

Married ex moves to town

Dear Annie: “Lindsay” and I dated for 2 1/2 years. Our breakup wasn’t the worst, but it wasn’t a walk in the park, either. I had just packed up my life and moved across the country with her to relocate for her job, and a week after we got there, she dumped me. I was blindsided. It took a while to pick myself back up, but eventually I did, and I can look back and honestly say I’m glad we broke up. I’ve made a lot of progress that I don’t think I would have been motivated to do otherwise. Our breakup allowed me to move to a city that is better for my career.

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

Fast-forward to today, three years later. Lindsay and her husband (she’s married now) recently relocated to my city. (Her husband works in a field that’s similar to mine.) She’s reached out a few times, asking whether I’d like to come over for dinner with the two of them. I’ve been putting it off, basically just

saying, “Maybe soon!” The other day, she texted me that they’re having trouble making friends here. I wasn’t sure what to say back, so I just said to give it time, that it took me a few months to make any friends here, too. I think they were hoping I would introduce them to people.

Annie, I wish her and her husband the best, but I just can’t bring myself to want to spend time with them or to introduce them to my friends. It’s not out of spite or jealousy or anything. I’m seeing a woman I’m crazy about. I have a great group of friends out here. I’m genuinely happy with where I am in life. A buddy of mine suggested that I should stop holding on to the past and just treat Lindsay as I would any friend. I definitely feel I’ve forgiven Lindsay in my heart — but do I really have to be friends with her? — *Want to Do the Right Thing*

Dear Want to Do the Right Thing: You’re not

obligated to be the social coordinator for Lindsay and her husband just because they’re new to the city. They are adults and can figure it out. You did. Keep things cordial, as you have been, and go on with your life. You can forgive and forget, but it doesn’t mean you have to be friends.

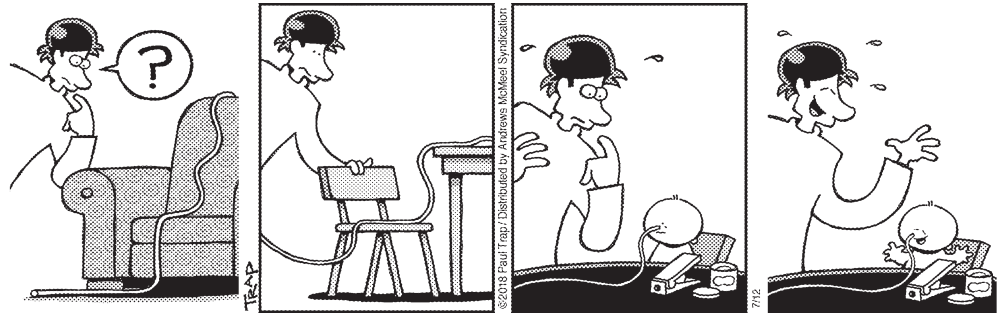
Dear Annie: We embraced with enthusiasm your printed suggestion from a reader to deploy glass jars with water in them to ward off our dogs’ habit of peeing in places where we would prefer they do not. Now every morning, we are greeted with a small puddle in the concave bottom of each inverted jar. It appears my Boston terriers now believe we have provided them with a target for their business. Epic fail. — *Joe and Laurie in Greensboro*

Dear Joe and Laurie: I was curious to hear how that reader’s suggestion worked out. I’m sorry to hear that it didn’t. Better clean up that failed experiment and ditch the jars before your terriers become accustomed to them.

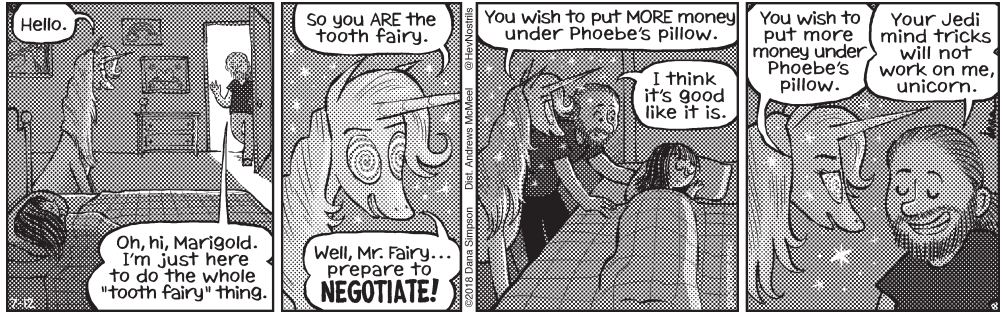
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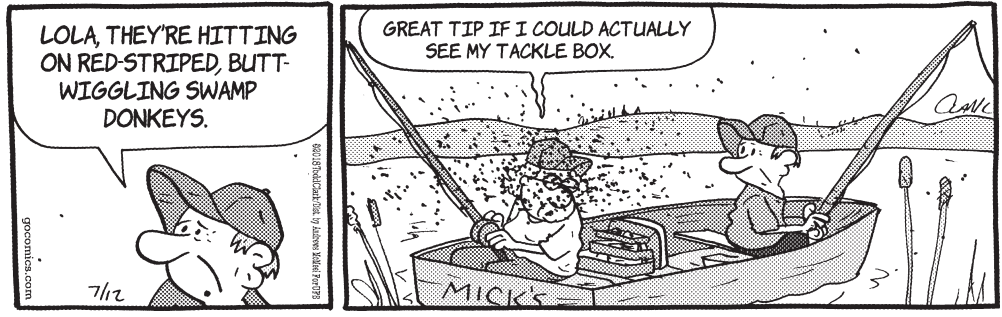
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PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



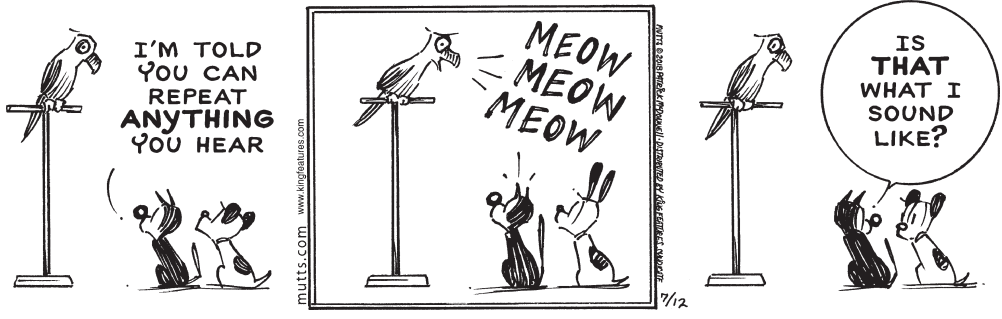
LOLA



SIX CHIX



MUTTS



BABY BLUES



ZITS



TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Humans make mistakes. It's part of our charm. The way we get things wrong can be spectacular, or subtle and interesting. Mistakes can draw us together or pull us apart. It's a day to be open-minded and forgiving.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You love to be around talented people and/or experience extreme talent through whatever medium you can. Right now you're a sponge, and you can absorb a little of the magic as you observe it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The solution is three steps. First, decide not to stress. Second, let go. And third, move on. Do them fast, without too much thinking. Of course, it will help to know what you're moving on to do.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). People will try and talk you out of your feelings or your decisions. Perhaps they are well-meaning, but you've good reasons for your current position. Take their opinions into consideration, but don't defer to anyone today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You need a new perspective on the old scenery, but you're not going to get it staring at the same thing day after day. Go out into some new scenery, and when you come back things will look different to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Tolerance does not mean sticking around where harm (or even irritation) could come to you. You can leave. You can have a "you do you" attitude and then get far away from that noise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). To act against our own beliefs is, unfortunately, common human folly. We are always negotiating with our animal nature, which often has stronger needs and agendas than we realize. Forgive yourself, and try again.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Rubbernecking slows traffic. It's also true on a personal level. Stick with the journey you're on, eyes on your own road. What they are doing is only relevant where it directly intersects with you or boosts your progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your confidence is growing these days, due to the action you take, the loyalty you display and your constant vigilance in doing the right thing. To accept responsibility and build from there is the confident choice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're so creative today, and you can trust your spontaneous instincts. You'll be delighted by life's unpredictable answers, because you dare to ask the unpredictable questions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Whether your action results in success or failure is irrelevant today. What's important is that you follow through, honoring your strong convictions. Action increases your confidence.

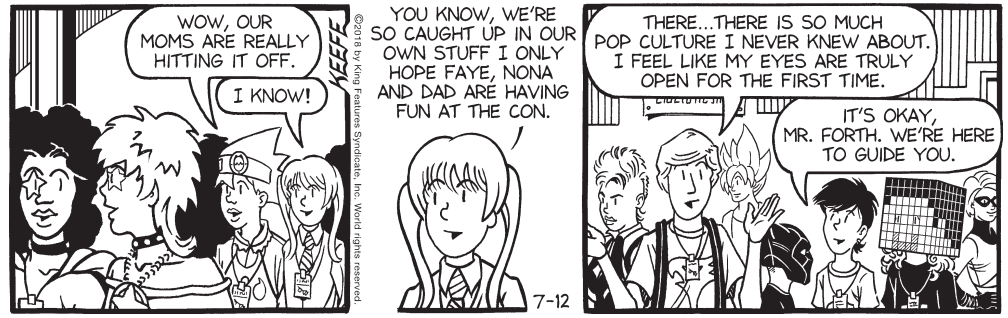
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You choose your work or family situation or institution of education not because you'll be great there but because you need to learn the lessons that are available there. This is done either consciously or unconsciously.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (July 13). This solar return shows you making time for the things you love but have rarely been able to do. This is not because of a major professional shift; rather, you just decide to honor yourself. An ally will inspire you to stick by your convictions. In 2019, the professional scene ramps up. A deal in January will help your nest egg. Pisces and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 10, 30, 26 and 2.

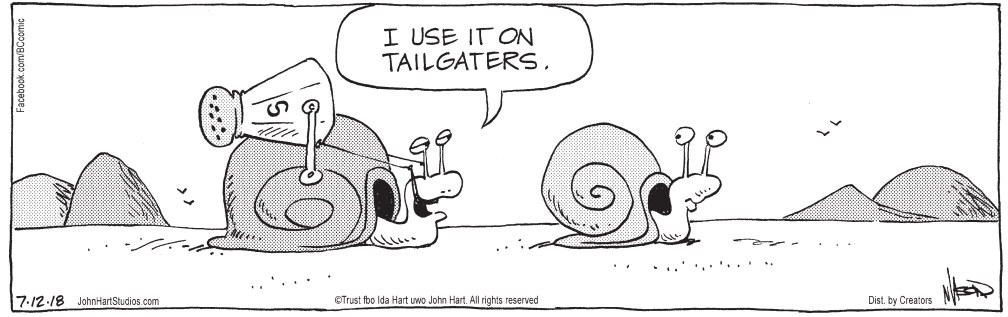
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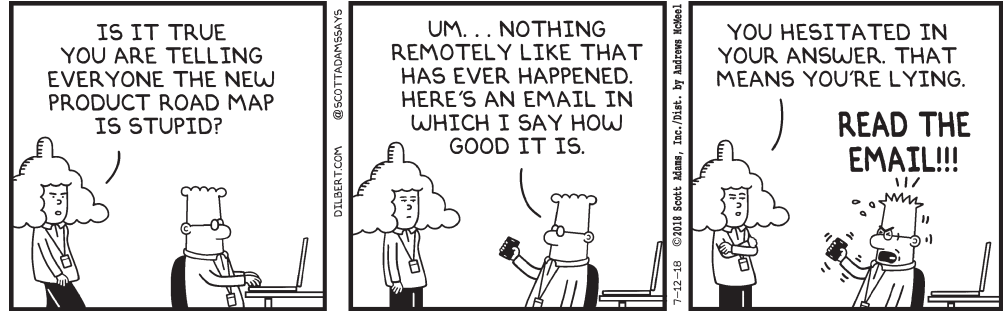
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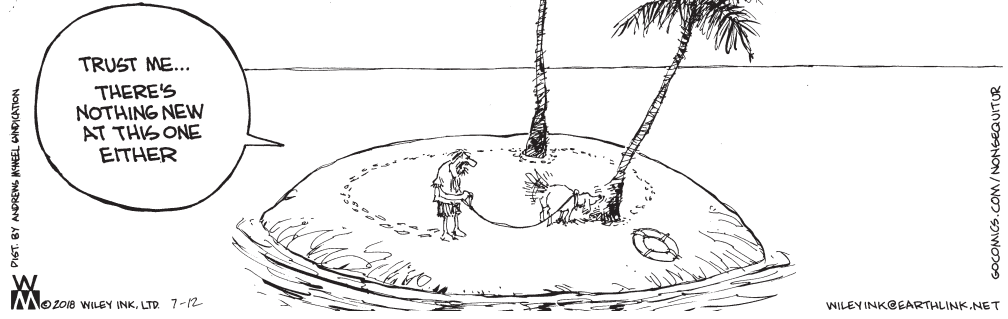
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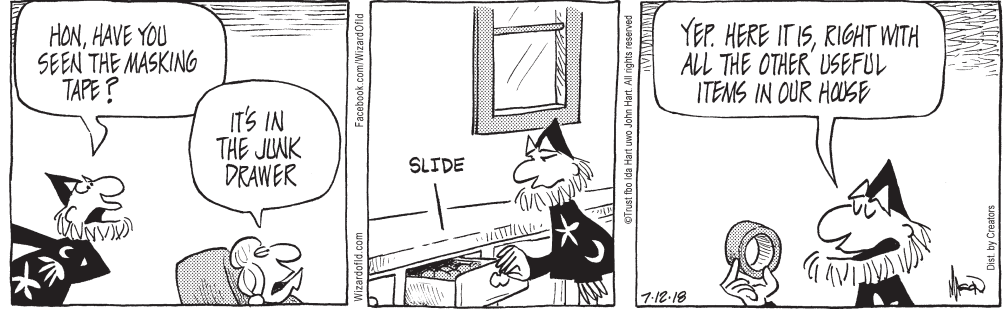
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WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

