

The end of a friendship?

Dear Annie: I have a friend, "Rosie," who kicked me out to the curb (metaphorically speaking) when her sister moved into her mobile home park.

texted me to sew her husband's pants. I have thought of confronting her, as I am very hurt by how she has treated me. Do you think I should end this friendship? — *Forgotten Friend*

DEAR ANNIE



Annie Lane
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

Prior to her sister's moving into the neighborhood, Rosie and I saw a lot of each other. I was always sewing for Rosie, her husband and her mother-in-law at little or no cost. I sent food to her after her surgery. I helped Rosie's sister with planning Rosie's 60th birthday party.

Meanwhile, when I had health issues and told her, she didn't contact me afterward to see how I was. When I had a baby shower for my daughter, she did not attend. Then she promised she'd send a gift after the arrival of the baby, but she never did.

Dear **Forgotten Friend**: No one can read your mind, not even your closest friend. Rosie probably has no idea you're feeling this way. She does still call you, after all: You say "only" on her way to work, but that's pretty darn often. So she's been busier over the last year, and, yes, maybe spending a lot of time with her sister that she previously would have spent with you. That doesn't mean she's replaced you. Talk to her about how you're feeling, but avoid making accusations or placing the blame on her. Instead, tell her that you miss her and have felt out of her loop for the past year. If she continues being distant after the talk, there's no need to lash out. Simply take it as your cue to move on and focus more on

yourself and on fostering new friendships.

Dear **Annie**: "Merging Maven" has prodded me to write. My husband and I have driven in all 50 states over the years, and have had many discussions about the proper way to merge from two lanes to one, mostly at construction sites. One state (I wish I could recall which one!) posted this sign when two lanes had to become one: "Use both lanes to merge point. AND then take turns." It kept traffic flowing and didn't ruffle drivers' feathers. We both commented that it was a sensible solution to the problem. We haven't seen it used since then and now wonder if it was just part of some study. But it was an easy fix for an irritating and potentially hazardous problem, and should become the standard rule for merging. — *Road Warrior*

Dear **Road Warrior**: Perhaps the zipper merge would catch on more if there were signs such as these, concisely explaining the concept and giving drivers permission to use it. It's a wonder more states haven't tried this. Thanks for writing in.

TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You want your love to see you in a certain light: You can't help but be invested in that. It's not all about vanity. You want them to have a certain "user experience," and you'll make decisions about presentation toward this aim.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). At times it feels as though what you don't know covers practically the whole range of human knowledge. That's only because you take your big brain for granted. Teach someone something to remind yourself of how far you've come.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Many trendy restaurants have become so loud that it's hard to hear over the excitement. Bold move: Avoid those spots in favor of really getting to know a person or group of people better through the lost art of conversation.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Good friends are the best collectibles. Vintage Marvel comics aren't bad, either, and they don't need nearly the attention. And yet, for you, friends it will be!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If you have to shout to get their attention, maybe they just don't want to hear your message. That doesn't make it wrong. Try a different tactic. Could you turn it into a secret and whisper it? Could you find a more physical demonstration?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've put so much of yourself into your work that you may have lost touch with who you are outside of it. You'll get back in touch with that over the weekend. Relax, and enjoy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Change isn't always easy, but sometimes, such as today, it is. You'll make adjustments with grace. And then later, you'll have the opportunity to compare and contrast two states then embrace the way that

works best for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's no room for worry or doubt in your active mind. So accept responsibility, but not pressure — not from anyone, even yourself. Draw firm boundaries, and courteously defend them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If there's no fun on the day's agenda, be sure and put some there before you start out. Without something to look forward to, you won't be inspired to complete even the easiest task on your list.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Is something keeping you from being optimistic about the future? Try this workaround: Assess your current situation, which so many could only dream of having, and then take stock of your many advantages.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Send a silent blessing on the wind. The person you send it to will be favorably changed by this intention, though he or she will probably never know where it came from.

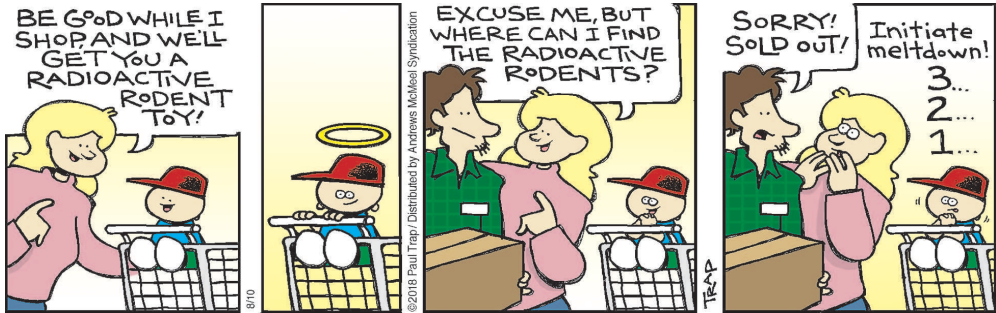
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may forget certain details — someone's name, a password, some piece of protocol — but it's only because your mind is so busy working to create the future you want to live inside.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 11). Family bonding, snappy domestic rhythms, an improved home life all-around — these are the cosmic birthday presents at the foundation of your happy new year. You'll provide something that's needed by many and spread joy to many fans and followers. Act politically and strategically in November. Vows of love come in May. Gemini and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 42, 14, 8 and 33.

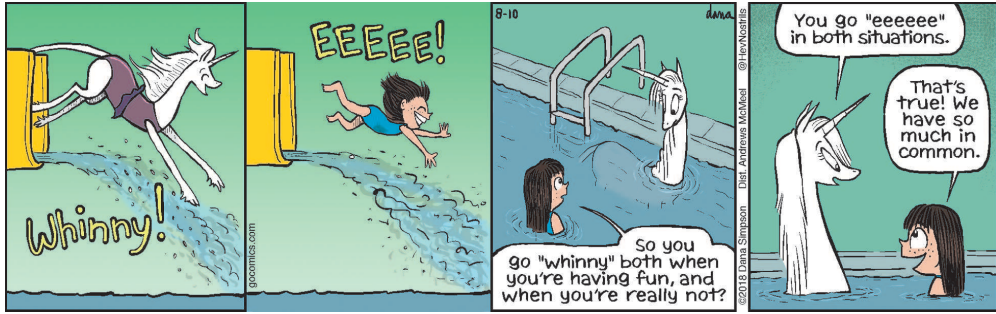
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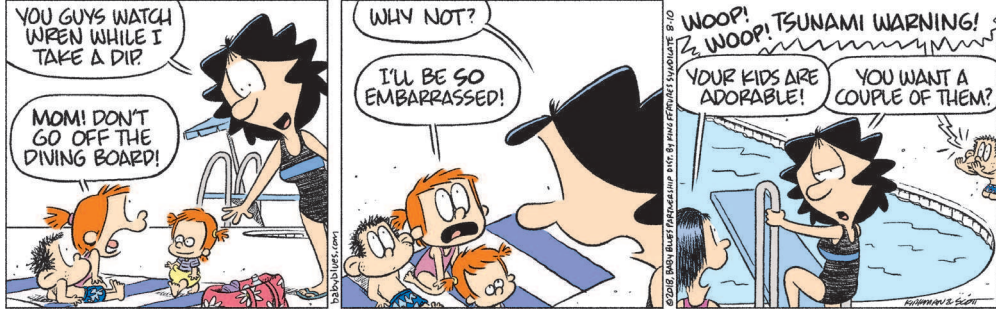
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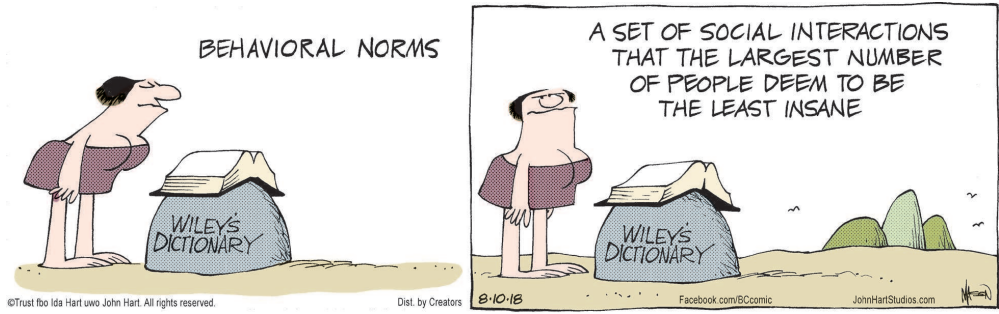
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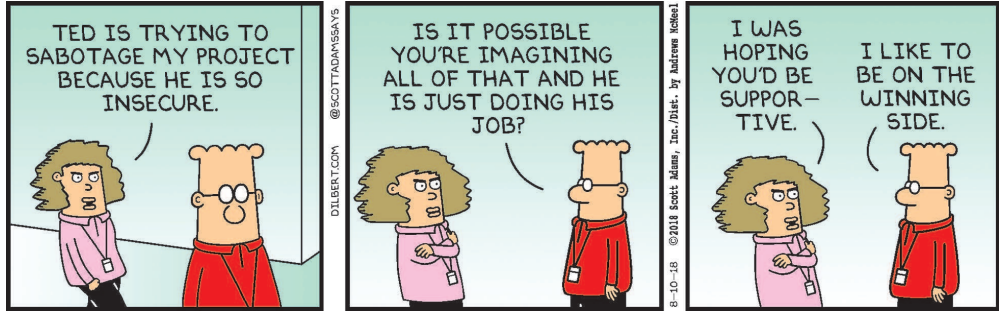
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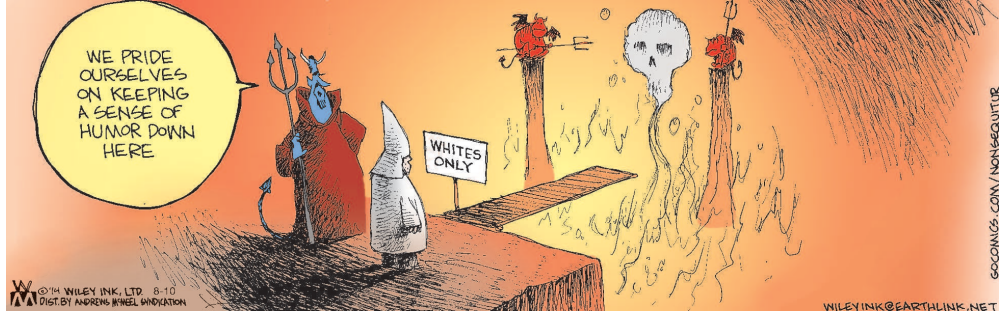
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ROSE IS ROSE

