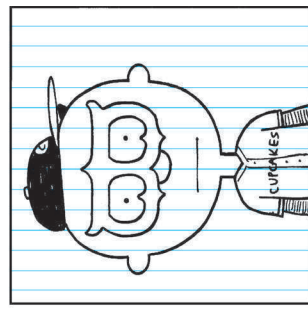


# bit 9

by Lincoln Peirce

# NATE



HI, MISTER, DO YOU WANT TO BUY SOME RAFFLE TICKETS TO SUPPORT LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL?

HMM. MAYBE, MAYBE.

FIRST LET ME ASK YOU: WHO'S YOUR TEAM?

CRESSLY'S BAKERY!

NO, NO! YOUR PRO TEAM!

YOU MEAN, WHO DO I ROOT FOR IN MLB? THE RED SOX!

\*TSK \* AW, THAT'S A SHAME, KID.

SEE, I'M A YANKEES FAN! I DON'T KNOW IF MY CONSCIENCE WILL LET ME BUY TICKETS FROM A SOX LOVER!

...BUT TELL YA WHAT I'LL DO: IF YOU TELL ME THAT THE YANKEES ARE THE GREATEST, I'LL BUY A WHOLE MESS OF TICKETS!

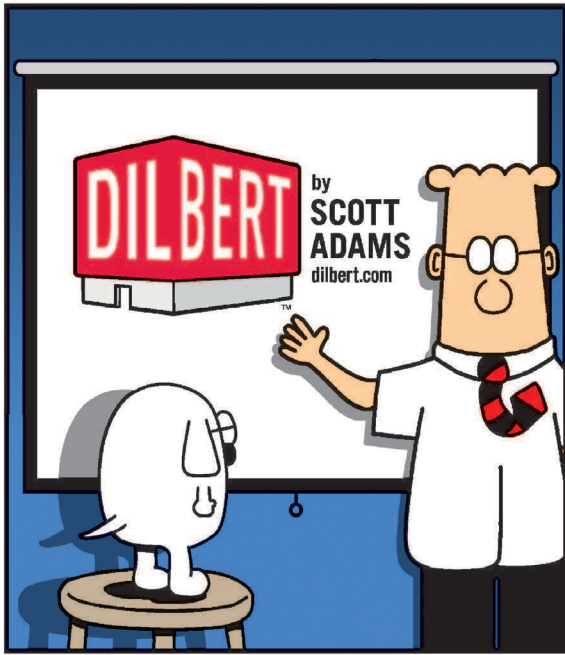
YOU WANT ME TO SAY I LIKE THE YANKEES?

YOU WANT THE SALE? SAY THEY'RE THE GREATEST! SIMPLE AS THAT!

THE YANKEES ARE... KOFF... THE GREATEST

BEAUTIFUL. THERE WAS THAT SO HARD?

ADD THIS HOUSE TO THE HALLOWEEN EGG LIST.



MY CPR INSTRUCTOR SAYS I WAS ONE OF HIS BEST STUDENTS.

TOPPER

THAT'S NOTHING.

I'M SO GOOD AT CPR THAT MY PRACTICE DUMMY CAME TO LIFE.

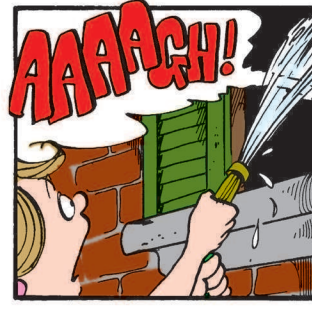
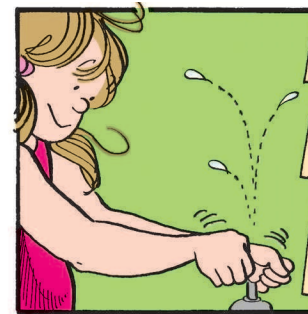
HE GREW LIMBS AND GOT MARRIED TO A CRASH TEST DUMMY.

THEY HAD THREE MANNEQUINS TOGETHER AND THEY LIVE IN THE SUBURBS.

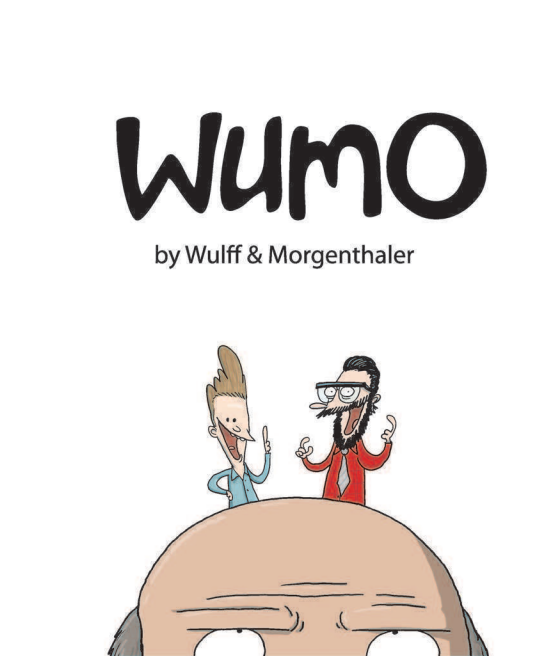
BUT THE MARRIAGE DIDN'T LAST BECAUSE THE CPR DUMMY COULD NOT FORGET THE TASTE OF MY LIPS.

I BLAME MYSELF FOR BEING IRRESISTIBLE.

WHY DO ALL OF MY CONVERSATIONS END WITH ME SITTING ALONE?

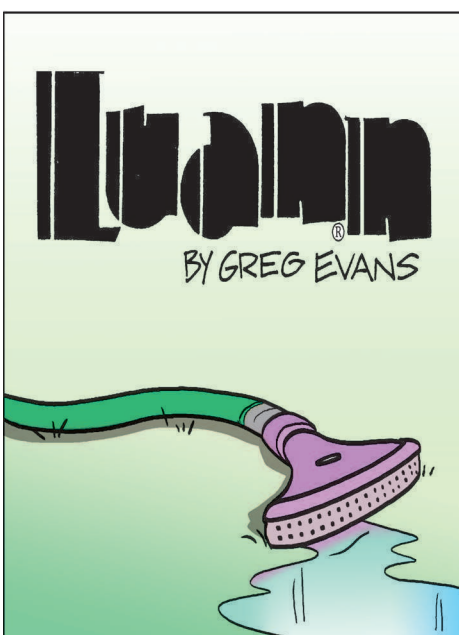


I GUESS WHEN YOU'RE WASHIN' WINDOWS... YOU GOTTA MAKE SURE THEY'RE CLOSED.



Now, look at this mess! This is what happens if you don't fully commit!

When the princess only air-kisses the frog



ARE THOSE OUR FIREWORKS, AUNT TONI?

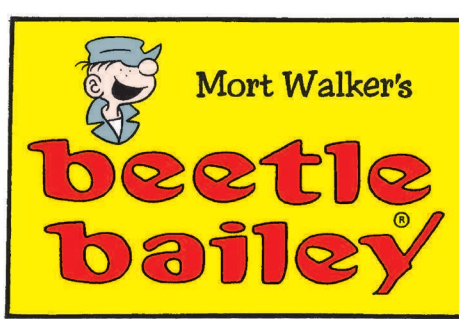
YUP. READY FOR YOUR FIRST BACKYARD FIREWORKS SHOW?

REMEMBER THE SAFETY STUFF WE WENT OVER? I'LL HELP YOU LIGHT THIS FIRST ONE

YEAH!!

I THINK UNCLE BRAD WANTS TO HELP

IGNORE HIM



SARGE HAD ME BRING THIS OVER

YOU WALKED ALL THE WAY OVER HERE?

THIS ROUTE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A SHORTCUT

I'M LOST!

HOW WILL I FIND MY WAY OUT OF HERE?

ACTUALLY, THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD PLACE TO REST

SARGE CAN'T FIND ME! I MIGHT ENJOY IT

HEY! THERE'S A SIGN!

CAMP SWAMPY 10 MILES

THERE'S THE ROAD... BUT WHICH WAY?

I NEED TIME TO THINK ABOUT THIS

NOW, WHERE WAS I?

GREG MORT WALKER