

Do people prefer being lied to?

Dear Annie: From the time you are born, your parents and elders tell you to always tell the truth. When you go to school, your teachers tell you the same. And then when you enter the real world, you find that if you tell the truth, you are labeled a — well, a word too rude to print in the newspaper. You are considered rude and opinionated. That's because nobody actually likes the truth. We would rather be lied to. Everybody lies on a daily basis, and we are OK with it. So why don't we teach our children to lie, keep secrets and play political games right from the start? That way, by the time they enter the real world, they would be experts at it and fit right in. I would really like to hear your thoughts on this. — *True Lies*

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

Dear True Lies: We should not teach our children to be mini Machiavellis. Manipulators might slither to some "success," but they forfeit personal integrity, honor and the chance to have any meaningful relationships. No one truly respects a phony.

your letter, I get the impression that you recently told someone something that you simply considered a fact and the person reacted poorly, and I also get the impression this wasn't the first time. If you're somebody who's found himself saying "What? I'm just telling it like it is!" throughout your life, you may be confusing criticism with honesty. There is a difference. A good general rule is not to offer your opinion on other people's business unless they ask for it.

Dear Annie: Most people say they care about our planet and the humans and animals living on it. So what can you do to make the biggest positive impact? The answer may surprise some readers: Switch to a plant-based diet. Not to discount the value of biking to work, recycling or buying less plastic, but here are just a few key facts:

Producing 1 pound of beef requires 1,799 gallons of water, whereas producing 1 pound of soybeans requires 216 gallons of water. Many other vegetables and grains require even less. It takes 27 times more fossil

fuel to deliver a calorie's worth of beef to your plate than it takes to deliver a calorie's worth of beans.

Because most chickens are factory farmed (and approximately 9 billion chickens are killed each year in the United States alone), our environment is contaminated by microbial pathogens, feed additives and manure production, affecting both human and animal health.

This type of information — and much more — has been reported in major media outlets, such as CNN, the Los Angeles Times and National Geographic, and can be found in science and ecology journals.

Many people seem to think that becoming a vegetarian is still some sort of fringe choice for granola crunchers or that it's too difficult to get your kids or your parents to eat new foods. If you cannot imagine giving up meat or dairy, just try doing so for one day per week. Then try two. It doesn't have to be all or nothing, as even some reduction in consumption will help. — *Earthling Who Cares*

Dear Earthling Who Cares: Though this didn't arrive in time for Earth Day, the information is still valuable.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). To display riches and titles with pride leads to downfall. But letting people know what you do isn't about pride now, it's about making a sale. Ultimately you want to improve lives, which you can't do if you don't get the sale.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Be comfortable and happy. The losses are temporary — so are the gains. If you rise high enough above the situation, you'll notice that even the most permanent-seeming losses and gains are relatively insignificant.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You will have absolutely no problem coming up with a new idea. The hardest part will be believing this, which you must. Otherwise it will be impossible to pry your mind from the old idea. Just let it go.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'd love to exceed expectations in all areas of life, but this is not only an unreasonable thing to ask of yourself, if you were to achieve it you'd annoy all around you. Success comes from choosing one area to master.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Once you find what works, you have to ask yourself if you really need to keep all the rest. You tell yourself that you'll use it from time to time, but will you really? You're extremely efficient, after all. Maybe you should liberate the excess.

VRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are doors in your mind that open into places you really don't need to go, maybe ever, but certainly not today. So if you find yourself standing on the threshold, your hand resting nonchalantly on the knob, think better of it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Make your goal public. This will be scary, mainly because it sets up some accountability that you'll probably only

appreciate when you finally make it to your goal. That's the same reason it will be effective

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You know what's universally liked? Noting and no one. If it's great, it's attracting attention both positive and negative. So don't read the comment section until you've executed your vision your way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Before you extend a topic of conversation or post on a subject, you ask yourself how it's going to impact others. Quite simply, if they're not going to feel or be better for it, you'll find another direction.

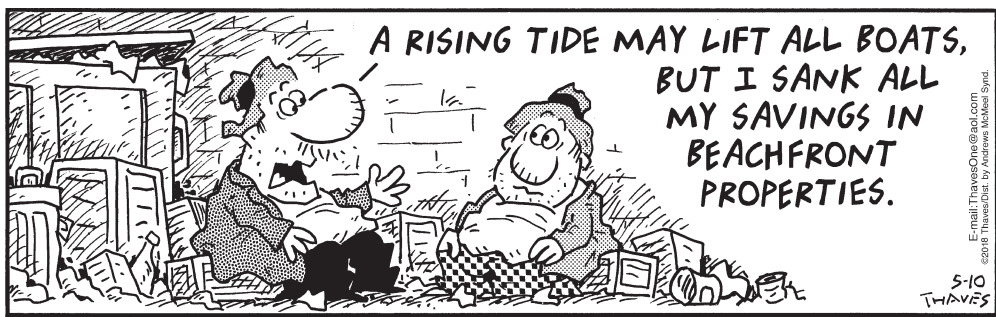
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). This isn't right for every day, but the best way to deal with stress today is to avoid it entirely. Consider building your day differently from the ground up so that you really don't even have to participate in that stressful situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll really enjoy imagining a fantasy future in vivid detail — the one you want, of course, not the one you don't. Why would you make that mistake? Many do, but not you. Not today!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). With all the choices out there, it would be wrong to assume others have the same influences as you. People who seem to have similar tastes and interests will surprise you with how varied their taste can be.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 11). There will be glamour and excitement to boast of, but that's not the good part. Your willingness to offer up compassion, steer clear of gossip, and participate in efforts that focus on the highest and best resonance of humanity that will elevate you. Life changing commitment in September. Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 4, 8, 11 and 26.

FRANK AND ERNEST



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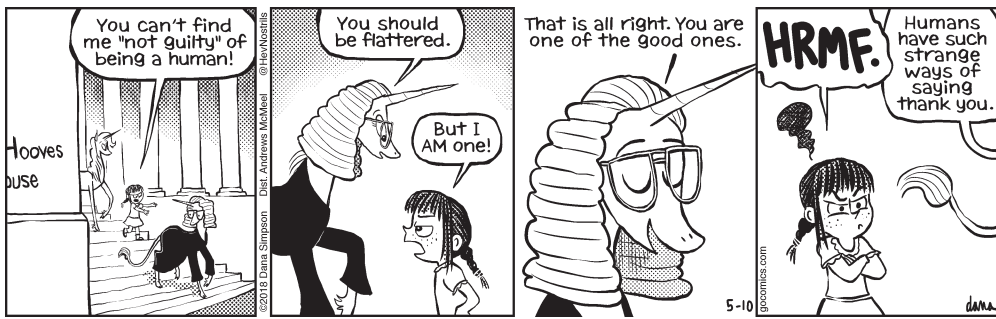
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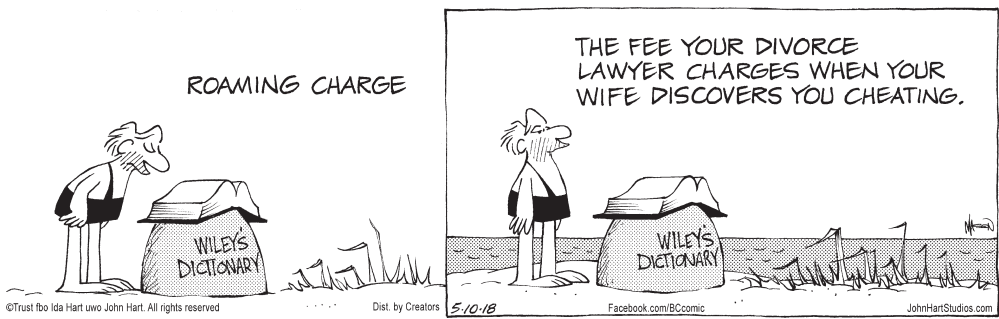
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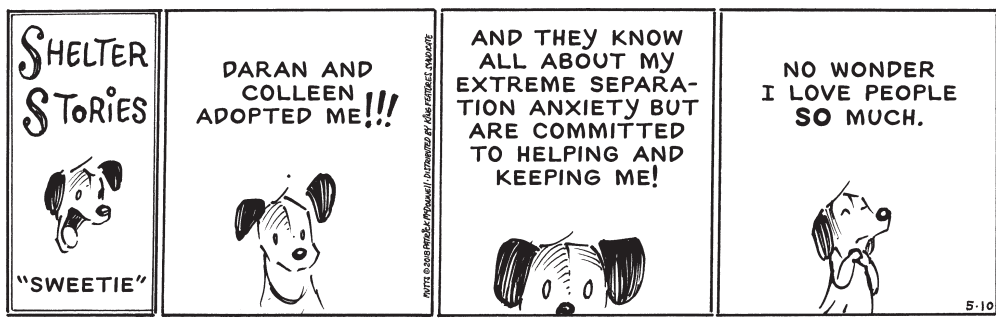
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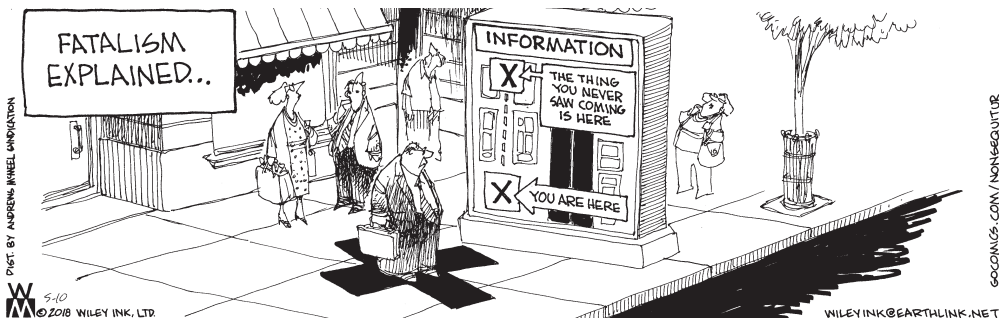
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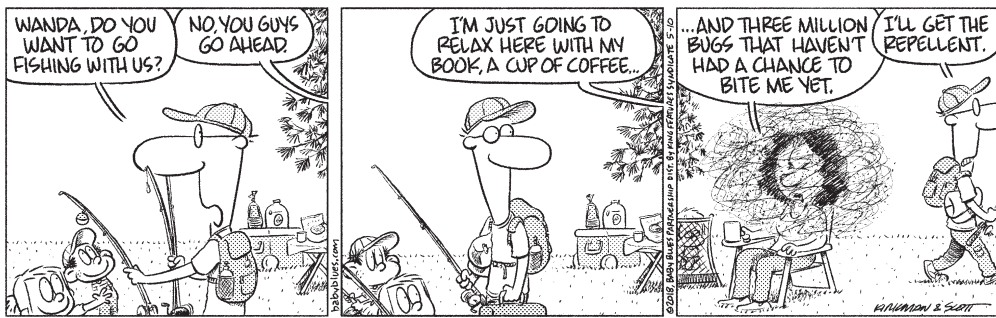
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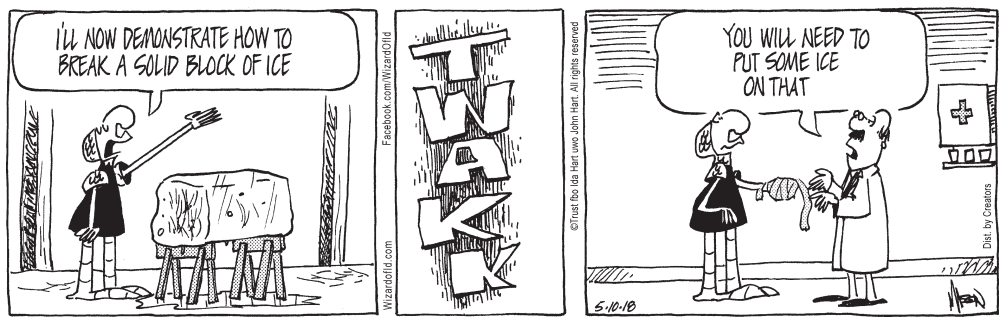
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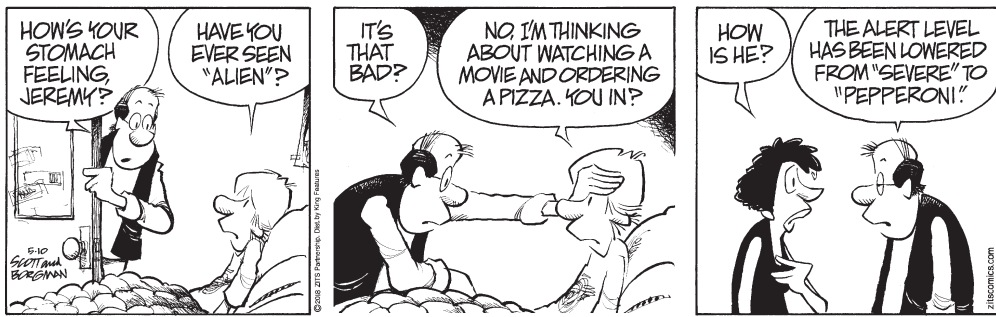
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