

# My life is miserable at home

**Dear Annie:** I've been married for 32 years, but my wife and I have never made a great pair. We now have two grown children and a well-established life in the local community. I find great fulfillment in my work and my hobbies, but our home life is miserable — for me, for my wife and for my children. I've thought about divorce, of course, but my wife wouldn't be able to support herself financially, so I'd need to send her payments, I'm sure. How do I balance my needs with hers? We vowed "for better or for worse," but she has been a negligent wife, refusing to help support the family when we've been at our breaking point. I'm so torn. I don't want to break her heart or put her in a financially and emotionally precarious situation, but I also know I'm setting a terrible example for my children by staying with someone who makes us all miserable.

What do you think? Is there any way out of this nightmare? — *Stuck*

**Dear Stuck:** Failure is an orphan, even in relationships. I'd ask for you to look for your part in this. While I don't know exactly what you mean by "(she) makes us all miserable," it doesn't sound totally fair. Perhaps your wife is struggling with untreated mental health issues; it's hard for me to guess at what's going on without knowing the specifics. Regardless, my advice to you is to give marriage counseling a sincere try. It's the least you can do for your marriage, yourself, your wife and your children.

**Dear Annie:** My daughter is getting married in two weeks and I have been battling pneumonia for more than six weeks. I'm being heavily medicated, so I am hoping to feel well by the time of the wedding. I have been told by my doc-

tor and several medical friends that I can't get close to people or it could really set me back. There will be family and friends attending that I would want to hug and be close with. Photos alone keep people pretty close together. I'm at a complete loss as to how to handle this. — *Anxiously Recovering*

**Dear Anxiously Recovering:** While I understand your desire to embrace and be close with all the friends and family that will be at the wedding, you should heed your doctor's advice and try to keep a safe distance. Let your family know the situation ahead of time and ask that they avoid giving you hugs, as it will be easy to forget in the moment. As for photography, talk to the photographer about poses that won't require your being cheek-to-cheek with anyone. Congratulations on your daughter's wedding. Know that even if pneumonia means your experience of her big day isn't exactly how you always envisioned it, it will still be wonderful.

**DEAR ANNIE**



ANNIE LANE  
Creators  
Syndicate Inc.

**JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU**

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

2				3				
7	3			8			9	2
		4	9		2	8		3
		2		6		9		5
	5		3		7		6	
6	7		5		3			
9		6	7		8	1		
1	8			4			3	9
			5					6

Rating: BRONZE

Solution to 5/4/19

6	5	2	4	9	7	3	1	8
4	8	3	6	2	1	7	9	5
9	7	1	5	8	3	6	2	4
2	3	4	9	5	6	8	7	1
1	6	5	7	4	8	9	3	2
8	9	7	3	1	2	4	5	6
3	2	9	1	6	4	5	8	7
5	4	8	2	7	9	1	6	3
7	1	6	8	3	5	2	4	9

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**ACROSS**

- 1 Energy
- 4 Amtrak express
- 9 Sushi fish
- 12 Praise in verse
- 13 VIP on Air Force One
- 14 Tennis feat
- 15 Museum piece
- 17 Train lines (Abbr.)
- 18 Sprite
- 19 Holler
- 21 Word game with dice
- 24 Horse-shoe site
- 25 Brit. record label
- 26 Not 'neath
- 28 Bolivian city
- 31 Wilson's predecessor
- 33 Observe
- 35 Castle
- 36 Caper
- 38 Music booster

**DOWN**

- 40 GPS suggestion
- 41 Skip
- 43 Telethon array
- 45 Soft and weak
- 47 Kanga's kid
- 48 Use a shovel
- 49 Land in the Irish Sea
- 54 Oklahoma city
- 55 Beethoven's "Für —"
- 56 Kimono sash
- 57 Unruly group
- 58 Impudent
- 59 Tex- cuisine

**ACROSS**

- 20 Thy
- 21 Alpha follower
- 22 Muscat's land
- 23 Eloquent person's talent
- 27 Actor Stephen
- 29 Memory method
- 30 Stretches (out)
- 32 Marathoner's stat
- 34 Catherine, notably
- 37 Municipalities
- 39 "Nuts!
- 42 Inventor Nikola
- 44 Gut-punch reaction
- 45 Wax-coated cheese
- 46 Rover's pal
- 50 Fleur-de- —
- 51 Oft-tattooed word
- 52 Jurist Fortas
- 53 Kibosh

Solution time: 21 mins.

O	H	O		B	A	L	I		B	E	E	R
P	I	N		A	L	O	T		U	P	T	O
E	G	O		L	O	U	S		N	E	A	L
C	H	R	I	S	O	D	O	N	N	E	L	L
			O	A	F		K	A	Y			
A	L	B	U	M	W	A	G		F	R	I	M
C	E	O	S		D	A	Y		F	A	R	E
S	O	Y		A	Y	N		E	A	G	E	R
			C	N	N		O	C	T			
C	H	R	Y	S	A	N	T	H	E	M	U	M
L	O	A	N		S	O	H	O		O	N	O
A	M	I	D		T	R	E	E		V	I	M
D	E	L	I		Y	A	R	D		E	T	A

Saturday's answer 5-6

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16						17		
				18				19		20		
21	22	23						24				
25				26			27		28		29	30
31				32			33		34		35	
36				37			38		39		40	
				41			42		43		44	
45	46							47				
48				49			50			51	52	53
54				55						56		
57				58						59		

**TOMORROW'S HOROSCOPE (MAY 8)**

By Holiday Mathis, Creators Syndicate Inc.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Successful move of the day: Give your energy to those who give back. And even though it's not always possible or advisable to love only those who love you, etc., today it's your ticket to heart-happiness.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Even though you may feel clueless as to what is your next move, your intention to avoid trouble and steer yourself in a healthful and supportive direction will lead you into becoming who you want to be.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** You'll be put in a position today. Make it easy for present-you by saying yes. Make it easy for future-you by saying no. The second way is better, causing you less stress overall, but of course, it's harder.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** When you're doing something for the first time, it seems to take a lot longer. The novelty changes your perception of time and makes moments stretch. Break the routine. Variety is a must for a memorable life.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** There are a lot of things that mistakenly pass for gratitude. Manners, humility, deference — they're all fine and well, but they are not gratitude. Gratitude is a type of joy. If it doesn't feel joyful, then it's not really gratitude.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** Get into the kind of relationships you can handle. You know what you have time for and what you don't. You know what feels easy and what seems right but somehow isn't quite. Trust yourself.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** You have a problem. Other people have the same problem. If you can solve it for you, you can solve it for the others, too. Knowing it's bigger than you will give you

motivation to dig in and try harder for the answer.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Everyone judges. "No judgment but..." is one way judgy sentences can start. If you find yourself judging, even if it's only mentally, then add an "or not" to the end of what you were thinking. Because the opposite idea may be just as true.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** An unhelpful idea that's been engrained in you since you were small will be tricky to free yourself from, but that's exactly what you need to do to move to a lighter mode of being.

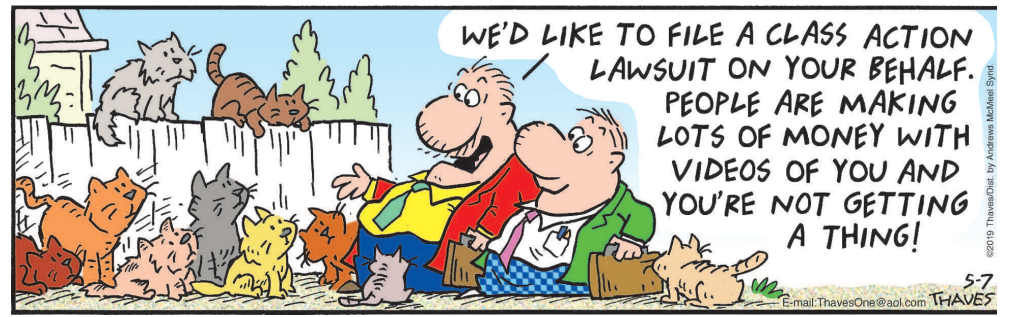
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** The different kinds of inspiration will compound. Intellectual inspiration will ignite physical exuberance; social inspiration will effervesce into spiritual joy.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** For a conflict to resolve, one person has to soften in the name of resolution. That person is automatically the bigger person, as it takes a great spirit to be humble.

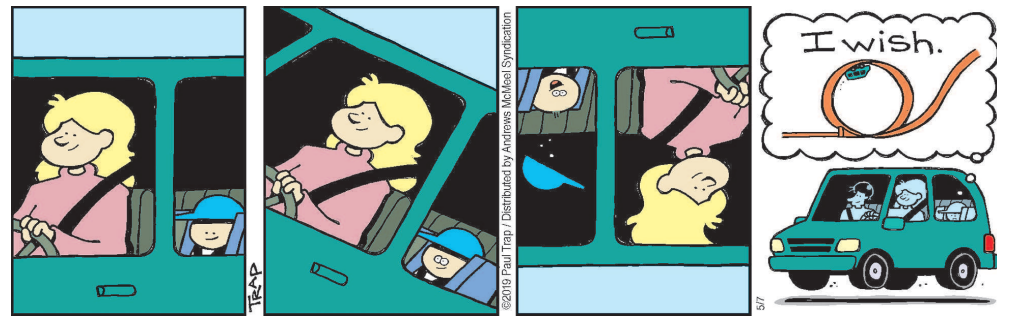
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Your learning process can be very mysterious. Maybe it feels like nothing is clicking in, but keep exposing yourself to the material you want to absorb. When it does click in, it will be sudden and magical.

**WEDNESDAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 8).** Though you don't make finding love, joy and fun your priority, these qualities will be abundantly present this trip around the sun. It's like a new part of your being is activated. You'll find yourself interested in things you wouldn't have suspected you would be. Different teachers show up in the form of friends and a boss. Scorpio and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 20, 14, 44 and 32.

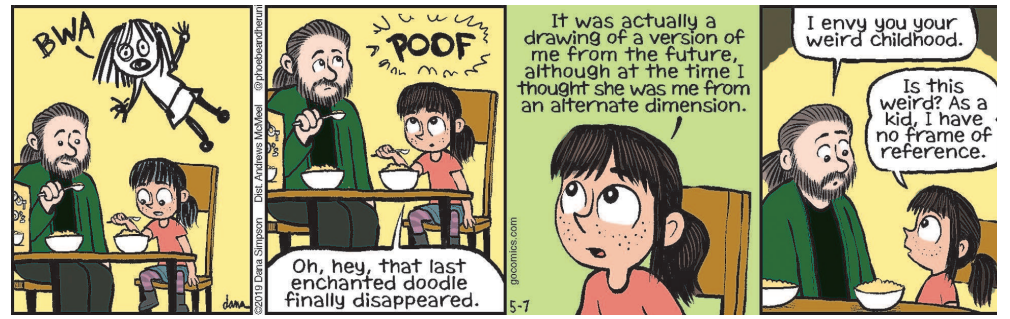
**FRANK AND ERNEST**



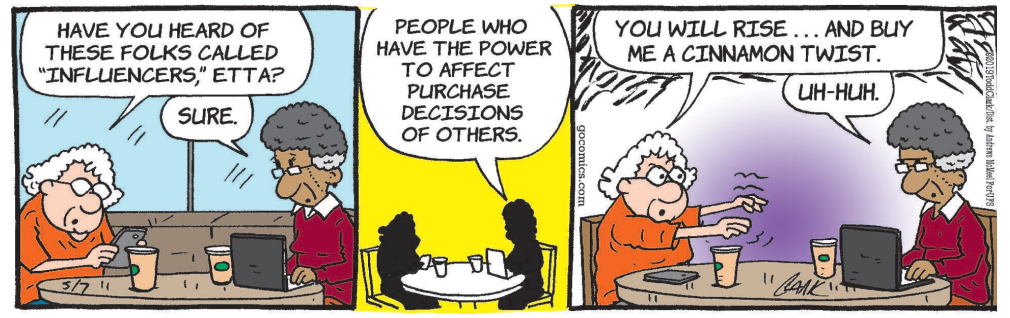
**THATABABY**



**PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN**



**LOLA**



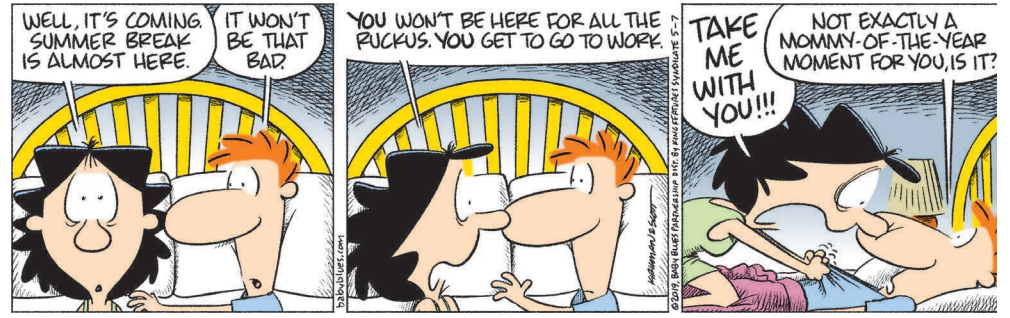
**SIX CHIX**



**MUTTS**



**BABY BLUES**



**ZITS**

