

Making eyes with other men

Dear Annie: My husband of 45 years and I are at our wits' end. We have seen counselors and even tried hypnosis, to no avail. I have a very unusual problem: I am not able to stop looking at men sexually.

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

I have had this problem all my life. A lot of the times, I don't remember even looking; my husband points it out to me. I wink and look at them below the belt to get them to hit on me, and I get turned on by this. I ignore my husband and tune him out. I'm in my own little world. I shut out everything and everyone else around me except my victim. It doesn't matter what the man looks like. Even when I'm not looking at them in a flirtatious manner, I tend to stare at men for longer than is appropriate.

This has become a horrible habit. It has to stop. My husband has been very patient with me over the years and has tried to help me with this but now has given up on me. I feel worthless and often don't want to live anymore. I have hurt him so badly that I can never be forgiven. He can never trust

me again. He is afraid to go anywhere with me, not knowing what I'll do next. Please help me! — *Desperate in Montana*

Dear Desperate: You've tried therapy before, and now it is time to try again. If you didn't feel that the previous counselors were a good fit, do not hesitate to ask your primary care doctor for other recommendations. Even if a therapist can't fix the problem, he or she can at least provide support, which you very much need right now. Lastly, I must implore you not to hurt yourself — and if you feel that you might, call 911 or the Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-8255).

Dear Annie: I read the column about "Jenna," who is a hoarder, and how terrible the conditions of her house have become. At first, I had nothing but sympathy for that situation, but I thought about how the letter mentioned that this woman has two nearly grown kids, one going to be a sophomore, the other a senior. It is difficult for me to fathom how these teenage children, despite their mother's problems, haven't

learned how to clear the table, wash the dishes, clean the litter box, put out some pest poison, do the laundry or sweep out the feces. They could not learn this on their own? This is what I have a problem with. If they could not learn to do these things, then what have they learned at all? I learned how to do chores when I was 7 years old, including washing dishes and housecleaning. On my own, I learned to help my mother do things when she was too busy doing other things. I'm sorry I am not more sympathetic, but for these conditions to exist even with teenage children, I just don't understand it. — *James*

Dear James: You cannot expect children who grow up in a hoarder home to develop good housekeeping skills. Additionally, hoarders tend to hold tightly to a sense of control over their surroundings. (Never mind how out of control the situation looks to everyone else.) It's very possible that these children have tried cleaning up their home but were met with Mom's resistance. So though I commend you for helping out around the house as a child, I wouldn't be so quick to judge these kids.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Not all relationships are built to last. If they were, you'd have too many of them to devote the amount of quality attention necessary for truly special relationships. You learn something from even the briefest encounters.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can and should become your biggest fan, especially in these early stages when the others aren't quite getting it yet. You've already been your worst critic and biggest adversary, and it was pointless. Go easy on yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Every wrong answer is an opportunity to get smarter and find the right one. It doesn't matter how long you've traveled in the wrong direction. If it's the wrong direction, it's not going to get you there; so just turn around.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be making some choices and changes today — molding your world before someone else does. It might not be pretty at first. Art is like this. It often looks like a mess right up until it all comes together.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There are those who will tell you that certain pursuits are a waste, but you're actually the only one who can determine this for yourself. Chances are, if it brings you enjoyment, it's not wasted.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Since no one wants to hear about things that were intended but didn't quite happen, your choice is to take action. Better to be wrong and strong than well-intentioned with no follow-through.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be wise to put more thought into what would be most comfortable, functional and appropriate for what's to come. The way you dress today will

have a disproportionately significant impact on what unfolds.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll get into some fun. Some might even call it trouble, and they wouldn't be far off. On the bright side, it's likely to be the kind of fun/trouble that bubbles up then recedes just as quickly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've learned from your teachers, and yet what you're delivering these days has a flavor that's all your own. It may be time for you to step out and share your unique take on it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's a mystery to solve, and it's time to get to the bottom of it. Dig deeper. There is something to solve here. You're equipped with the right tools, too, mainly diplomacy and curiosity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're misunderstood. It's not that you're being unclear; it's just that you're not speaking their language. Try again. Break it down. Figure out what words are not breaking through. You got this.

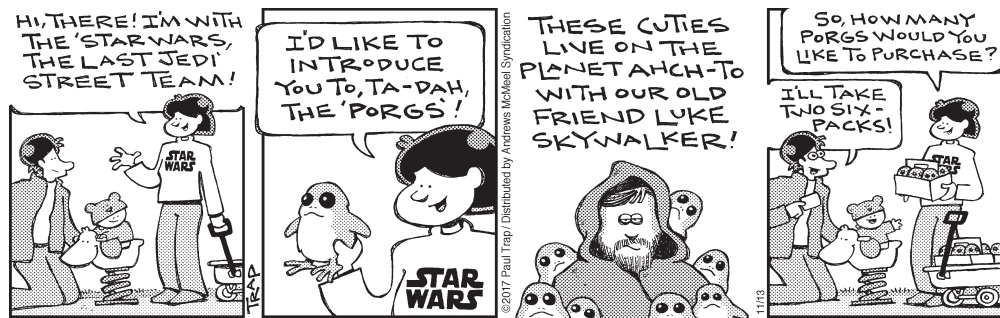
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You were hovered over, adored! Now the energy has shifted, and someone else is getting the attention. It's only natural to feel a little weird, but you're also glad that you can finally do what you want without so many eyes on you.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 14). The sun aligning as it did at the day of your birth brings with it magical blessings, wishes granted, desires fulfilled. You will be uniquely centered in your needs, attracting them like crazy, especially over the next eight weeks. Just double-check to make sure that what you need and want is really the best for everyone. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 20, 1, 16 and 22.

FRANK AND ERNEST



THATABABY



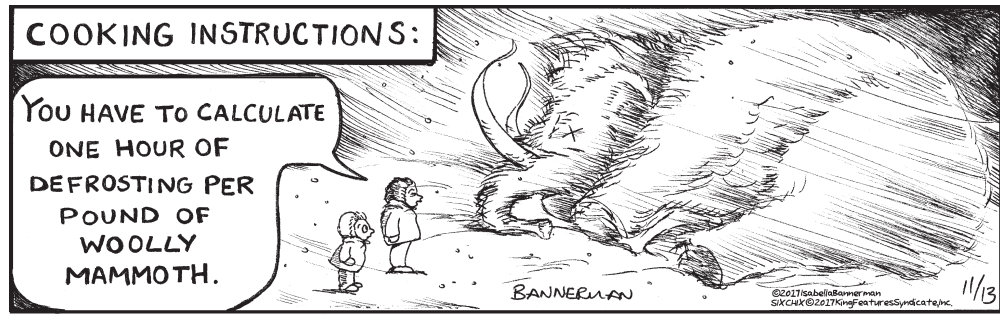
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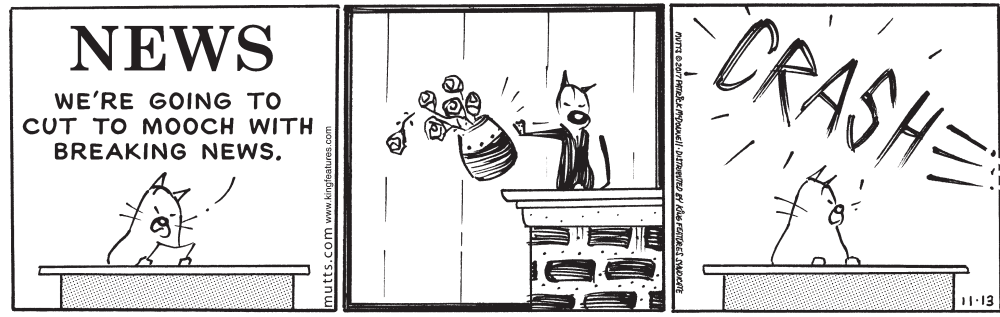
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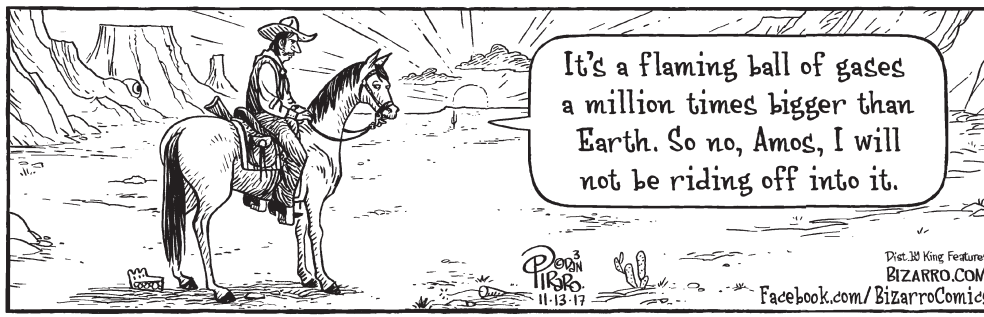
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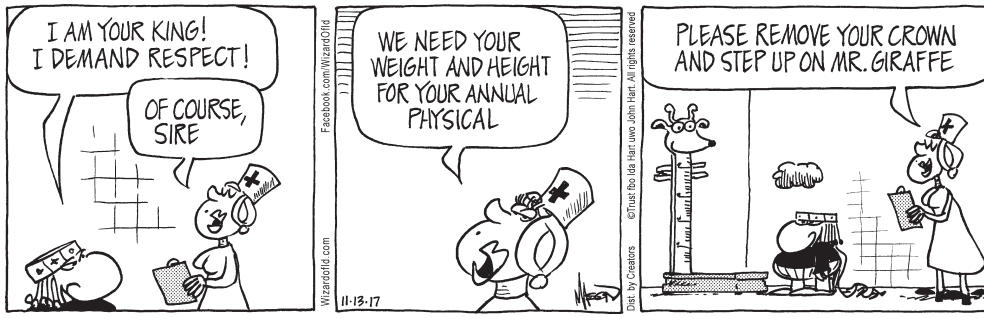
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