

# Her suspicion runs deep

Dear Annie: I've been dating "Tim" for about a year. When we first started dating, I was intimidated by how pretty some of his female friends were, but that feeling faded when I got to know them. They've all been warm and welcoming — that is, except for one girl. I've always gotten a weird feeling from "Meg." She hasn't been mean exactly, but she's always just been a bit standoffish. I can't put my finger on what it is. She's been perfectly polite and not obviously cold.

## DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

But something makes me wonder whether she and Tim used to have a thing or she likes him now. Oddly, this didn't start really bugging me until about a month ago, and I'm thinking that may be because Tim and I have been spending a little less time together. I've been really busy with work, and so has he, and our schedules don't line up great.

I've been afraid to bring this whole thing up with him. I don't want to drive him away by act-

ing jealous. Plus, he's given me no reason to worry. He is very trusting of me and doesn't mind that some of my best friends are guys. He proudly introduces me to everyone as his girlfriend. And perhaps the ultimate sign of trust in this day and age: He never hesitates to let me use his laptop.

Yet I still keep thinking about Meg and wondering whether the two of them text, and when he leaves the room, I'm tempted to look at his phone. I know; it's bad! I haven't given in to the temptation, but if this feeling keeps up, I'll probably cave eventually. Am I being paranoid? How can I tell? — *A Little Green*

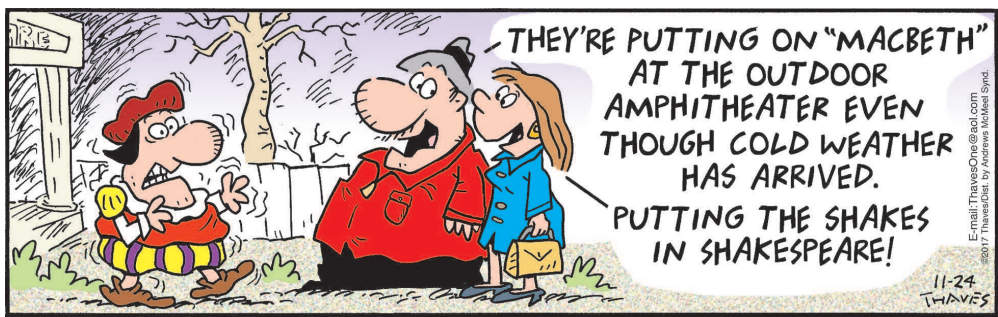
**Dear A Little Green:** When you find yourself acting like a private investigator with your partner, redirect that magnifying glass to examine yourself and your relationship instead. I don't think Meg is the problem. I think that you were having some anxiety about the relationship and that she's what

your mind latched on to. Still, because it's been bothering you this much, it's worth gently raising the topic with Tim. Tell him you've always felt a little intimidated by Meg, and ask whether there was ever anything between them. He won't get defensive if you present it as an earnest question and not as an accusation. Communication and trust go hand in hand, and if you can learn to speak openly and listen carefully to your partner, deeper trust will follow.

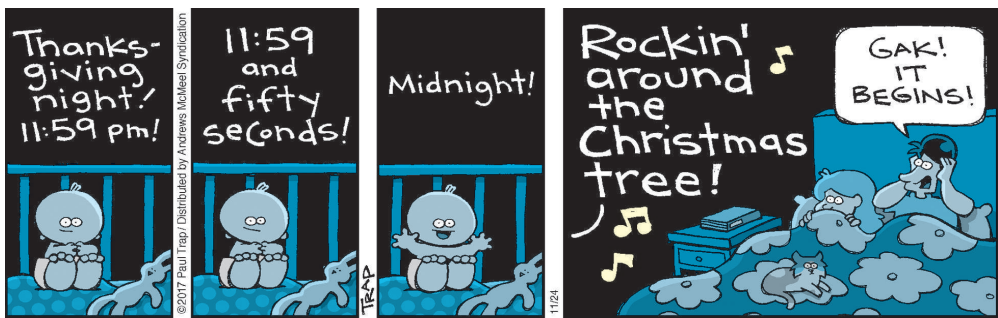
**Dear Annie:** When you divorce your spouse, are you supposed to refer to your in-laws as "ex-in-laws," as in "my ex-brother-in-law"? My neighbor says yes, but I thought my in-laws would always be my in-laws, even after a divorce. — *Just Curious*

**Dear Just Curious:** In conversation, you can refer to them however you'd like. But your neighbor is correct: Legally speaking, your in-laws are no longer your in-laws after a divorce. It might feel less awkward to say "my ex-husband's brother" than "my ex-brother-in-law."

## FRANK AND ERNEST



## THATABABY



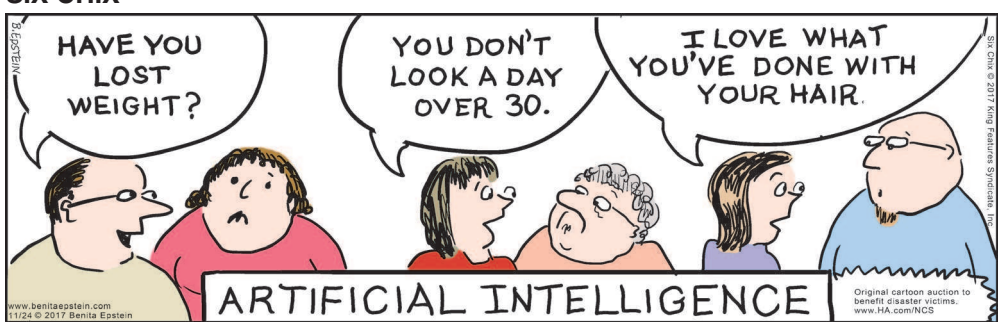
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



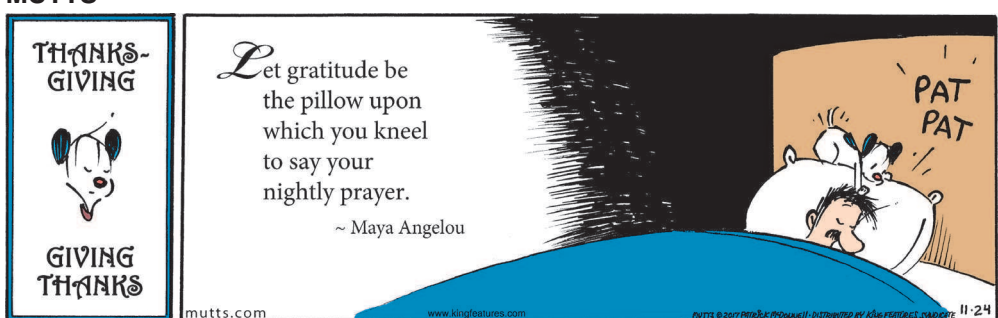
## LOLA



## SIX CHIX



## MUTTS



## BABY BLUES



## ZITS



## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** For a peaceful, tranquil environment, less excitement and drama is the rule. It's best when the alarm's left for emergencies. Not even your alarm clock needs to be alarming. So what else needs to go?

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Everyone is flawed, and someone is really liking the way you're flawed today. That in and of itself isn't a good enough reason to keep going in the same direction, though.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** This thing you're doing isn't going to work in the same way for very much longer. It needs a new idea. Of course, trying to have an idea isn't a really good way to have one. So don't try. Live, and know it's coming to you.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You have a really good answer to the question "What's the point?" and that's why you're the best person for the leadership role. Step up and step in.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** It can be a dangerous thing when people get too wrapped up in their own experiences to relate to the needs and wants of others. Get out; ask questions. Get involved so you won't have this problem.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Be confident about your sense of timing, because it is stellar right now. You're not likely to give up too soon, nor will you be oblivious about when to quit. Trust yourself.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You seek emotional knowledge. Your history is part of this. Maybe you can go back to the love you knew and ask questions, or simply do this in your mind. You'll still be satisfied and maybe surprised by the answers.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You begin each

interaction with a humble heart and a willingness to help. With this attentive flexibility, you'll create a great deal of affinity between you and a person who will play a key role in your future.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You don't have to have swagger or think you're the greatest. You just have to believe you can do it. With a little more confidence, you'll rise. You will persist in the face of a challenge and ultimately overcome it.

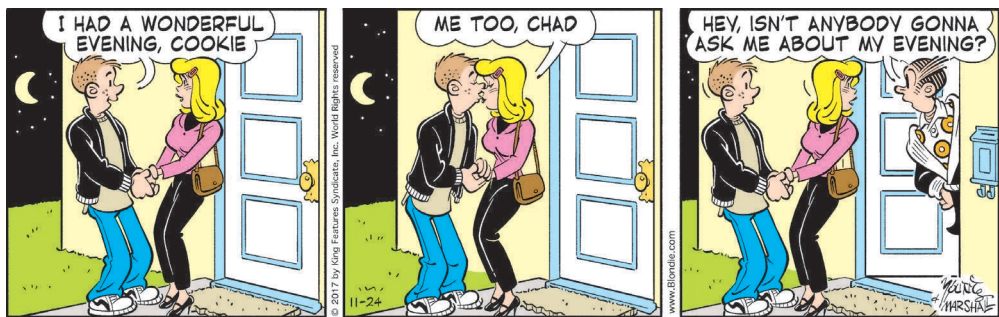
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** Good luck comes the same way as bad luck does, in spurts. You'll get on a good run with three beautifully timed interactions today. Play this for all it's worth!

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** A smile should be backed by a joyful heart. But some smiles are bankrupt. You've given them and received them. You'll recognize them today and have compassion for the spirit-poor. Try and spread cheer.

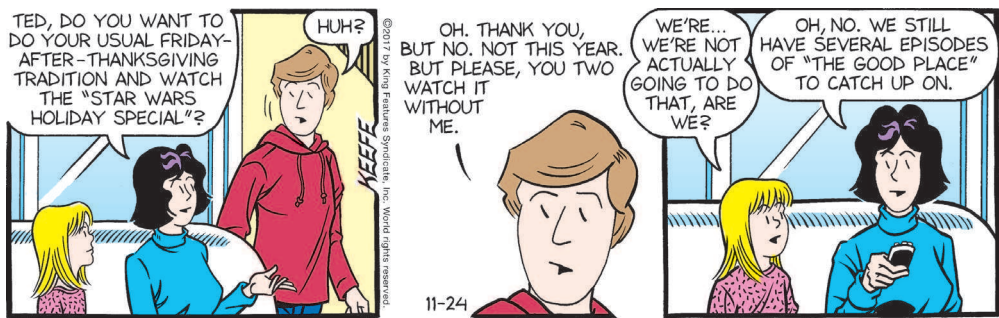
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** You are not of one mind. You are of many minds and possibilities. Some aspects of your personality are being pushy right now because they need an outlet. Find one. It could just lead to your greatness.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 25).** You will be drawn to the people who are good for you this year — a cosmic gift. At the top of 2018, you'll learn fast by going slow. Work gradually through challenges and you'll claim a reward in January. An important deal will go down in March. June offers travel at a discount, and the inspiration is free. Cancer and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 17, 39 and 22.

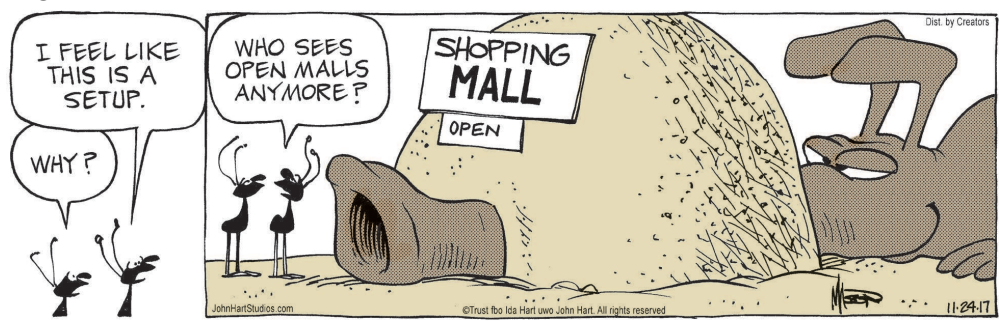
## BLONDIE



## SALLY FORTH



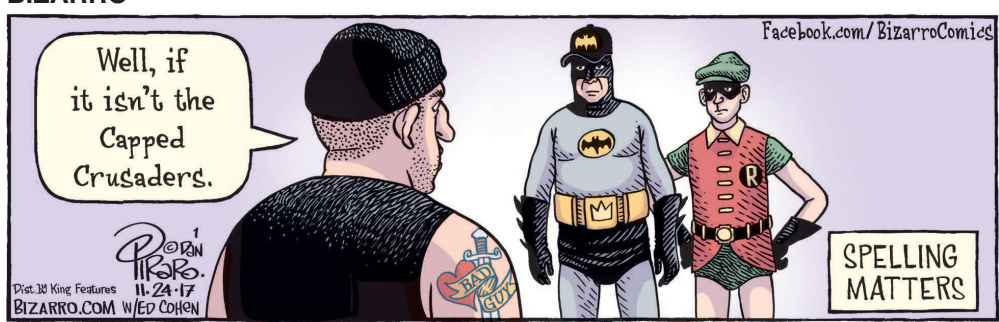
## B.C.



## DILBERT



## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

