

Looking for travel time

Dear Annie: I have a full-time job, and I love it. However, I'm never happier than when I'm traveling. How do I make peace with the fact that I probably can't travel more than twice a year now that I work a 9-to-5? Is there some way I could travel more than that? My job is really important to me, but I don't want to stifle my biggest passion. — *Wanderlust While Working*



Dear Wanderlust While Working: It can seem like a mean paradox. When you have the time to travel, you don't have the money; when you have the money to travel, you don't have the time. Really, though, there are plenty of ways to scratch your itch to travel while still working full time. Look into weekend trips that are driving distance from your town. Often, there are more amazing things than we realize just

beyond our backyards. Plan ahead to maximize use of long weekends, and consider using vacation days to extend them. If you have been at your job for a while and feel that your boss knows you and your work ethic well, it's worth having a conversation with him or her about the possibility of sometimes working remotely (assuming that's doable with your type of work). If you're offered a new job down the line, bring up vacation days during the salary negotiation. Sometimes companies will offer more paid time off in lieu of higher pay. The worst your boss can say is no. Whatever you do, don't lose that sense of adventure. It's good for the spirit. **Dear Annie:** I am late coming to the conversation, but I came across your columns with the survey about whether people

would have children if they had it to do over again. My husband and I have been married for 50 years, and we chose not to have children for a variety of reasons. I have often been asked when meeting someone new, "Do you have children?" I answer, "No, my husband and I chose not to have any. Tell me about yours." And then the conversation happily turns to the pleasure of their kids. I phrase my comment so that no one is left wondering whether we tried and couldn't have them, we had one and something happened or some other situation prevented us from having children. — *No Kids, Thanks* **Dear No Kids:** Your way of responding when people ask whether you have children is stellar — a graceful way of directing the conversation. Plus, asking others more about themselves is a sure way to be an artful conversationalist in general.

FRANK AND ERNEST



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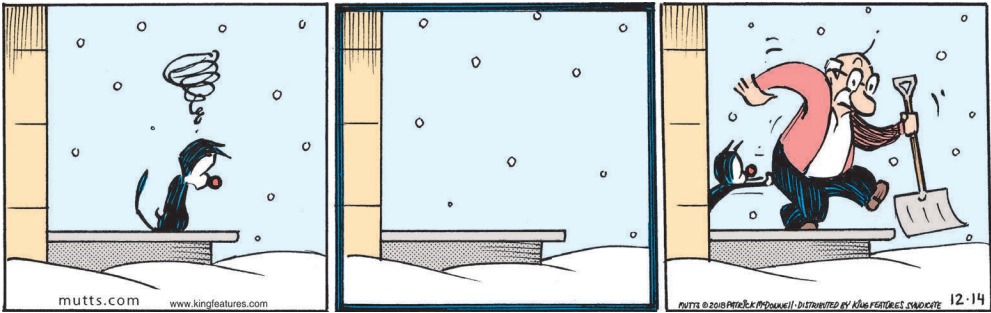
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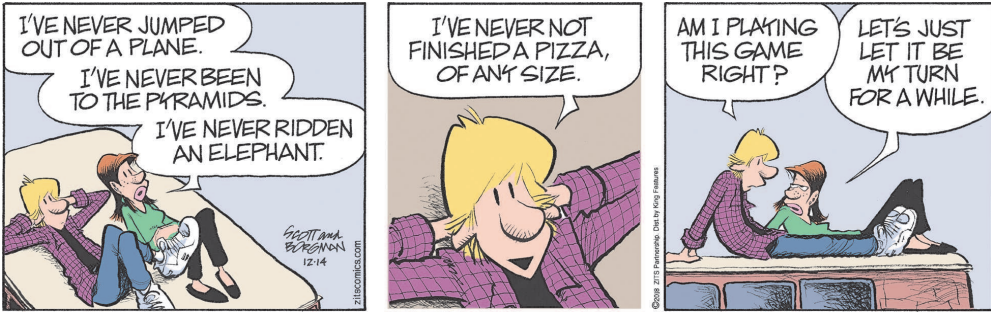
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TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you feel pressure to say what the other person wants to hear, you're being (perhaps subtly) manipulated. Take a step back. Consider the relationship. Proceed with caution.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you find yourself stretching for some easy way to describe yourself, you shouldn't have to at this point. It's a hint that the other person just isn't getting you — not your problem. Other people will. Move on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you're going to worry, make it work for you. Worry provides you with a quick look at potential pitfalls and a peak into your unconscious mind. Categorize your worries into reasonable and unreasonable. That's a start.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you've been pessimistic and distrustful, it's only out of a need to protect and defend yourself. You're also brave and confident once you've made your mind up — a joyful pioneer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). From love to shampoo, everything has its cycle. What worked before may work again, although maybe not quite as well. Put feelers out for new alternatives.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Adults don't always do the adult thing, and children can take on adult responsibilities that rob them of carefree youth. These missives need to be recognized and set right.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll scrutinize your work or habits before another person has a chance to. This way, you know you're putting your best self forward. It's an extra effort.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Vitality follows those

on the edge of the known. Anyone doing what they know they can do is playing it too safe to feel successful. Also, the one who is the least afraid of looking foolish wins.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll act on behalf of those unable or unwilling to take action themselves. This you do out of a sense of duty, but that doesn't mean you have to be too serious in your approach. Execute the task with a light heart.

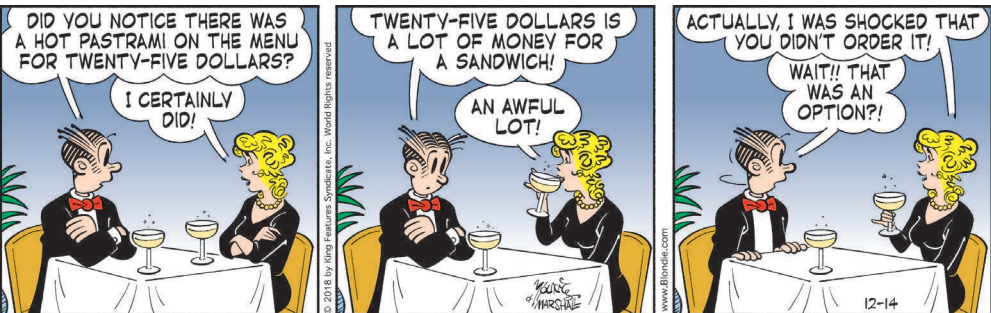
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). No human is constantly on the spiritual high road. Anyway, a lower indulgence may serve you just fine. It's one of those crazy days when the superficial thing you think might make you happy actually does.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's no need to seek opportunities for heroism. Be consistent and cheerful, just like you usually are. That's what everyone needs right now. And don't be surprised if this makes you indispensable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Future you is sending a message back in time: *Please don't block me into long contracts.* Future you is going to need some freedom to do the future-you endeavors you can't conceive of from where you're standing today.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 15). The year will be marked by whimsy flights and remembered for the strange and fun environments you visit. More highlights of the solar return include the attainment of meaningful jewelry or personal treasure, a new turn in a relationship and a commute that presents opportunity for daily improvement. Taurus and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 22, 27 and 14.

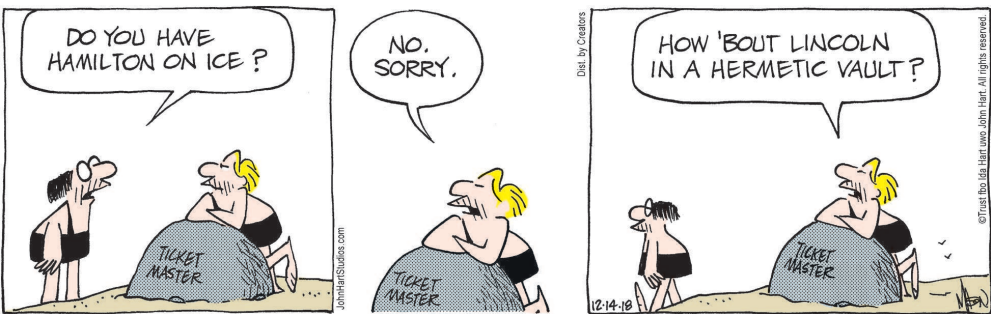
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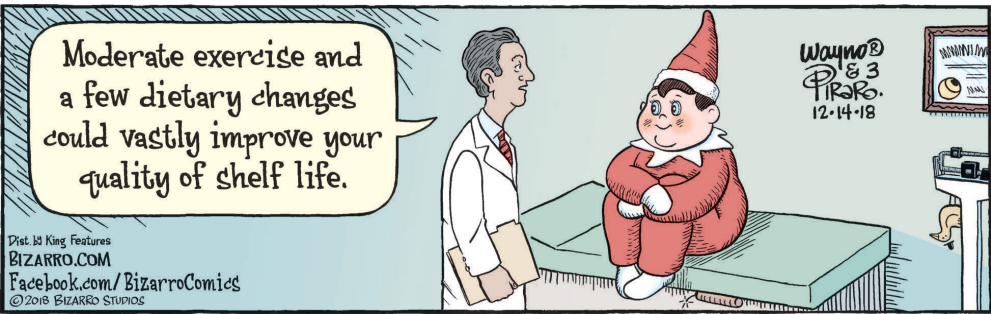
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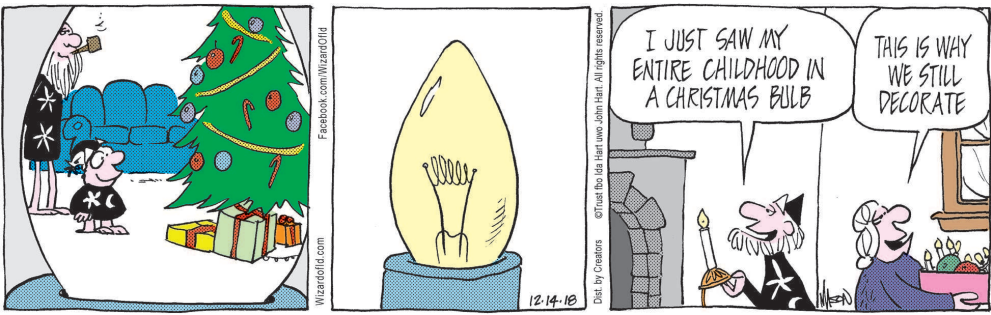
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