

Concern from behind bars

Dear Annie: I'm a pretrial detainee, and I've been in jail waiting for my day in court for going on three years now. My wife has been patiently awaiting my return. She has been so supportive and has persevered through this trying time with courage and strength. My dilemma is that I'm worried that she is growing weary but is too proud to admit it. I wonder at times whether it's fair to ask her to wait or even to "allow" her to wait. I guess a part of me thinks I should let her go because I love her so much. I would hate to see her suffer further, and there's a chance my trial will not go as I hope. How should I handle this? — *Lover in Limbo*

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

honestly. Extended Family (<http://www.extendedfamilyhelp.org>) offers a database of resources for families of those who are incarcerated, which she might find useful, as she'll need all the support she can get during this difficult time.

Lastly, I imagine you've already exhausted every option, but do be sure to consult your lawyer about your right to a speedy trial.

Dear Annie: There are a lot of good reasons that pastors, group leaders and presidents of companies should never call on someone out of the blue to give a speech or read something out loud for the group. Some people can't read; some people get nervous; some have poor eyesight; some have dyslexia; some lose their place easily because of memory problems. Pastors and other leaders should ask the person ahead of time whether the person would like to give a speech or read for the group. Then the person can say yes or no.

This came up because of a friend of mine at Bible study, "Becca." The pastor asked Becca

to read several verses. Her face got so red. She struggled through the verses. Afterward, she told me she has dyslexia and was mortified to be called on to read out loud. She has been able to get through life because she can really take her time to read something when she's just reading it to herself, but reading out loud to a group was too much. And she was so shocked to be called on that she couldn't quickly think of an excuse, such as, "I forgot my reading glasses."

She doesn't want to go back to Bible study, because she's ashamed now that everyone knows she has difficulty reading. I told her not to worry about it — that everyone just thought she was nervous and no one will even think about it. I told her I'm a terrible speller; no one is perfect.

I am sure some pastors and group leaders do not realize they should not call on people just out of the blue. Please share this to help them understand. — *Concerned Churchgoer*

Dear Concerned Churchgoer: Your compassion is commendable. This is an issue I imagine many haven't considered. I'm printing your letter to, I hope, help change that.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The French culinary term *mise en place* refers to the peeling, cutting and measuring of ingredients before it's time to use them: Everything in its place. This approach will help your cooking and noncooking endeavors today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's important for people to feel a sense of progress in the early stages of a project. Use this on yourself. Set yourself up for an easy win right off the bat — something to keep you inspired as you go.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Too much compromise ruins the deal for all. Might there be a better match elsewhere? If you're determined to make it work, what needs to happen for you both to feel that you're getting more of what you want?

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This is the time to consider the goals that matter most to you and to your personal life. What's the vision here? Imagine it in crystal clarity. You need to see your endgame before you can design a method to achieve it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Listening well isn't a natural gift like athleticism or an ear for music. It's a skill to be honed with practice. This is the skill that will help you grow in power and know more about the situation than anyone around.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What do you need to learn to put yourself at the top of your game? What skills could you require to give yourself the greatest advantage? The bigger questions will be answered with small, incredibly detailed solutions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're so charming that you could get by on just that if you wanted to, but no; you'd prefer not to. You've a strong desire to contribute something so

useful it renders charm merely optional.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When the game is very hard, it doesn't do you any good to stay at it and relentlessly keep losing. Take breaks. Walk away from the hard challenge every so often and tackle a job or game that's easily done and won.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Be careful which task you pick up. Some jobs are like boomerangs that will always swing back and give you more to do. Do you recognize which job fits the description? Choose something else.

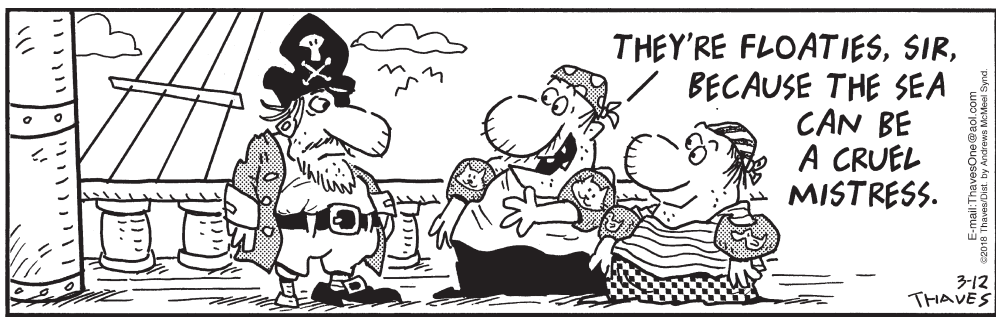
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Oh, happy day! The one you love loves you back. Maybe this is new info. Or maybe you've known this for years. Either way, it still makes everything you take on seem lighter and brighter and easier and better.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll learn something new and prepare for your challenges in a different way than before. Keep your discoveries secret so those operating under the old methods will not know the threat you pose.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's the social aspects of the day that will make the most impact. You're an exciting force in the room. Keep moving along. Don't tell the same story or show the same trick twice.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (March 13). Your positive attitude opens fresh avenues. You'll be welcomed into an elite group next month. Singles fall in love. There will be practicalities to work out in May in order for domestic life to hit a groove. Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 33, 39, 2 and 14.

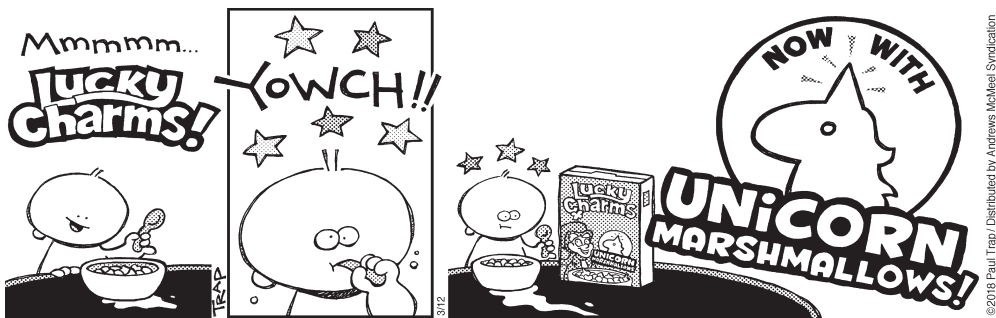
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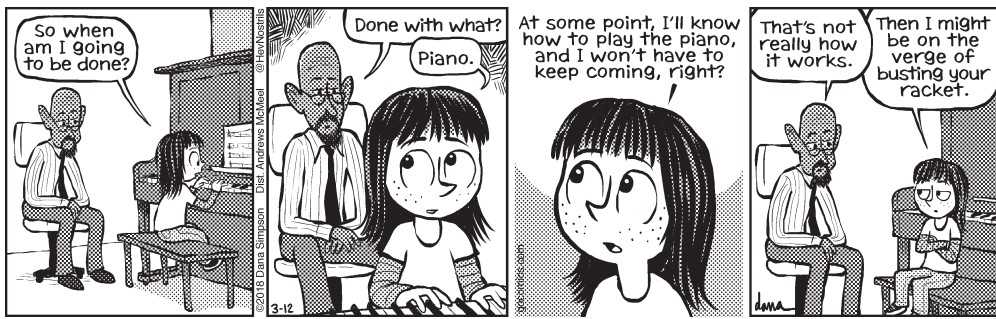
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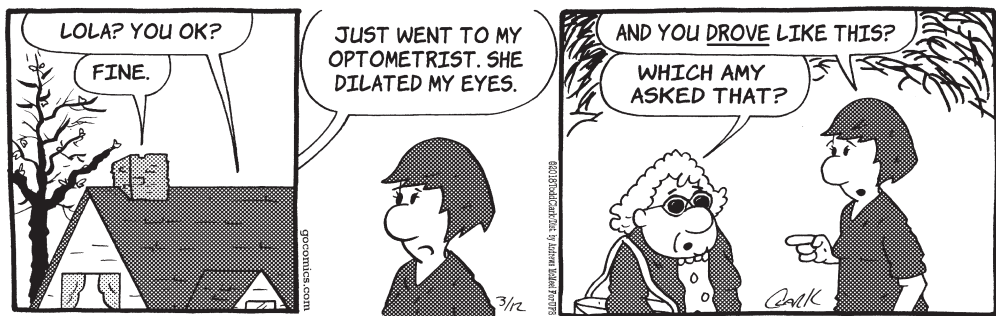
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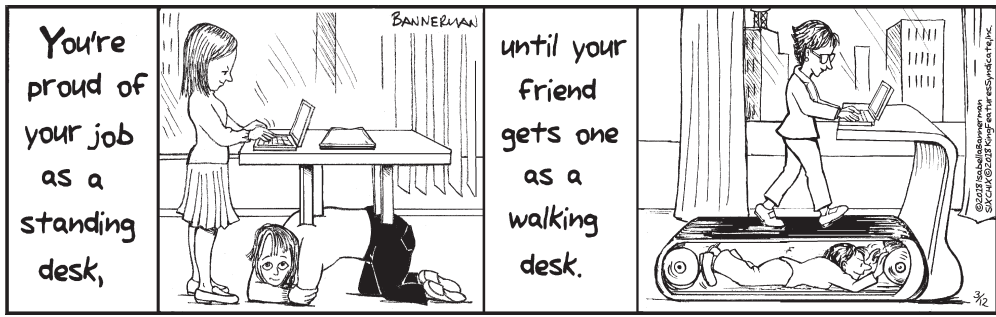
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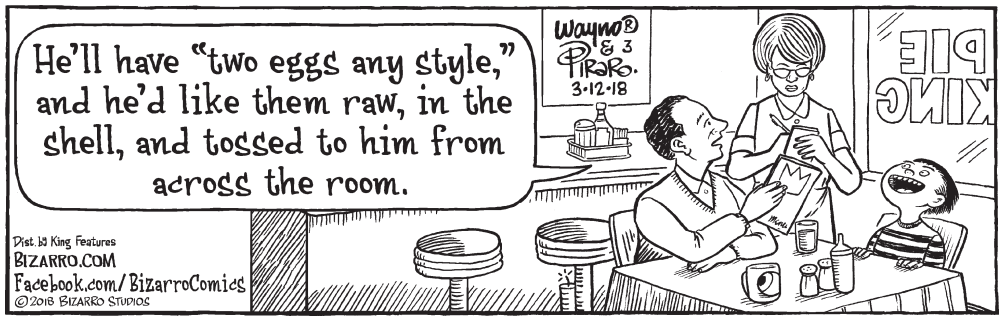
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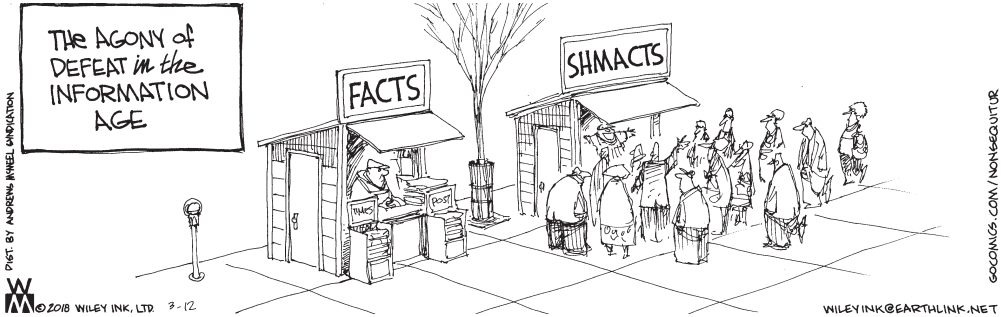
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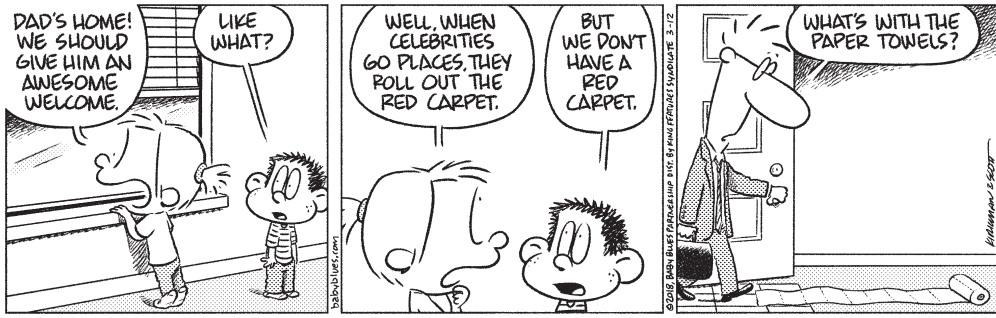
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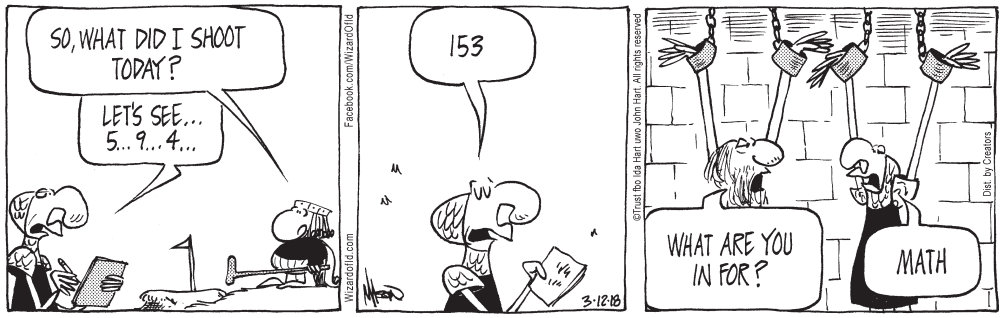
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