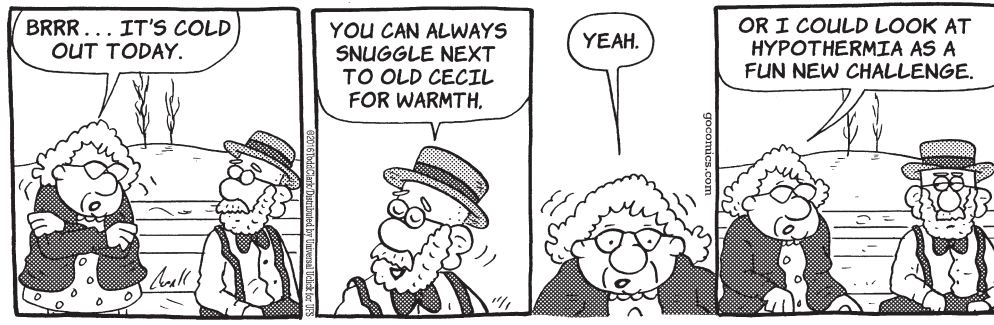
THATABABY



PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



LOLA



SIX CHIX



MUTTS



BABY BLUES



ZITS



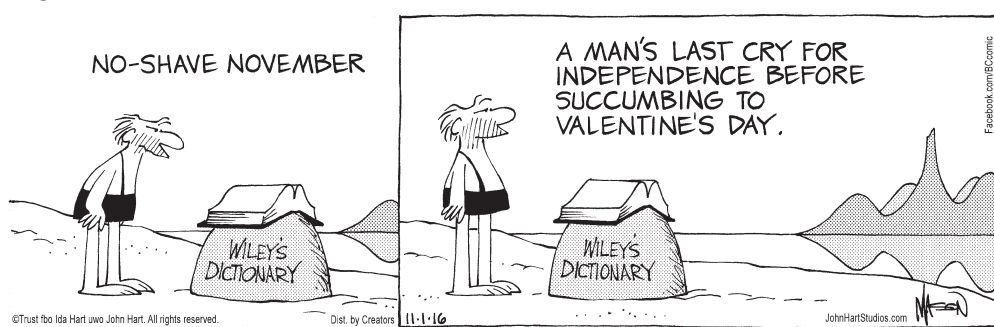
BLONDIE



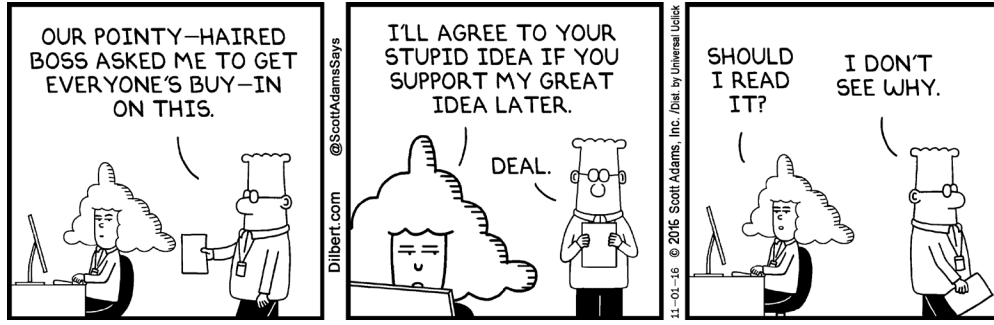
SALLY FORTH



B.C.



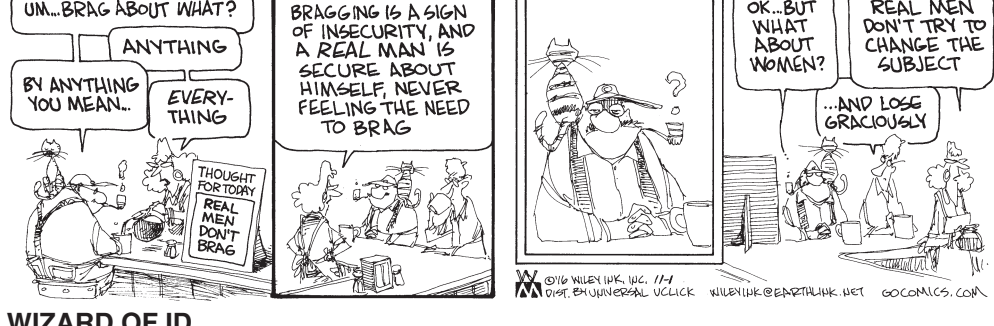
DILBERT



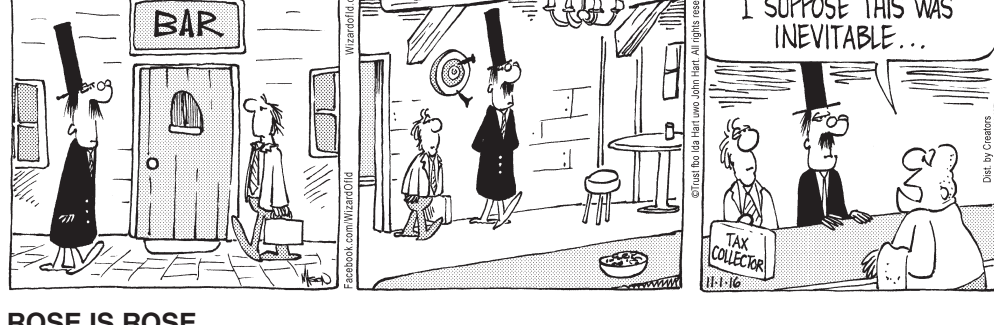
BIZARRO



NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

