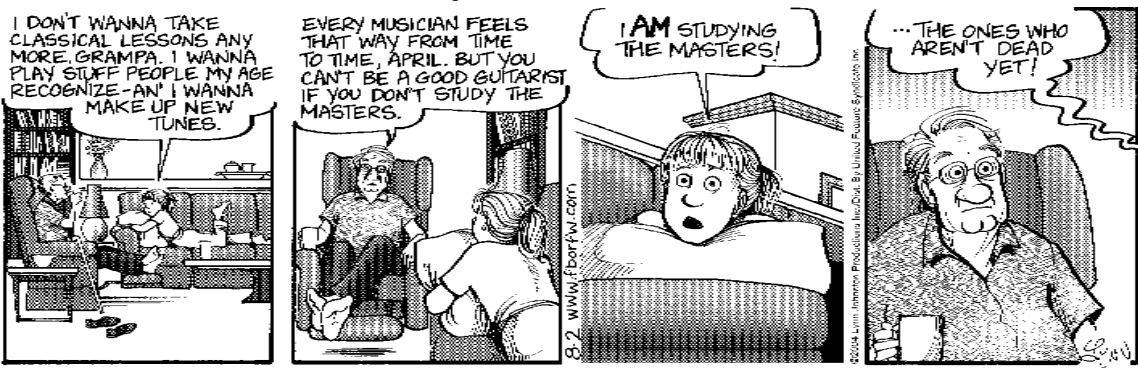


For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



Tod The Dinosaur • PR Condon



Garfield • Jim Davis



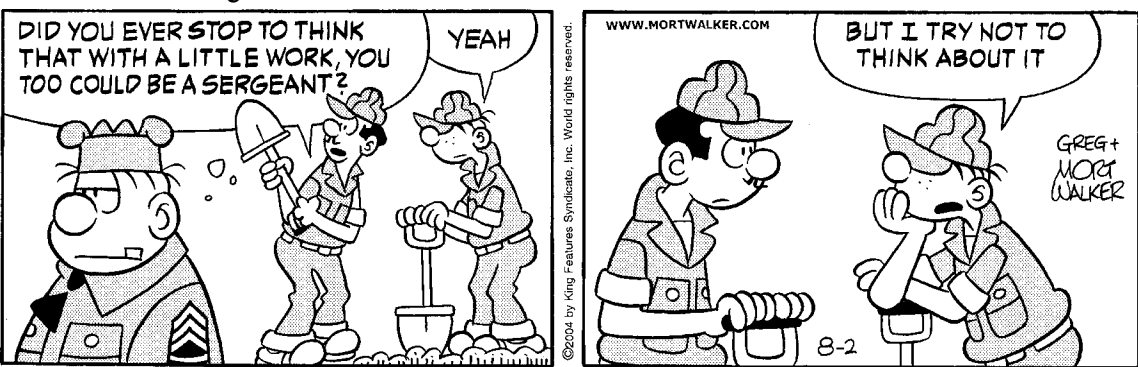
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



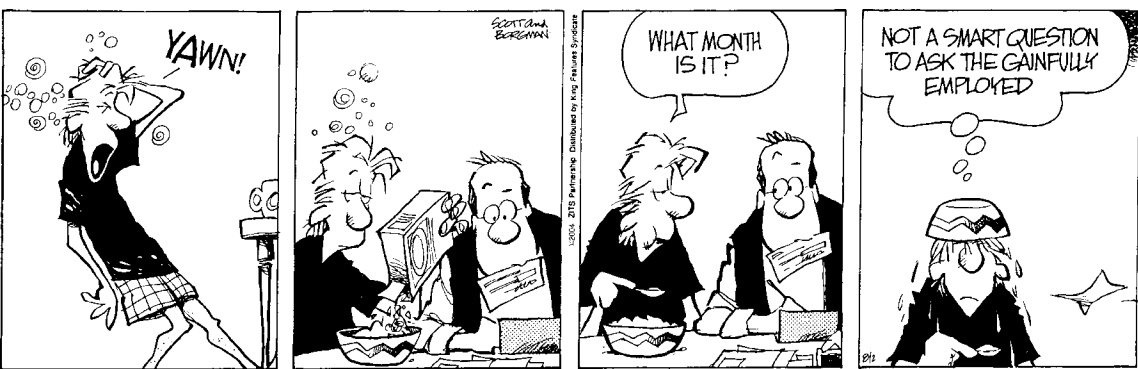
Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Cryptoquip

M EPQQ V LYSQP QSC

LYMQP M MKP-DFVCPB.

M DAJJSDP M LVD ST CYP

NMTF SE BPD CNAKCMST!

Saturday's Cryptoquip: I IMAGINE A REALLY GOOD-LOOKING BARBARIAN GUY MIGHT BE NAMED ATTILA THE HUNK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals L

Daughters unhappy dad returning



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My dad went to prison in 1989 and was released last November.

My sister and I were excited that Dad was coming home, but it has been a nightmare. He is manipulative, whiny and endlessly needy.

He moved in with my sister and she's going crazy. She asked me to take him, but after my husband saw the way Dad behaves, he flat out refused to have him in our home. I agree with him.

Dad keeps making excuses about why he can't live on his own. He claims he doesn't have the money, but then he goes out and buys all kinds of things for himself. He refuses to accept responsibility for his actions and insists that things are everybody else's fault.

My sister feels too guilty to kick him out, and I am at the end of my rope. Dad won't go to counseling because he thinks he doesn't need it. Is this a case for tough love?

— NEEDS TO KNOW IN WASHINGTON

DEAR NEEDS: The person who could benefit from counseling is your sister. Until she can emotionally distance herself from Dad, she will continue to be manipulated by his stance as a perpetual victim and his guilt trips. Once your sister has established boundaries, setting a date for Dad to be out of her home and insisting upon it are excellent ideas.

etiquette. Because I initiated the divorce from my ex-husband, my former in-laws no longer speak to me.

Both of them are in failing health, so I am wondering if I should attend their funerals for the sake of my children, or stay away.

I am willing to endure an awkward, hostile reception to support my children if you think my attendance would be appropriate.

— WANTS TO DO THE RIGHT THING

DEAR WANTS: Funerals are for the living — in this case that means your former husband, your surviving former in-law and your children. Since you are persona non grata, it might be best if your children attended the funeral with their father. If they need you to be there, then sit in the back and remain as inconspicuous as possible.

DEAR ABBY: After reading the letter from "Pussyfooting in Nebraska," who gets too many jokes and other e-mails from her mother, I thought I'd offer up my solution.

Most of my e-mails go to my office account.

However, I have set up a separate e-mail account specifically for my mother through a free service. Mother sends her e-mails to that account, and that's all that goes into it. Of course, it eventually gets filled up with jokes, etc., and whenever I get a chance (every month or so, or when she lets me know that it is full), I check it, and read and delete all of her e-mails.

I hope this is helpful for "Pussyfooting."

— FAITHFUL READER IN L.A.

DEAR FAITHFUL: That sounds like quite a project! However, for someone who doesn't want personal e-mails commingled with business correspondence, your solution may be just the ticket. Thank you for the suggestion.

DEAR ABBY: My sister informed me that her daughter was pregnant and being married at the local courthouse.

They live in Kansas. I live in Florida.

The day after the ceremony, my sister e-mailed me, expressing her anger that I did not acknowledge her daughter's "special day."

Keep in mind that I have never known her kids, as we have lived so far apart all of their lives. Her other daughters have called me every name they can come up with, trying to make me feel bad for "forgetting" about the event.

I don't feel I was obligated to do anything, especially when my sister announced it would be "parents only" at the ceremony.

Who's out of line here, in your opinion?

DEAR DISTANT AUNT: Since you weren't invited to the wedding, you had no obligation to send a gift.

It would have been nice if you had marked the occasion with something — a token gift. However, since you are now being "called every name they can come up with," I wouldn't blame you for going from distant aunt to an even more distant one.

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.

Bridge

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠	A K J	♠	9 8 4 3 2
♥	Q 9 3	♥	K 8 7 6 5
♦	9 8 7 4 3	♦	A 10
♣	K 9	♣	10
WEST		SOUTH	
♠	Q 7 6 5	♠	10
♥	2	♥	A J 10 4
♦	—	♦	K Q J 6 5 2
♣	Q J 8 7 6 5 3 2	♣	A 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	4 NT!	5 ♦	5 ♣
6 ♦	6 ♣	Pass	Pass
7 ♦	?	?	Dble
7 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead — five of spades.

Famous Hand

This deal occurred at a national tournament more than 40 years ago. At one table the bidding went as shown. West's four-notrump bid asked his partner to bid clubs or spades.

East duly obliged with five spades, raised by West to six after South bid six diamonds. When this came around to South, he decided to venture seven diamonds.

At this point, while West was cogitating whether to bid seven spades as a sacrifice, East doubled out of turn — and promptly led the ace of trumps to confirm the soundness of his double!

Naturally, the tournament director was summoned.

He ruled that North-South could continue bidding in turn and, furthermore, that the ace of diamonds was a penalty card.

(If a defender improperly exposes a card, it becomes a penalty card, which must be played at the first legal opportunity.)

With seven diamonds clearly hopeless, South now ran to seven notrump!

He was hoping to find some way to make that contract with the aid of the exposed card.

West led a spade.

Declarer finessed dummy's jack and then scored four heart tricks by taking repeated finesses against East's king.

South had been hoping that East would show out of hearts and be forced to discard the ace of diamonds, but he had no such luck.

Declarer next led a club to dummy's king and cashed the A-K of spades as East continued to follow suit.

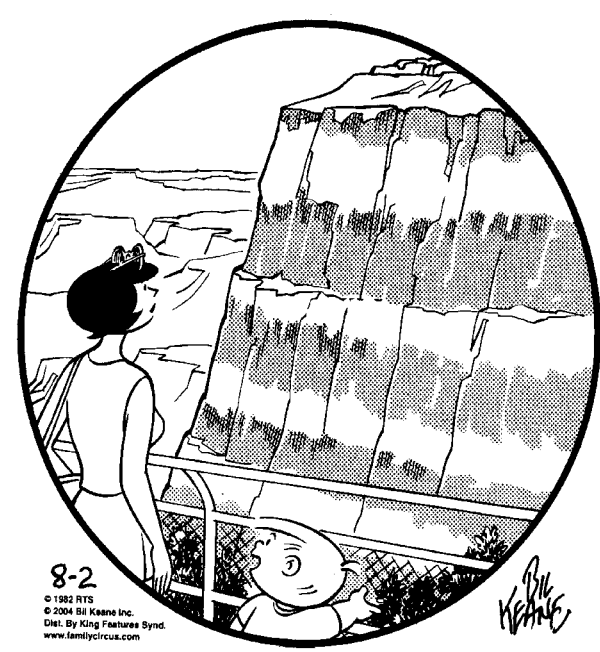
Finally, South played a club to the ace, prepared to concede down four, but at this point East's luck ran out.

Having no more clubs, he had no choice but to discard the ace of diamonds, and the grand slam came rolling home!

Tomorrow: Experts are human too.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Reminds me of that rainbow layer cake you made for my birthday."

Crossword

ACROSS	DOWN	19
1 Bridge	1 Ella's specialty	Reindeer herder, probably
5 Wrigley product	2 Machu Picchu locale	22 Footballer/actor
8 Capri, e.g.	3 Eden evictee	24 Periodical, briefly
12 Yield by treaty	4 Space cloud	25 Down Under bird
13 — pinch	5 Airport business, often	26 Chickadee's cousin
14 Neet rival	6 Important numero	27 Made
15 Speedy steed	7 Painter Chagall emotion	29 Prohibit
16 Cheaply	8 Bug	30 Idolater's
18 Big ruckus	9 Brazilian city	33 Carry on
20 Thin pancakes	10 Queue	36 Brownish orange
21 Cilium	11 Work units	38 Search (out)
23 Nipper's employer	17 Timetable abbr.	40 USNA grad
24 Figure of speech		42 From a distance
28 Sousa-phone cousin		43 Nitwit
31 Parisian pal		44 Unescorted
32 Strength		46 Ottumwa is there
34 Legislation		47 Till the end of time
35 Courage		48 Take 10
37 Captain Corcoran's ship		50 Past
39 Larry's cohort		

Solution time: 24 mins.												
M	A	O	N	E	A	S	T	R	A	L		
A	R	O	U	N	D	P	E	E	L	E		
O	P	E	C	A	P	S	E	A	C	E		
S	O	B	H	U	L	L	R	I	T			
P	R	I	M	A	R	I	C	O	L	O		
Y	O	R	E	T	E	R	I	N	A	N		
T	I	N	T	R	E	L	I					
M	A	H	R	O	S	E	E	D	N	A		
O	R	D	A	I	N	E	A	R	E	D		
S	C	A	R	C	E	E	R	A	C	E		
T	H	I	M	E	S							

Saturday's answer 8-2

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		

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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