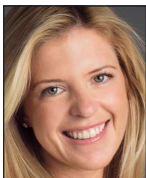


# Cousin is paranoid, angry

**Dear Annie:** My sisters and I have this cousin who is always confrontational and angry over the littlest things, and it has become very frustrating to us. When we get into conversations and someone makes a statement, she thinks it is pertaining to her when that is not even the case. When we go out to a restaurant or just stop in a store and someone happens to be laughing or happens to look her way, she thinks it's all about her.

## DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

She gets mad and starts raging if things don't go her way. She always quits jobs because of all the confrontations she has with people and always says it's her fault. This has become so frustrating to us, and we don't know what to do. It's just like stepping on eggshells. Any little thing will set her off. One time, we went out to dinner, and afterward, she was upset and sent a text saying we could have told her about a stain on her blouse. (None of us had noticed it.) How do we handle this? She has been like this for years, but it seems to be getting worse. — *Frustrated*

the steamboat is always ready to blow. If you all had in fact told her about the stain on her blouse, she'd very likely have been upset about that, too.

It's time to bring her into port with some real talk. Stage an attitude intervention with the help of your sisters. Express concern rather than make accusations. Tell her that you feel her perspective is often pretty cynical, and say you're wondering where that's coming from. The worst she could do is fume at you, and from the sound of it, she'll be doing that anyway.

**Dear Annie:** This is in response to "Grossed Out," who is disgusted with over-the-top displays of affection in public and wanted to know whether she is just too old-school.

It can be awkward to know how to respond when couples' PDAs go over the boundaries of propriety, and I struggle with it myself. I did a bus trip at night recently, and given the murmurings from behind me, I could tell it was getting hotter and heavier.

The bus was just about completely dark. I turned my head to see the woman half in the aisle and half all over the man in the seat across the aisle. What burst out of me was, "Ma'am, if you're going to get sexual, you need take it off the bus!" A friend she was traveling with, sitting on her other side, chimed in, "Come on, knock it off. I don't want to get put off the bus. I need to get home."

The woman did stop and go back to her seat, to the relief of several of us. I had addressed my remarks to her mostly because it had been clear from their audible comments that she did not know the man at all at the beginning of the trip but had been steadily coming on to him. (Of course, he was complicit, as well.) Was she drunk? Stoned? Mentally ill? I was sad about it, as well as disgusted. But perhaps my remarks helped her not go home with someone not only sleazy but dangerous. — *Glad I Spoke Up*

**Dear Glad:** Kudos for speaking up even when it was awkward to do so. If you're a bystander to a similarly dicey situation and you don't feel safe, get the attention of a security guard (if one is available) or call the police.

## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Fun? You're game! The world seems to sense this about you and will offer opportunities to practice the spectrum of mirth — grinning, laughing, hooting, hollering and dancing ... it's all in the offering.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Your work will only be as good as you can make it right now. So don't worry about how it measures up. That part is out of your hands. Just do your work until you come to the end of your fear and inhibitions.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You'll attract people who want to help you, align with you or simply keep your company on this part of the journey. You can accomplish the same without these potential partners, but it won't be nearly as easy or fun.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Though your idea may start the action today, what happens because of this isn't really about you. There are riches to be filled, and as people fall into position, lives will change.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** For whatever reason, it may be the wrong time to let the others know what you really think — at least not everything. It's the right time, however, to start moving instinctively and privately toward your ideas.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** There are strong intuitive currents running through you today, and what's even better is that you're inclined to believe them. You feel it when you feel it, and when you don't, there's nothing anyone else can do about it.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Though you may never have to weather the extreme elements, you want a warm, durable coat that can handle such a remote possibility. This coat-shopping

metaphor will apply to some part of your life.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Today, your wit is what a mandolin is to a butter knife: You're sharper and more precise, and the result is artfully impressive. Take precautions to avoid hurting someone accidentally.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** If you speak highly of what you do, the next thing that will happen is that people will want you to do it for them. Gauge your speech based on this. If it's not your desire to service others at this time, hold your tongue.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** If you keep solving a problem in the same way, does that really count as a solution? Maybe there something you could do to handle this once and for all. Ask around.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** Remember when you fretted for nothing? Let that discourage you from today's worries, or at least consider taking a break for the day — you can always resume worrying in the future.

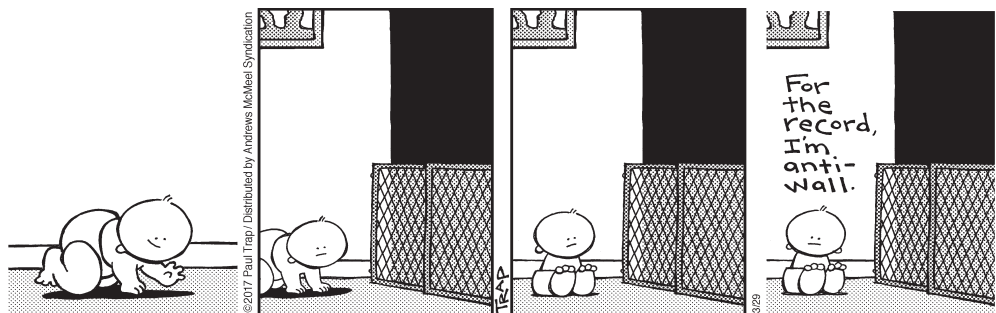
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** If you followed the directions on your shampoo bottle too literally, you would be rinsing and repeating until the bottle ran out. Today, you'll approach every endeavor with common sense first. You'll read directions as a last resort.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (March 30).** Like a bird pecking its way out of an egg, you're emerging into a wider world this year. There's much to learn over the next three months, and a wise guide will show up to help. A financial drain will be sealed and healed in April. In June, you'll strike emotional gold. August brings a wonderful love story. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 39, 2, 24, 44 and 16.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



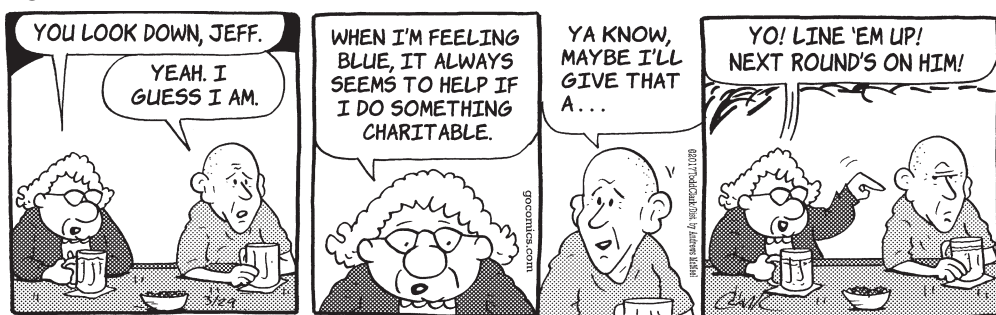
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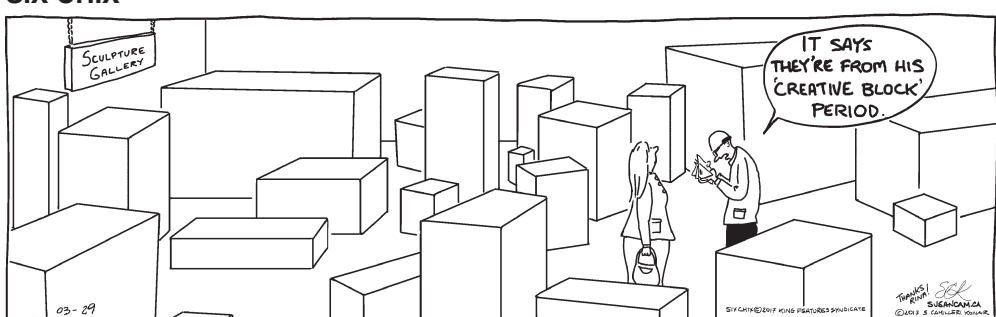
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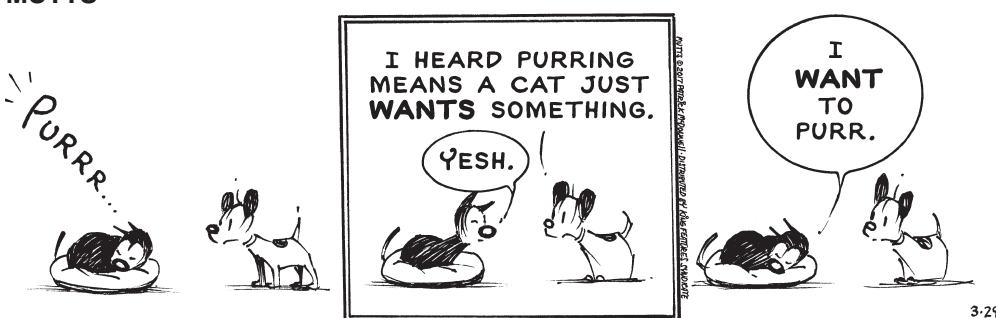
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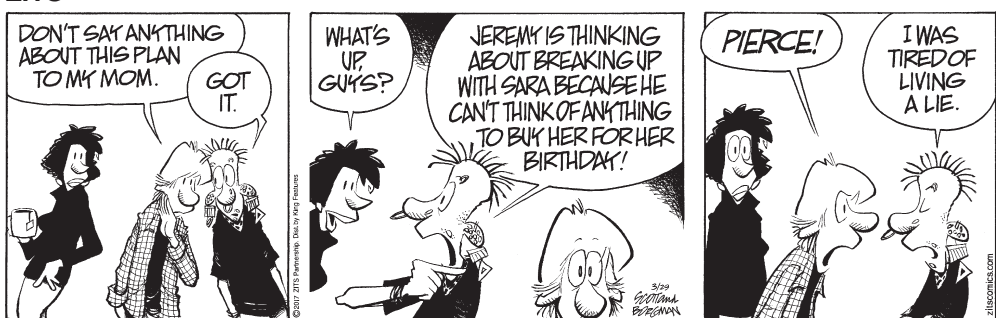
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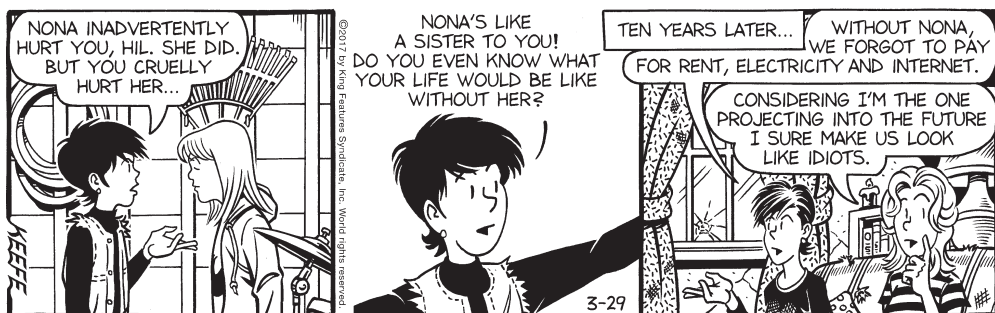
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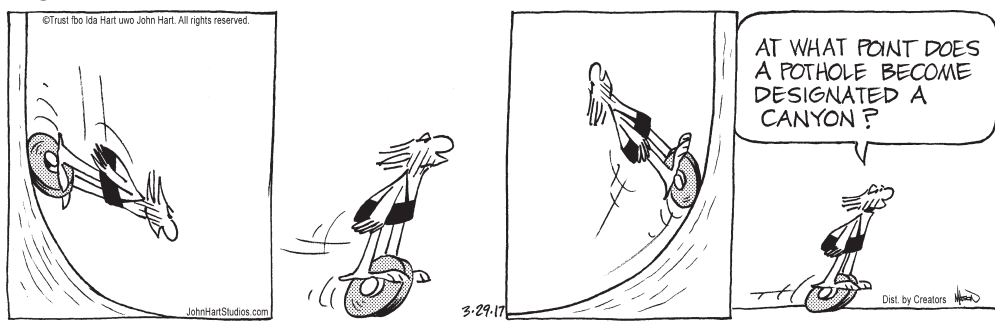
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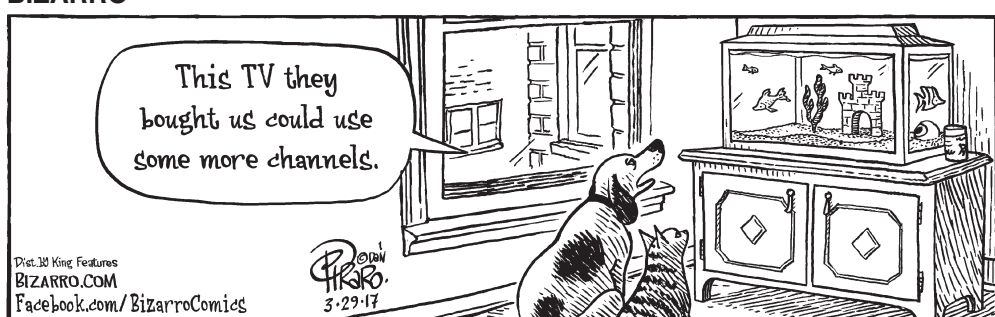
## B.C.



## DILBERT



## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

