

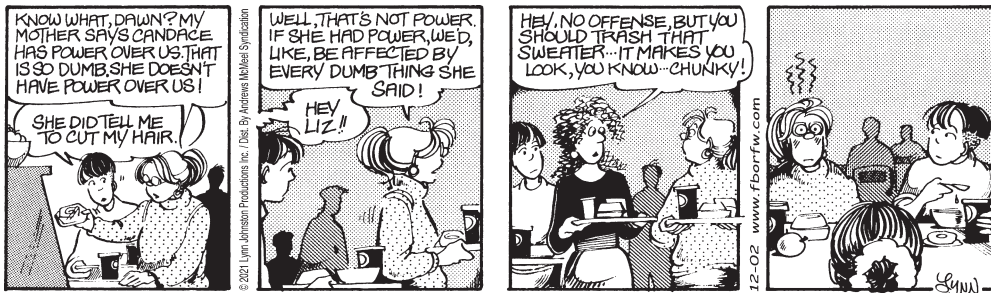
PEANUTS

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

BY LYNN JOHNSTON



B.C.

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE



BETLE BAILEY

BY MORT WALKER



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



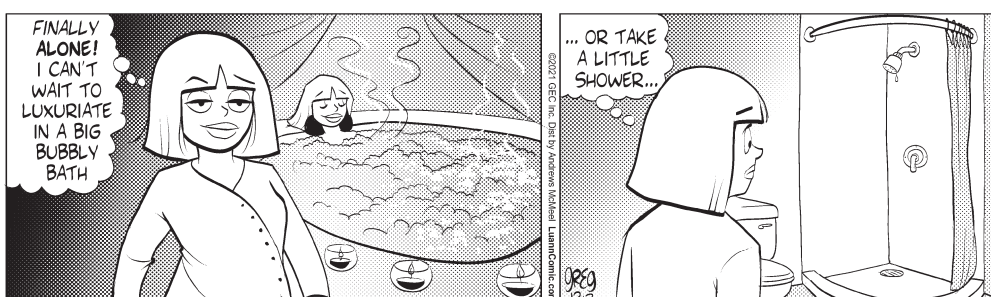
THE WIZARD OF ID

BY PARKER AND HART



LUANN

BY GREG EVANS



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



DEAR ABBY

Woman tired of couple's constant marital drama



JEANNE PHILLIPS ADVICE

Dear Abby: My husband has a "best friend" from childhood I'll call "Artie." Finding things to do with him and his wife is a struggle. We like to travel, so we always invite them along, but Artie says "no" to everything. His wife, "Ann," and I are pretty close.

Dear Abby: I've been married for six years. When I met my wife, we decided she'd move into my home with her teenaged boys. I told them upfront how important it is to me to keep a clean home. When they come home from college, they leave a mess in the kitchen, and it drives me crazy. This has been going on since we married, and I'm ready to tell my wife they are not allowed back into my home.

We all spend a lot of time together and they fight constantly! Ann shows up at our house in the middle of the night needing a place to sleep. Their fighting has ruined more gatherings than I have fingers and toes to count. I feel like our life is consumed by their toxic relationship. My husband tells me I should just "ignore it." But he's not the one who has to tend to his friend's wife EVERY day. Help! — Exhausted In Alabama

I have reminded them many times about cleaning up after themselves, but their mess continues. I'm close to losing my temper over it. It angers me to see grown men in my home do this. It feels like they are blatantly disrespecting me. When I was away for a year, my wife constantly complained to me about their lack of cleanliness as well. Am I in the wrong? — Taskmaster In California

Dear Exhausted: What you do is draw the line. Tell your husband the unrelenting warfare in his friend's marriage is more than you care to handle. Tell Ann the same thing, and that if she can't sleep under her own roof, she'll have to find other accommodations than your house in the middle of the night. Urge her to get counseling and to contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233) or a local domestic violence shelter if Artie is violent. As to socializing with them as a couple — on trips, yet (!) — explain to your husband that you have lost your appetite for it, and if he wants to see his childhood friend, he should do it without you.

Dear Taskmaster: You are not wrong. Remind the "boys" — without exploding — that you have asked them repeatedly not to leave the kitchen in a mess after they use it. Then tell them — without exploding — that if it happens again, they will have to arrange for other accommodations when they visit.

It goes without saying that your wife should back you up on this. They should also ask their mother if there is anything else they can do to be helpful when they visit — like wash the towels they have used and make up the beds with fresh linens before they return to school.

DAYS GONE BY

100 years ago — 1921 Another accident, said by Traffic Officer R. E. Turner, to have been caused by a violation of the law, resulted last night in painful injuries to E. W. Gillaspay. The accident occurred near the state hospital on the highway when Mr. Gillaspay and a boy, whose identity is unknown to the police, clashed. Both were riding bicycles, according to the information secured by the traffic officers, and neither bicycle was equipped with a headlight. Gillaspay was rendered temporarily unconscious when he crashed to the pavement after the collision, and he was painfully injured about the head. In the future, according to Turner, cyclists who ride after dark without lights will be prosecuted for violating the law.

from memory. She sings contemporary music and likes "Carole King stuff best." While she has had piano lessons, she plays by ear instead of using music. She is saving the money she earns for college and to go to Europe with a folk singing group. Tracey says her grades haven't suffered. Her parents won't let her work unless she maintains a 3.5 grade point average. "That means I'm studying more than I ever did before," she said.

50 years ago — 1971 A guitar is easier to move around than an organ. This is the reason Tracey Fordice, who sings at the Skyroom at Pendleton Municipal Airport, is learning how to play the guitar. She uses her own organ for performances and her father transports it between home and her job. The Pendleton High School junior has been playing at the Skyroom for six months. During the school year, she works two weekends a month. Tracey sings and plays about 250 songs a night. She knows most of them

25 years ago — 1996 Sen.-elect Gordon Smith said he's resigned his management posts in Smith Frozen Foods in preparation for his full-time job as Oregon's newest senator. State Senate president the past two years, Smith said he and his wife still own the majority of stock in the family company and he plans to keep that stock unless he's required to divest it under ethics rules. The Senate Ethics Committee helped bounce former Sen. Bob Packwood and caused some political heartburn for retiring Sen. Mark Hatfield when he forgot to report some gifts from friends. So Smith isn't taking any chances. In addition to resigning as president of his company, he plans to ask the Senate Ethics Committee for guidance on handling his fortune to avoid any conflicts of interest.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Dec. 2, 1859, militant abolitionist John Brown was hanged for his raid on Harpers Ferry the previous October. In 1823, President James Monroe outlined his doctrine opposing European expansion in the Western Hemisphere. In 1942, an artificially created, self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated for the first time at the University of Chicago. In 1954, the U.S. Senate passed, 67-22, a resolution condemning Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., saying he had "acted contrary to senatorial ethics and tended to bring the Senate into dishonor and disrepute."

In 1957, the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, the first full-scale commercial nuclear facility in the U.S., began operations. (The reactor ceased operating in 1982.) In 1970, the newly created Environmental Protection Agency opened its doors under its first director, William D. Ruckelshaus. In 1982, in the first operation of its kind, doctors at the University of Utah Medical Center implanted a permanent artificial heart in the chest of retired dentist Dr. Barney Clark, who lived 112 days with the device. In 1993, Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar

was shot to death by security forces in Medellin. In 2000, Al Gore sought a recount in South Florida, while George W. Bush flatly asserted, "I'm soon to be the president" and met with GOP congressional leaders. In 2001, in one of the largest corporate bankruptcies in U.S. history, Enron filed for Chapter 11 protection. In 2015, a couple loyal to the Islamic State group opened fire at a holiday banquet for public employees in San Bernardino, California, killing 14 people and wounding 21 others before dying in a shootout with police.

PHOEBE AND HER UNICORN

BY DANA SIMPSON



BIG NATE

BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

