

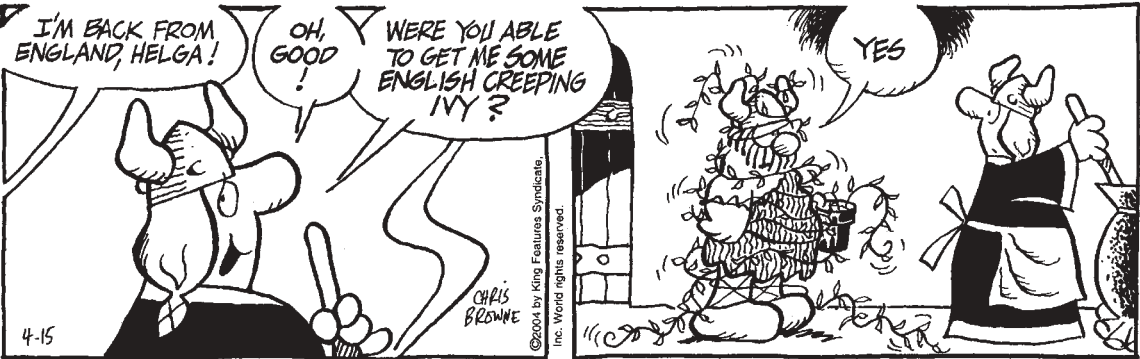
For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



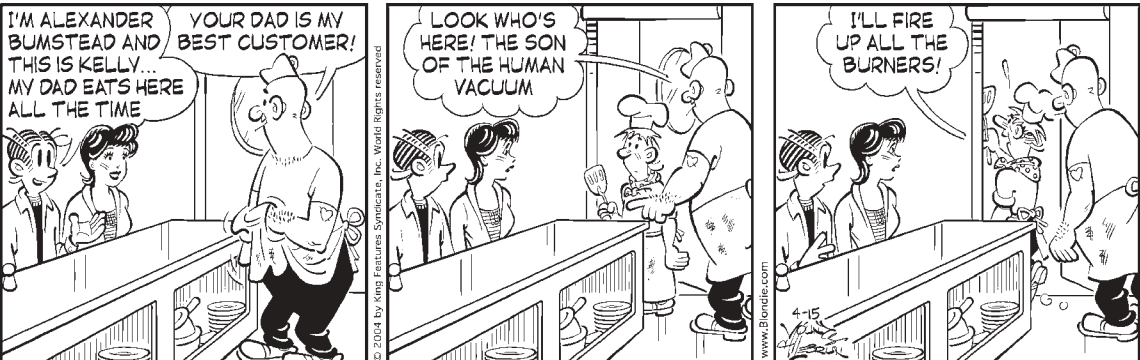
Garfield • Jim Davis



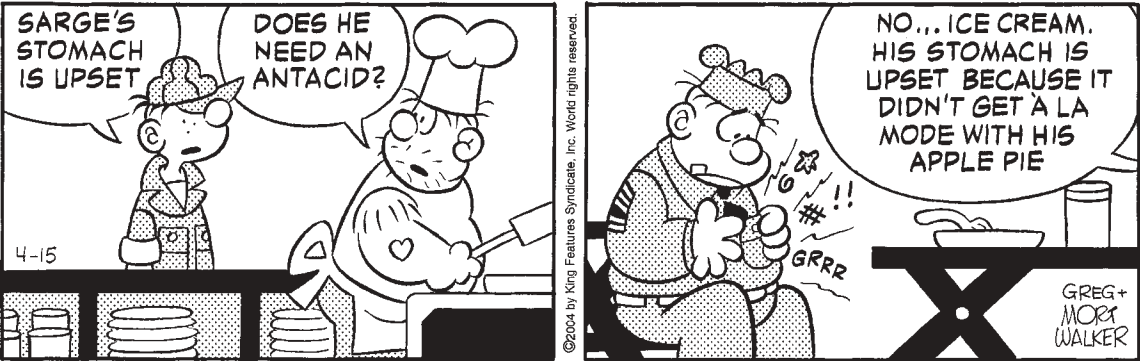
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



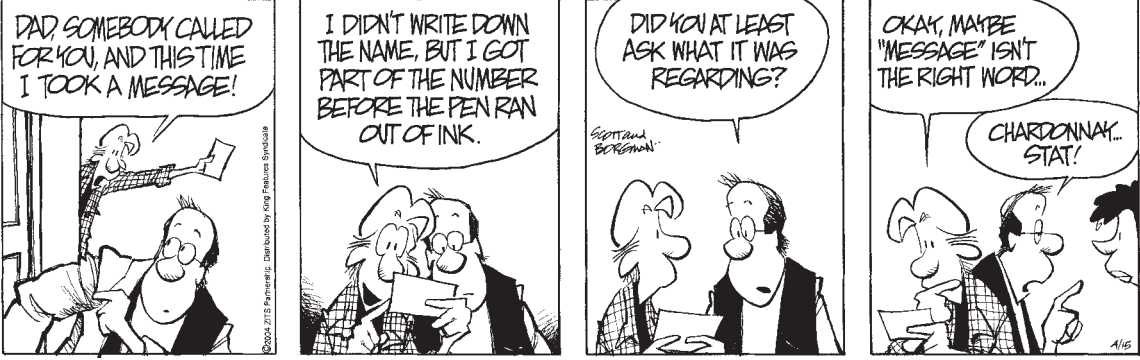
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



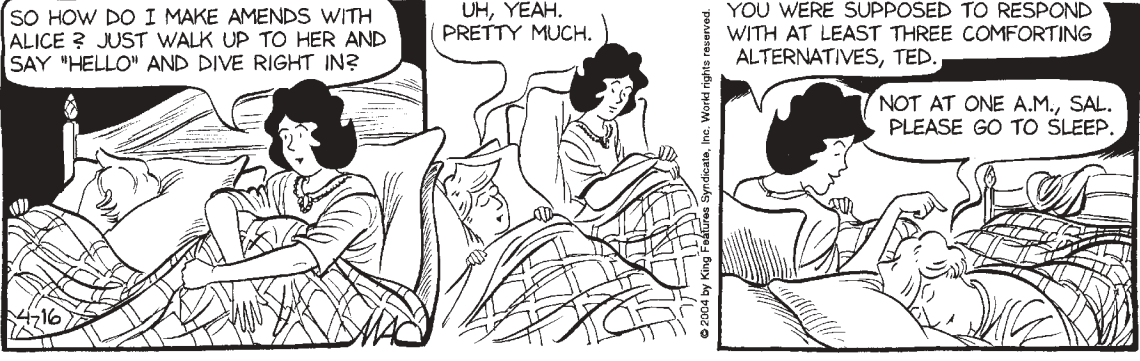
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

CD VMRZMHZ PZLUUK
UCXZV WM VWQEK VGLPXV,
C VQJJMVZ KMQ BMQUE
BLUU GCR L DCHLWCB.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I THINK I ONCE
HEARD OUR INDUSTRIOUS EXTERMINATOR
EXCLAIM, "I MAKE MOUSE CALLS!"
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals E

Woman traumatized after party

DEAR ABBY: I am so mad! My husband doesn't understand my feelings and told me to write and ask for your opinion.

We threw a swimming party for our son's fifth birthday. We invited a few of his closest friends from kindergarten, along with their parents, and his grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

I went inside to change my clothes and ran smack into a burglar.

He tied me up with cords from the window blinds; then he used one of my husband's ties to gag me and left me squirming on the floor. I was bound so tightly I couldn't work my way out of the room.

I figured someone would come looking for me. I am an extrovert, and I was sure my absence would not go unnoticed. I wriggled around for what seemed like an eternity before anyone came looking for me. In reality, it was 45 minutes of misery before my husband walked in, trailed by our children.

My family and our guests had not noticed I was missing for all of that time! Abby, I was crushed. They have tried to explain it away, but I am mortified. I can't seem to get over this. My family thinks I am making too much of it, but I find myself breaking down in tears all the time. What do you think I should do to get over this and get my life back on track?

— ALL TIED UP IN PALM SPRINGS

DEAR TIED UP: You have my sympathy, and there is a name for what you are experiencing: It is post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It often occurs in people who have survived a disaster, such as an earthquake, flood, car accident



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

or being a victim of a crime.

The feelings of anger you are aiming at your family and friends should appropriately be aimed at the burglar who invaded your home, hog-tied you and violated your sense of security.

Before any more time elapses, I urge you to ask your doctor to refer you to a psychotherapist who specializes in PTSD. Please don't wait to make the call, because it's the quickest way to resolve your anger and feel better.

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Danny," is obsessed with his cousin's little daughter, to the point where he thinks she is his (and acts like she's his, too). If Danny doesn't see her often enough, he says he's in "withdrawal." She doesn't live near us, so it's expensive getting her here. Danny is out of work at the present time, and doesn't consider the fact that I'm the one earning the money.

I have an older child from another relationship, and I would love for Danny and me to have one of our own. However, he says we can't afford another child. It hurts me that he wants his cousin's child, but not mine.

Danny accuses me of being jealous. Am I overreacting?

— RESENTFUL IN ILLINOIS

DEAR RESENTFUL: Money

may be tight now, but you and Danny could benefit from marriage counseling. Your questions are valid, but the person providing the answers should be your husband — in the presence of a referee.

His attachment to his niece does seem excessive. (Could the child really BE his daughter?)

DEAR ABBY: My live-in boyfriend of 12 years won't let me visit my never-married girlfriends on the East Coast.

He says they're man-haters, which has some validity. But these are long-time friends who share intellectual interests he and I do not. How can I manage his feelings and have my freedom, too?

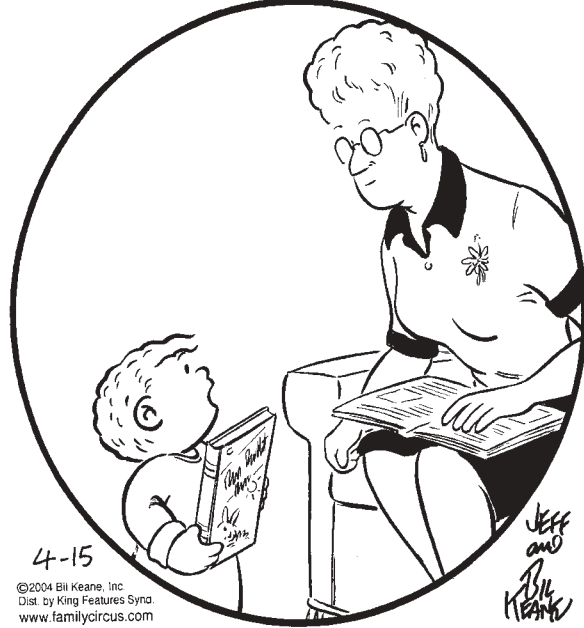
— MANAGING HIS FEELINGS

DEAR MANAGING: You're asking the wrong question. His feelings are his feelings. His insecurities are his insecurities. You can't fix him; only he can do that.

He is only your live-in — not your husband and not your warden. The question you should be asking yourself is why you are allowing him to dictate who you can and cannot visit.

Editor's note: Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 3
♥ K Q J 9 6
♦ J 8 3
♣ K 9 8

WEST
♠ 10 9 7 2
♥ 7 4
♦ 10 7 4
♣ Q 10 6 5

EAST
♠ 6 5 4
♥ 5 3 2
♦ K 6 5
♣ J 7 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K Q J
♥ A 10 8
♦ A Q 9 2
♣ A 2

The bidding:
North Pass
East Pass
South 2 NT
West Pass
2 ♦ Pass
4 NT Pass
5 ♥ Pass
5 NT Pass
6 NT Pass

Opening lead — ten of spades.

The Art of Slam Bidding

Accurate slam bidding is one of the most reliable ways of evaluating the skill of a partnership.

A partnership that habitually stops in game when a slam can be made, or settles for a small slam when a grand slam is laydown, is clearly not attaining its maximum potential.

Consider this deal from the Reisinger team championship at the 1983 Eastern States regional tournament.

At the first table, the bidding went as shown.

South's two-club opening was artificial and indicated either a game-going hand in a suit or a balanced hand with 23 or 24 high-card points.

North's two-diamond response was also artificial and promised at least eight high-card points.

Two notrump identified the balanced type of hand, and four notrump asked South to name his four-card suits in ascending order. Accordingly, South bid five diamonds and then five spades, identifying both of his four-card suits.

Five notrump asked South to choose the final contract, and South chose six notrump, making seven when the diamond finesse succeeded.

The bidding at the second table was exceptionally short and sweet:

North Pass
South 1 [C]
2 [H] 5 NT
7 [H] Pass

South's one-club bid was artificial and showed at least 17 high-card points and almost any distribution.

Two hearts by North indicated at least five hearts and not less than nine high-card points.

South thereupon invoked the grand slam force convention by leaping to five notrump, which asked North to bid seven hearts if he had two of the top three heart honors.

North duly obliged, and seven hearts was easily made without a finesse by simply ruffing a club in dummy.

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Long story
5 Congeal
8 \$50, in "Monopoly"
12 Unsigned (Abbr.)
13 Jam ingredient?
14 Hold the scepter
15 Command to Rover
16 Historic period
17 European capital
18 "The Godfather" figure
20 Dud
22 Sole
26 Duel tool
29 Tease
30 Bill's partner
31 Yearn
32 Jennings' network
33 Dregs
34 Pac.
35 Parisian pal

DOWN
1 Cumberbund
2 Oppositionist
3 Capri-corn
4 From now on
5 Act section
6 Listening device
7 Import-export trade
8 Tolerate
9 Patronage
10 Under the weather
11 Cancer neighbor
19 Moreover
21 Retriever type, for short
23 Trip around the world?

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 4-15

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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