

Dispirited Da Vinci

Dear Annie: I recently turned 27 and feel as if life is just passing me by. I try so many different things to find career opportunities and to meet other people but nothing leads to anything, and I am always stuck back at square one.

It seems like nobody ever gives me a chance (social and economic). Is there a way to move on in life without sacrificing your identity? Right now, I'm terribly alone. Outside of a few family members, I have no social life, no love life and no career opportunities. It wouldn't be so bad if I could just have one of those pillars. I'm stuck in a small town where I haven't met anyone my age since high school.

I've participated in and studied politics, history, theater, film, acting, writing, literature, journalism, economics, music, songwriting, music business, building inspection, psychology, the Bible, athletics and general business. I'm a better person for being involved

with these various subjects but they haven't led me anywhere. It hasn't gotten me anything or anybody. There's got to be more to life than being the wrong person in the wrong time and place. — *Lonely Renaissance Man in Training*

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

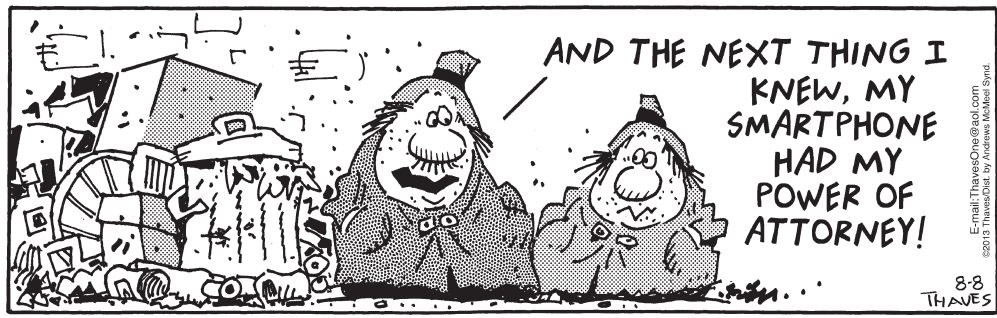
Dear Renaissance Man:

Be kinder to yourself. You are young and have so much life ahead of you. When reading your question, all I could hear was someone who believes that he will always come out the loser, when I see someone who has a great deal to be proud of. Leonardo Da Vinci, one of the giants of the Renaissance, was an artist, architect, scientist, philosopher and many other professions. Knowing a lot about different subjects is a great thing — so long as you know a lot about yourself. I would encourage you to speak with a therapist. One of my absolute favorite quotes came to mind as I was considering your letter:

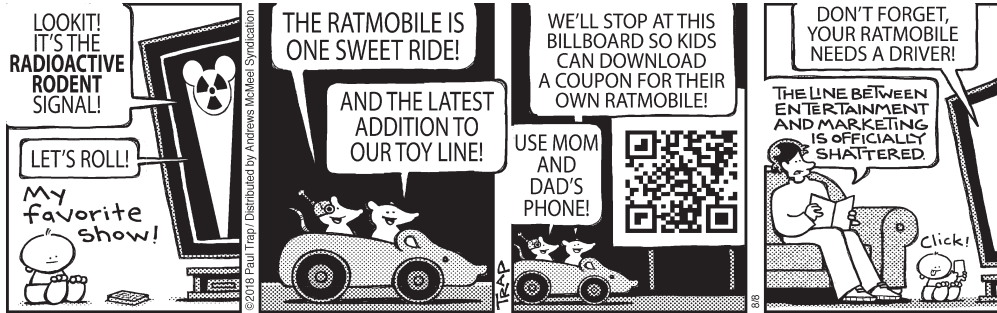
"The most interesting people I know didn't know at 22 what

they wanted to do with their lives; some of the most interesting 40-year-olds I know still don't. Get plenty of calcium. Be kind to your knees; you'll miss them when they're gone. Maybe you'll marry, maybe you won't; maybe you'll have children, maybe you won't; maybe you'll divorce at 40, and maybe you'll dance the funky chicken on your 75th wedding anniversary. Whatever you do, don't congratulate yourself too much or berate yourself either — your choices are half chance, so are everybody else's. Enjoy your body; use it every way you can. Don't be afraid of it, or what other people think of it; it's the greatest instrument you'll ever own. Dance, even if you have nowhere to do it, but in your own living room. Read the directions, even if you don't follow them. Do *not* read beauty magazines; they will only make you feel ugly. Get to know your parents; you never know when they'll be gone for good. Be nice to your siblings; they are the best link to your past and the people most likely to stick with you in the future." — *Mary Schleich*

FRANK AND ERNEST



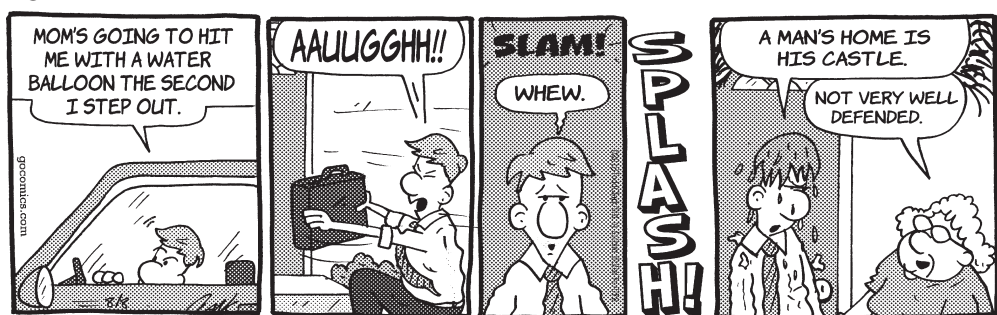
THATABABY



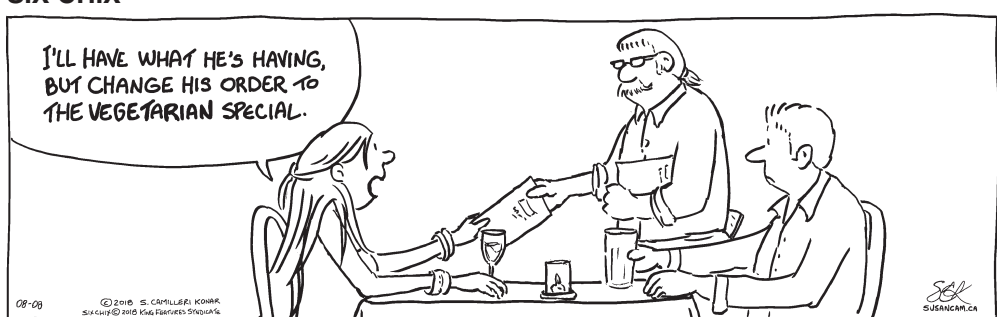
PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



LOLA



SIX CHIX



MUTTS



BABY BLUES



ZITS



TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Wanting certain aspects of life to be different will come with the territory today, as does ambitious striving. Temper the intensity of this with contentment about something — anything. You have much to choose from.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Life is complex and layered. To find peace and poise within this will require you to tolerate some mixed emotions. Take courage, and move through the feelings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Self-doubt comes disguised in the costume of responsibility, "urgent" needs that really aren't and other distractions. Call it what it is — resistance to growth — then ignore it and do what your soul knows you must.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It may seem that forces beyond your control are attacking your biography. But what if they are not infringements on your plotline, and are instead the very elements that make it a good story? What then?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Willpower and self-discipline won't be enough to accomplish the goal. That's good news because it means you'll have to add the architecture that will make getting there a whole lot easier.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Maybe the human mind has no mechanism for comprehending the vastness of the universe, and yet you still look up and let your piece of sky absorb you into as much infinity as you can bear. A meditation most divine!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Fear of failure or fear of success is not a good enough reason for inaction. So jump. Leap to the imperfect action. There won't be a better time. You'll never be ready. You'll only be doing it or not doing it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've friends who animate the day with big emotions, living a life of excitement and urgency. You'll enjoy connecting with them for a time; then you'll seek a more peaceful, measured tone for the remainder of the day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Once you fantasized that someone with secret knowledge and super abilities would swoop in and save the day. Now you will save your own day. After all, you're the expert on being you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The day provides a steady stream of necessary assessments. Will this activity be worth my time? Will this person do as promised? Will this job net me the next one? By day's end you'll have made dozens of determinations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What seems to be an arduous task will also make the hours pass in what will later seem to be a blink. It's as though you were built for this type of work. What you do is sorely needed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Because you are so honest with yourself, you are able to see the frailties of others. You see them hiding behind a facade; you witness their struggles for acceptance. Your tender heart will be a gift to the world.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 9). You'll be publicly praised for what you do this solar return, but it's your personal definition of success that will matter most. In the next five weeks you'll earn favor from those who are difficult to impress. November brings luck for finance. Priorities will shift in 2019. A personal mission will inspire travel and connections. Aries and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 10, 20 and 18.

BLONDIE



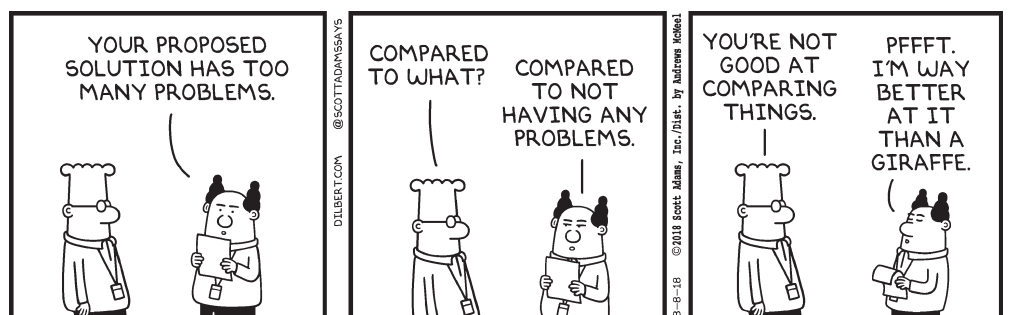
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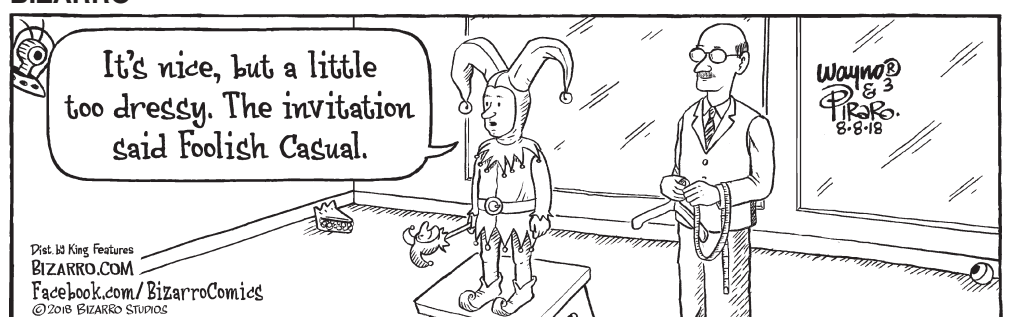
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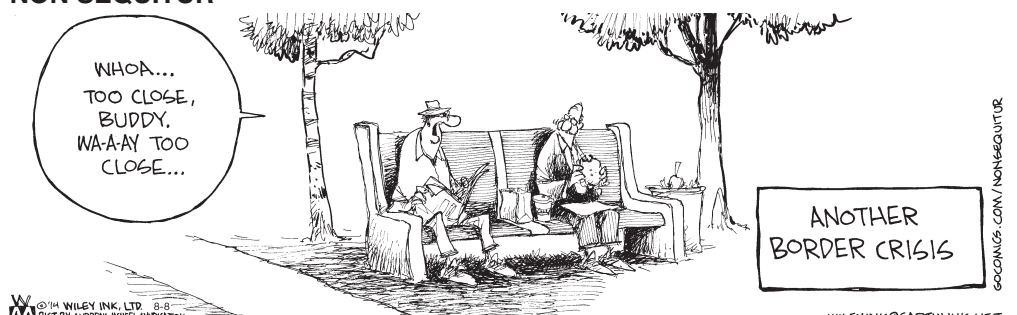
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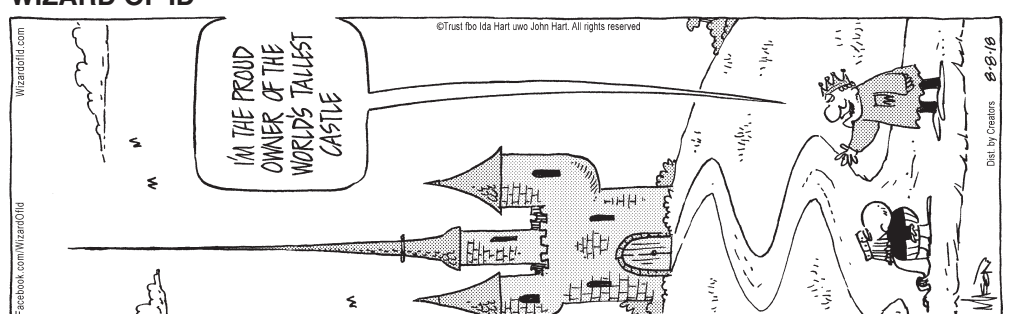
BIZARRO



NON SEQUITUR



WIZARD OF ID



ROSE IS ROSE

