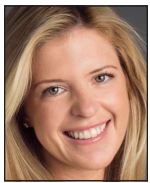


# Show me the money

**Dear Annie:** I have been dating this girl, "Laura," for about two months. Things are going extremely well. She's kind, funny, intelligent — all the things I look for in a woman. But we've been on many, many dates, and she's only offered to pay once. I am happy to pay, and I want to — she's a special girl, so I feel fortunate to have the pleasure of her company, and I really do care for her — but I'm in law school right now, and my well doesn't run that deep.

**DEAR ANNIE**



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

I've tried to drop hints here and there — suggesting we go to a more casual restaurant instead of the one with the tablecloth, hit the matinee rather than the movie at the Saturday date-night hour, etc. — and she's always down for the change of plans, but she doesn't seem to get it. I don't know whether she's just that clueless or she actually has that expectation (and will continue to have it for as long as

we're together). There's also a twinge of feeling as if she's ungrateful for what I do, which I don't want to grow. What's the best way to proceed? — *I Ain't No Mr. Moneybags*

**Dear Mr.:** Generally, I think whoever does the asking should do the paying. So if your partner's favorite restaurant is a ritzy, three-dollar-sign steakhouse downtown, by all means, she can take you. But she can't propose the idea and then expect you to foot the whole bill.

Seeing as how this is bothering you, it seems to be a red flag that she hasn't been offering to pay. Try raising your budgetary concerns in a friendly way, and keep the focus positive. Good on you for being generous these past two months. Chivalry is alive and kicking.

**Dear Annie:** I'm writing not with a solution for "Tired in Tulsa" but about her comment about being tired all the time since the birth of her baby.

I want to encourage all people, especially women, to take better care of themselves.

I was exhausted and tired while raising my children and working full time. I wish now I had not expected myself to do it all. I would have been a better person, parent and wife if I had done something to reduce my workload either at work or at home. And I might be feeling better now in my 60s if I'd taken better care of myself. And I wouldn't be looking back with regret at how I treated the people around me because I was tired and cranky.

I realize it may not always be economically possible, but many of us could do well with less. I think my family and I would have been better off with less money if it had meant I was in a better state of mind after taking care of myself.

So my advice to everyone is to do the best you can to get enough rest, exercise and good food and take care of your emotional needs. It's not selfish, because it does benefit everyone around you. — *Wishing I Had Taken Better Care*

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** A project seems to be taking over your life in many ways, including financial ones. Don't emphasize how expensive it is; rather, focus on the joy, education and relationships it brings.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** If you aren't busy working on your own goals today, you're working on someone else's. Whose? And how did this person get so lucky as to entice you to this line? It's an excellent time to review and rework the plan.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Stick to the one aim, the one person, the one ideal you want to hold up. Multitasking pretty much ensures malcontent. Try and do two things; none get done.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You'll give yourself the good advice like you usually do, but no guarantees that you're going to follow it. And who is the "you" who's giving it anyway? Is this person taking into consideration all (the humor, fun, bonding) you need?

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Some call it moral courage, some call it optimism, and you don't call it anything, because this is how you are. You're the one moving forward, seeing the possibilities, giving that big smile and feeling groovy today.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** When you love something there are two modes you often take. You either make it sacred, and stash it on high in an untouchable place, or you play with it every which way until it's worn-in like only you could do it.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Your happiness is not dependent on approval, excitement or reward. You're curious. You find it easy to like people. These qualities are what drive you to the interesting places.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Every time you think of a memory, you corrupt it. It's not just you; these are the wonderful adaptations of the human brain. This is why history is more of an art than a science — something to keep in mind now.

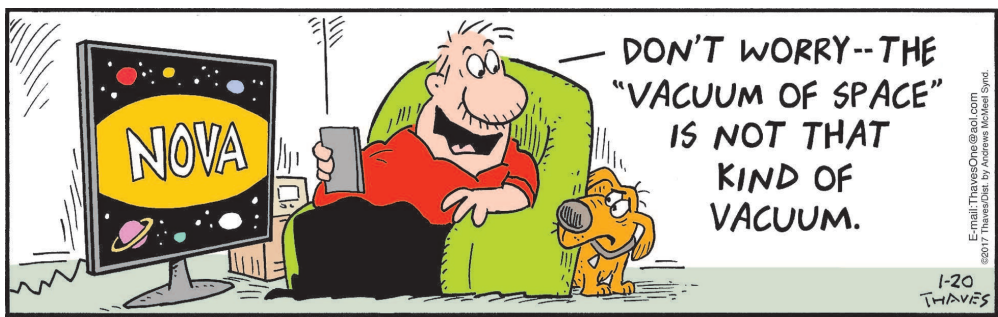
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** To change yourself is to change the world. Most people don't think of it, though. It's not the most popular quest. Everyone is trying to make a mark outwardly. The inward changers — they're onto something.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Storms on Jupiter make earthly hurricanes look infantile. But that's just how it is around here. Nothing on earth can rage indefinitely. When passion dies down, as is its natural course, acceptance is grace.

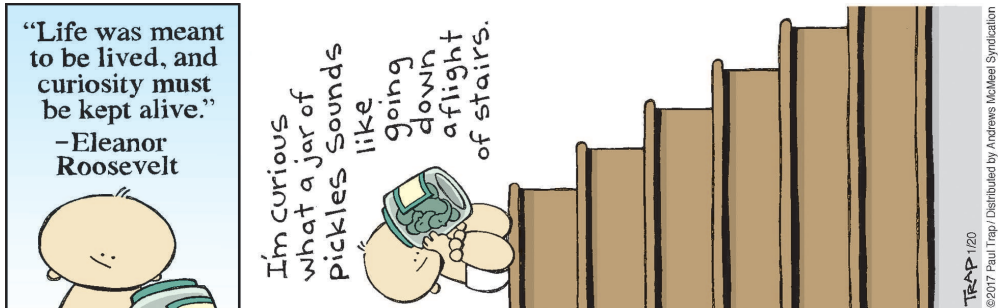
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Since you're going to travel the same roads time and again, why not sprinkle some wildflower seeds as you go, so you'll have pretty changes to watch along the way? **PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You wish time would change things for you, but it's becoming clear that you're going to have to do it yourself. A little more grit, a little more muscle, some negotiations, a sprinkle of charm — you're almost there.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 21).** You give the others a sense that you're in it together, and that's some of the reason they really want to be in it with you. The shrewd, timely and lucrative actions you take in the next 10 weeks don't hurt either! What marches into your life in March will open your heart. Then June takes it to a contractual level. Taurus and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 3, 22, 28 and 9.

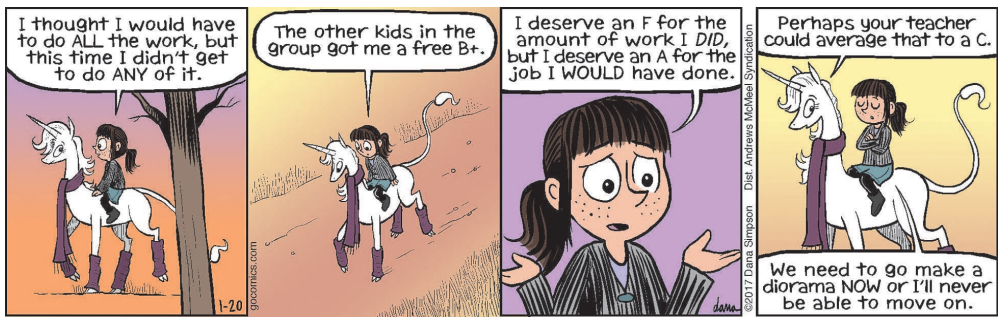
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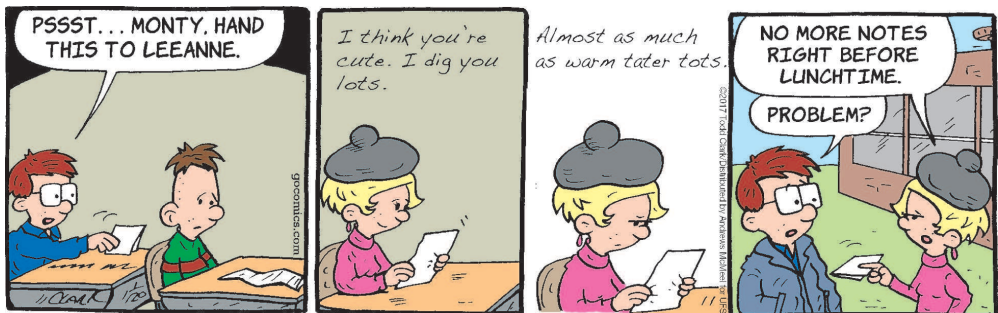
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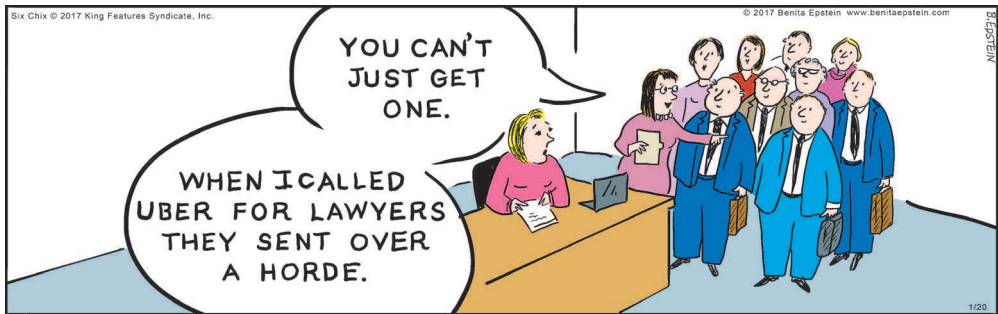
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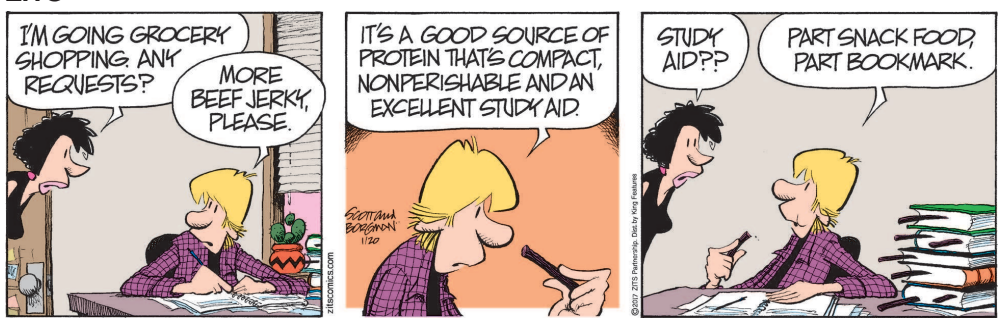
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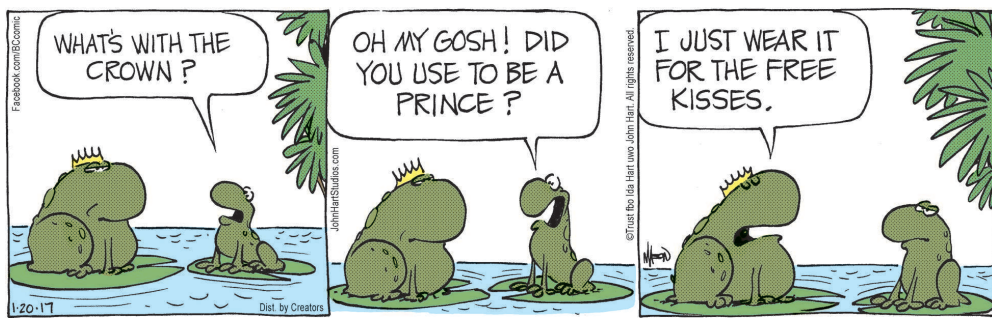
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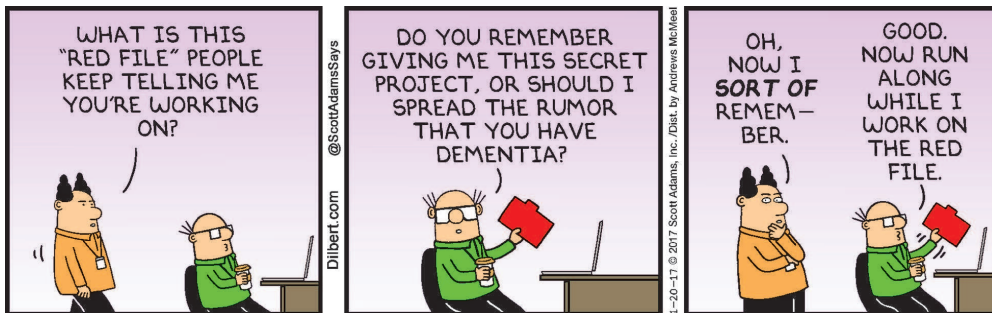
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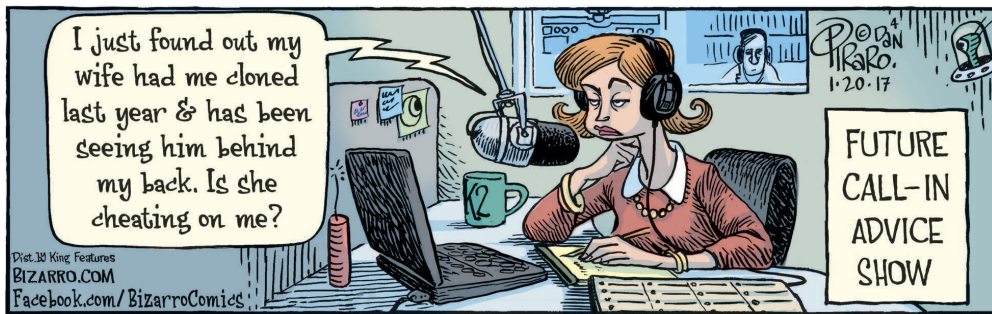
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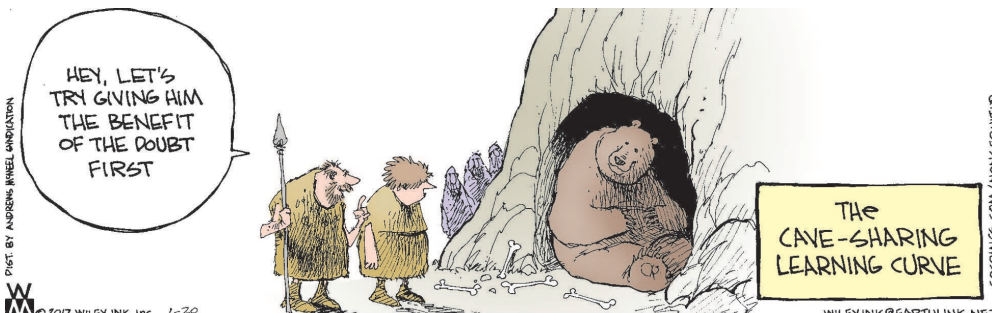
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**WIZARD OF ID**



**ROSE IS ROSE**

