

Wedding No. 3 is too much

Dear Annie: Our beautiful 44-year-old daughter is making plans to be married for the third time. Her first wedding was over-the-top and cost us a fortune. Her second wedding was also expensive, held at a private home. We helped her pay for that wedding, as well. She is now planning her third, which she says will be a destination wedding. The destination she chose is across the country in a very expensive area.

a small party to celebrate down the road.

We're not sure whether to broach the subject and give her our opinion or to leave it alone. Her father and I would be financially unable to attend the destination wedding. — *Mother of the Bride, Times 3*

Dear Mother of the Bride: For everyone's sake, I certainly hope that the third time's a charm and that your daughter found her Prince Charming.

Though she will always be your daughter, she is still a 44-year-old adult who is capable of making her own decisions. If she and her fiancé want to have a destination wedding, then by all means, let them do so. The fact that her friends and family have attended two weddings might make it more challenging for them to have many people attend, but maybe they want it

that way.

All that being said, I think you need to sit down and talk to your daughter — not to tell her what you think her wedding should be like but rather to tell her you and her father would be unable to attend because of the financial burden. Once she has this knowledge from you, it will be up to her to decide whether she wants to either pay for your travel expenses or have her parents not attend her wedding. By pointing this out, you may make her realize that it might be a financial burden to others, as well.

In the end, it's her party. You can always share your wisdom and advice with your grown children, but you can't always expect them to listen.

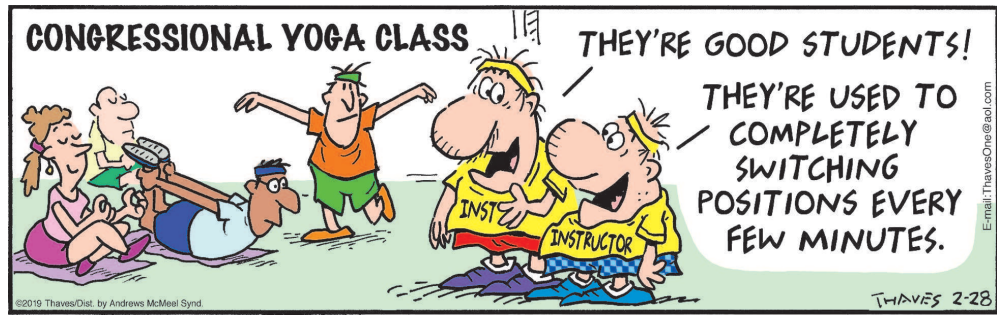
Dear Annie: Recently, you printed a letter from "Bashful," who was frustrated that her face flushes so easily when embarrassed. My suggestion would be that she work on becoming a better speaker. — *Ann K.*

DEAR ANNIE



ANNIE LANE
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

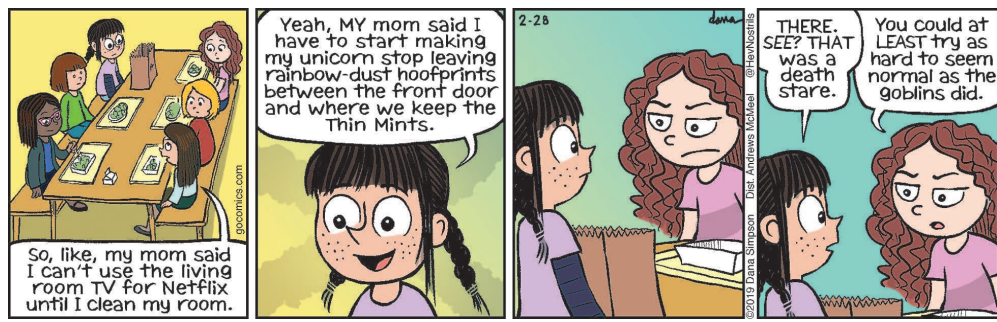
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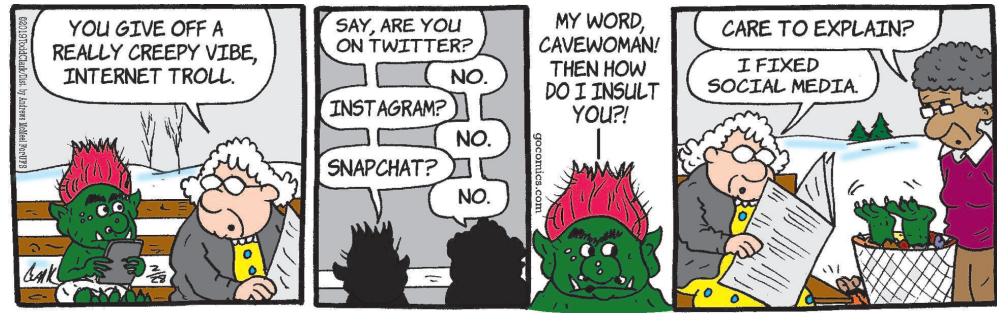
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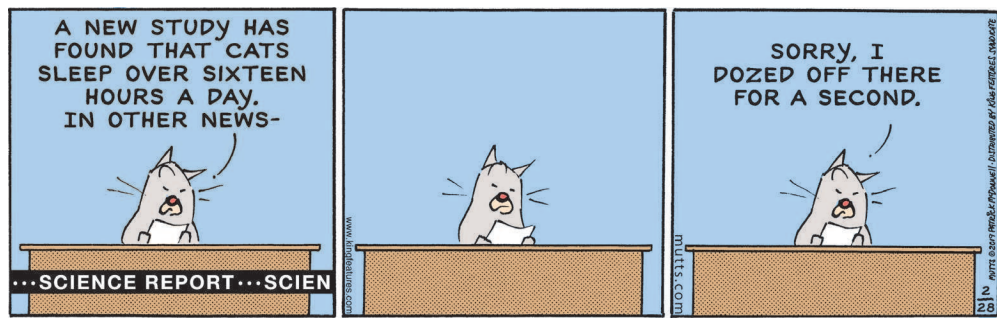
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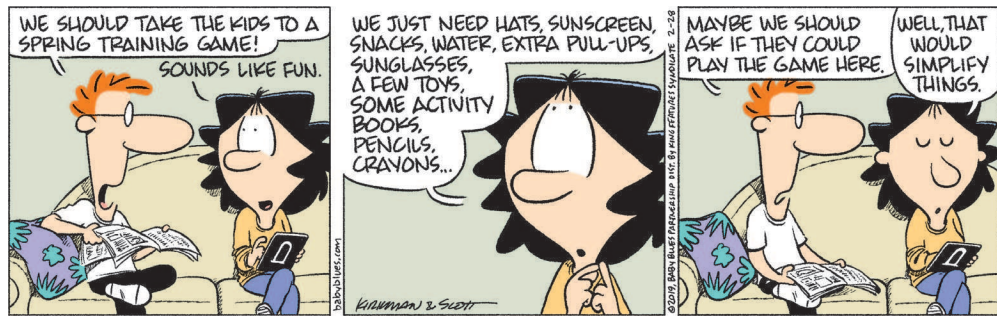
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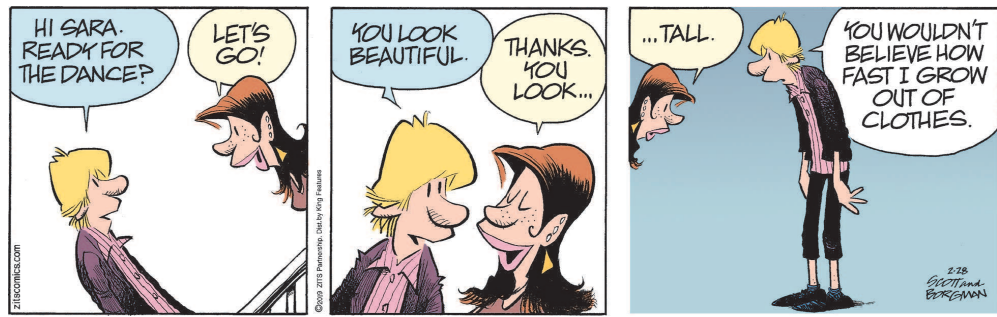
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TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The most frustrating thing is when something doesn't quite work right, but it doesn't work wrong enough to warrant the cost of repair or replacement. Hold on. What you're dealing with isn't broken, just temporarily wonky.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your prize for doing everything right may be simply that you get to keep doing it. Is it worth it? Doing a thing differently to satisfy your own curiosity will be lucky for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). No need to agonize about your choices today because there won't be any wrong paths, just paths that get there a little sooner, or paths that don't get "there" at all but go somewhere delightful nonetheless. Enjoy.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you please that one certain person, the rest goes better. Maybe this person has too much power. Or it could be that this is just what works for both of you. The good news is that this person will be easy to please today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The prize may seem just out of reach, and as uncomfortable as this is, it's a great sign. One leap, shove or gust of wind is all it will take to bring this to hand, so keep that hand outstretched.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are things you're experiencing that can't be described in words because words are inadequate. And yet, there are parts that can be described, and when you try to do this, you'll gain new insights and understanding.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Sweet afterthoughts, door prizes, party favors — the add-ons do make a difference. And while the novice finds them frivolous, the seasoned expert has counted them as part of the package all along and made it into a surprise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your ambition is high gear, but the question that keeps coming up is: At what cost? The biggest clue will come from observing the people around you. What's it costing them?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You do have an overactive inner critic; it's true. But your inner ambassador also has a lot of energy, as does your inner cheerleader. Pit them against one another if necessary — whatever it takes to do your best work.

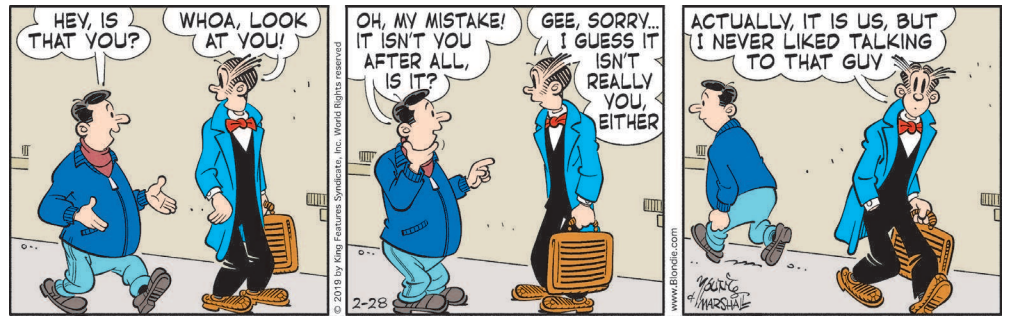
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're still sorting something out — your feelings, your involvement in a process, what you are and are not willing to do. You don't have to decide all of this in a day and anyone pressuring you has an agenda. Factor that in, too.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). One pop song suggests that "it's too late to apologize..." and yet it never really is. The apology may not hold any sway, but if it's sincere, it shouldn't come with such contingencies in the first place.

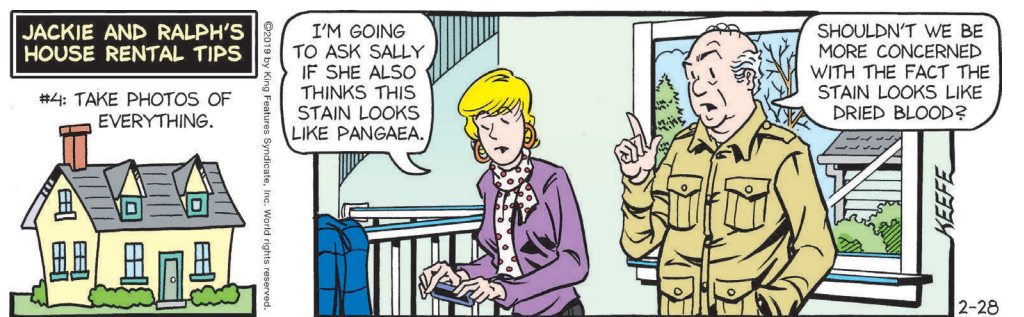
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). To impact the world, one must first impact the personal. It sounds big, but it's accomplished in all the small actions you take to assume responsibility for yourself and your surroundings. Give yourself credit for this.

TOMORROW'S BIRTHDAY (March 1). This year features the warrior in you — the part of you willing to work up the courage to take on your fears and obstacles and to fight for those who need you. You'll have a breakthrough in your work that connects you with people you never thought you'd know. Beauty in your home life has to do with far-off influences. Aquarius and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 30, 1, 11 and 45.

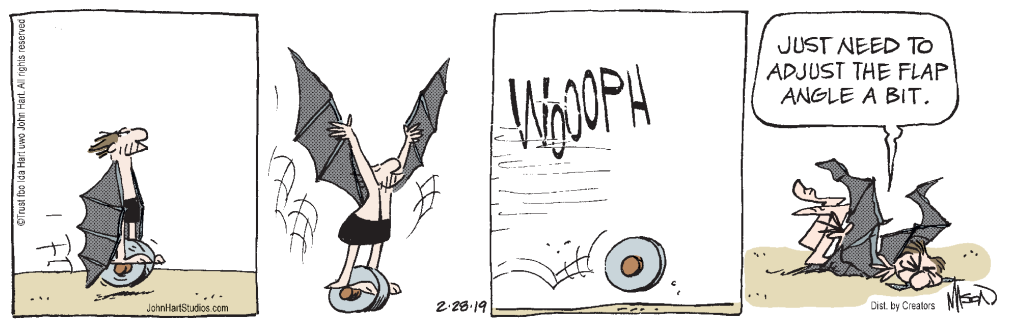
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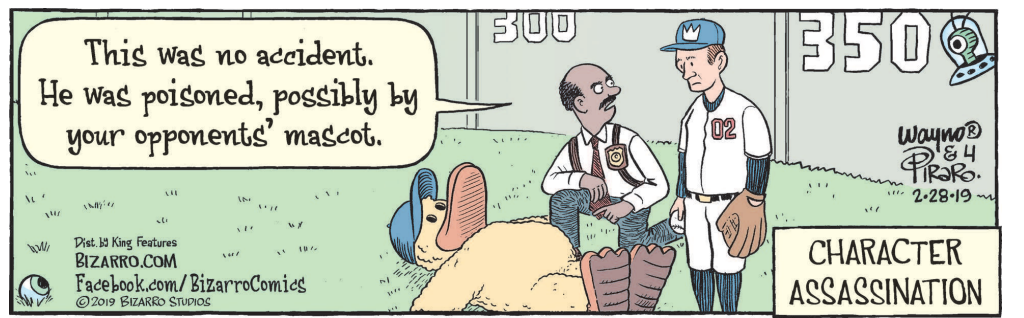
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