

# Worker gets ahead of herself

**Dear Annie:** I work as an editor at a publishing company. It has been difficult to find capable proofreaders. I've had one working with me for the past few years who proved herself to be capable. She showed great attention to detail and would make occasional suggestions to books that added value. In the past few months, she has grown frustrated that she hasn't advanced to editor and has let her proofreading responsibilities slip. I've noticed obvious errors that she's missed. More importantly, she has become more vocal about making story suggestions and has gone behind my back to make these in an attempt to prove herself. I am supportive of her advancing, but at the appropriate timing, which is dictated by the company and our needs, not based on her desired timing. Do you have any advice on how I might approach her and motivate her? — *Frustrated Editor*

course can destabilize everything a person has worked for. I recommend taking this proofreader out of the office for lunch, coffee or a walk and asking her about her career ambitions, both short-term and long-term. Taking her out of the office will make it less formal, and you will have more success helping her plot a course to achieving these ambitions in a realistic time frame. Some mentorship and guidance should go a long way toward creating a grateful and loyal person and a successful career path.

**Dear Annie:** I am sending this out to anyone considering suicide. Please reconsider what you are thinking. My father killed himself in 1978. I still think about the many what-ifs. What if I had called? What if I had gone to see him? Why didn't I notice that he was down and depressed when I saw him two weeks before he did it? The guilt is always with me, even after all these years. He has missed so much in our family — grandchildren, marriages, etc. I think of my dad often and will always wonder whether I could

have done more to let him know how much I loved him. Don't do this to the ones you leave behind. I know you probably think they would be better off without you, but that is not true. The guilt we carry is awful. — *Daughter*

**Dear Daughter:** I am so incredibly sorry for the loss of your father. Please do not blame yourself for what happened.

Though I understand you mean well and speak from the heart when you implore suicidal people not to go through with it because of what it would do to their loved ones, I want to note that this style of appeal can heap guilt onto suicidal people when they're already depressed beyond management. To anyone reading this right now who is considering suicide, please seek help immediately. Dial 911 or call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-799-4889. Counselors are waiting to listen. You do not need to be considering suicide to call the hotline; if you're struggling with depression, give it a call, too.

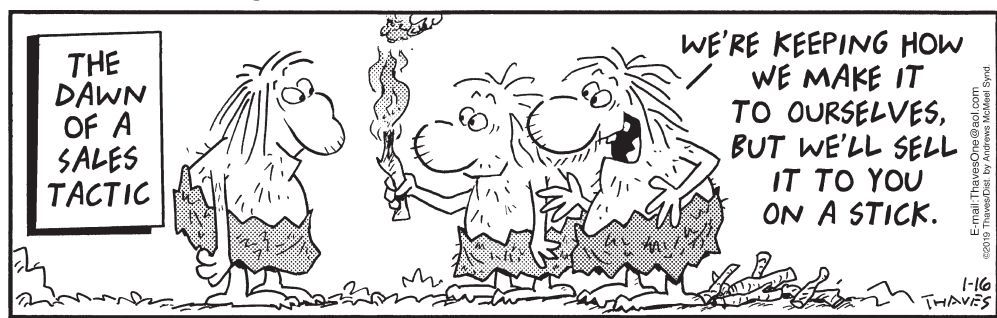
To anyone worried a loved one may be considering self-harm, call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline or visit <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-someone-else>.

## DEAR ANNIE

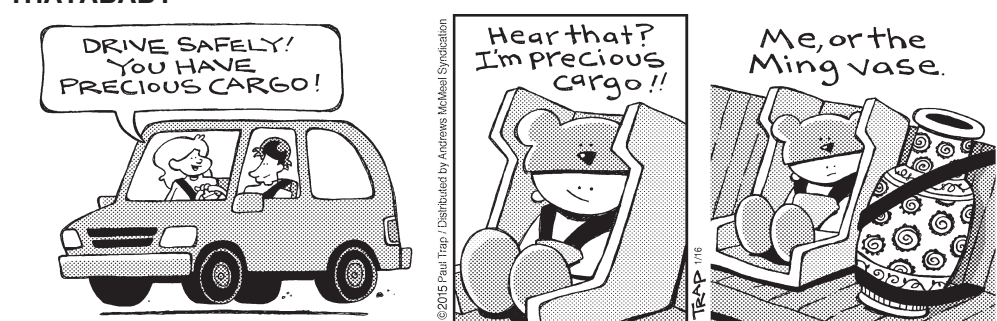


ANNIE LANE  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

## FRANK AND ERNEST



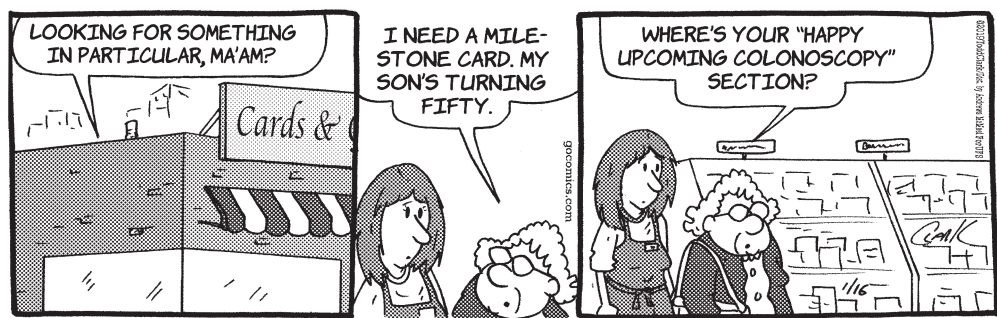
## THATABABY



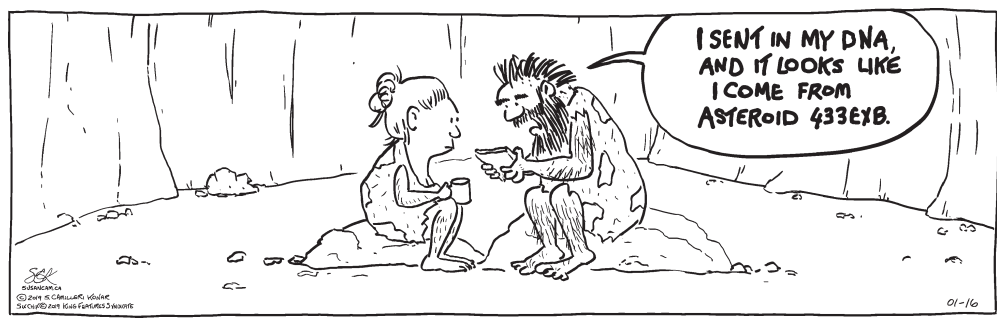
## PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN



## LOLA



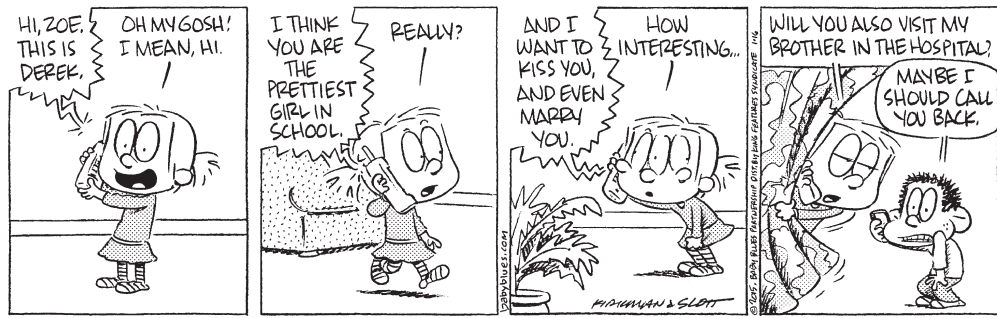
## SIX CHIX



## MUTTS



## BABY BLUES



## ZITS



## TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You're ready to let old things go — mostly having to do with unwanted possessions. But some stale emotional content will go, too, as though such things are invisibly tethered to the physical items, and maybe they are.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Though following another person's path will teach you the way, eventually you'll either take it over and claim it as your own or venture off, claiming a new path. Ultimately, you're most powerful when it's your path.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Your parents have defined you in a certain way. Your friends have in another way. Even your pet defines you as "dispenser of food and treats." The only definition that matters? Your own. Let it grow and change. Keep tweaking it.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** People will go very far to give off the appearance of control, especially if they actually do not have as much of it as they would like. Someone is trying a little too hard. Now why do you think that is?

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** This day is tinged in drama that may include tantrums and general bad behavior, the likes of which would be easy to categorically reject, though there's also wisdom to be gained if you look a little further into cause and motivation.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** It may seem like a few errands eat up the whole day. Furthermore, this doesn't fit the image you have of how you'd prefer to spend your hours today.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** There's one area in which you're really quite stuck. It's time to get creative about the problem. Start by tackling a smaller part of the issue and shrinking your standard for

what counts as progress.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You can do the thing alone but it's going to take you so long and be so arduous that by the time you finish, your attitude will have soured. So include people. Enlist help.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Everyone's got their own insecurities, fears, secrets ... whatever it is, you're definitely not the first, last or only person to deal with it. You might not be in the mood to share, but to do so would cut your suffering in half.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You think you know what you're good at, but put it to the test anyway. You might be surprised how things have shifted since you last looked. The more accurate you can be in your assessment, the faster you'll learn.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You may not want the extra pressure of being the leader, but if you don't share your vision and ideas, everyone will suffer, most of all you. Don't hoard your talents.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Everyone in the group has a different role. You feel that someone isn't pulling a fair share of the weight, and this may be true, but all do not have to be contributing the same amount for this to work extremely well.

**TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 17).** The fun of taking part in interesting and beautiful projects kicks off a glamorous period of time. Then, just when you start to wonder if anyone is seeing the real you, you'll get an opportunity to put function over form and prove what you're all about with the difference you make in the world. April brings a windfall. Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 14, 40, 33 and 20.

## BLONDIE



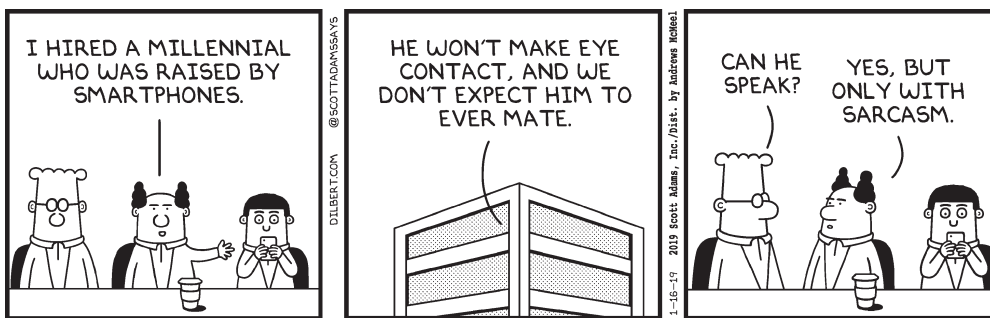
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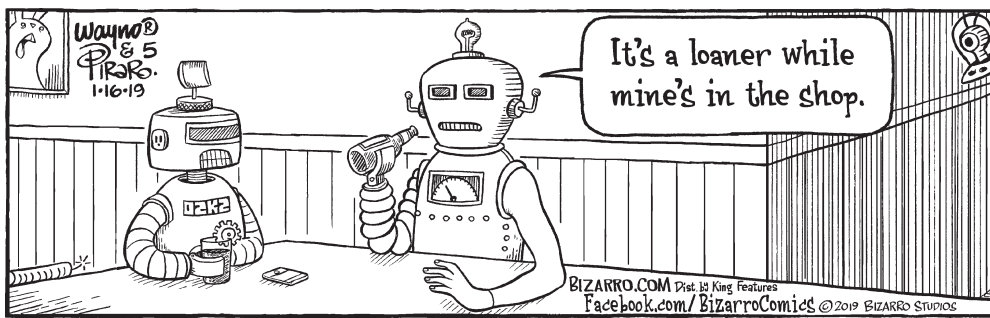
## B.C.



## DILBERT



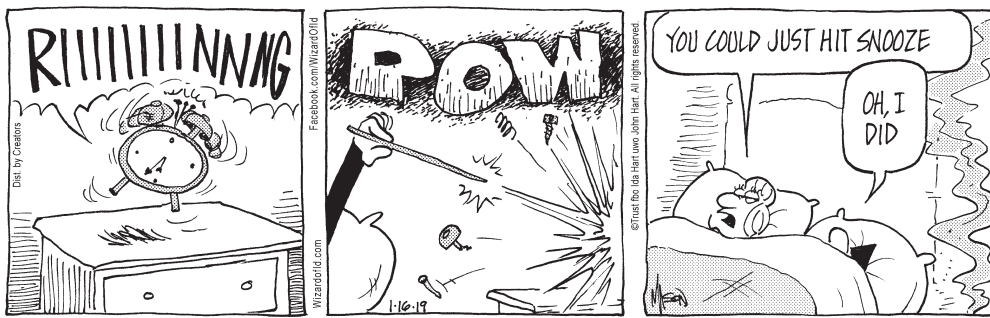
## BIZARRO



## NON SEQUITUR



## WIZARD OF ID



## ROSE IS ROSE

