

For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston

A POWNOW WAS HELD, AND PEOPLE CAME FROM EVERYWHERE! THERE WAS A FEAST!

THERE WAS DANCING AND SINGING AND EVERYONE WAS WELCOME.

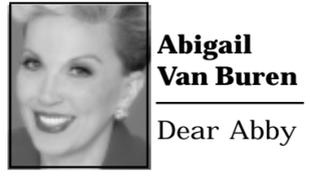
ELIZABETH SAID THAT NATIVE GATHERINGS ALWAYS INCLUDE A TRADITIONAL GIVING OF GIFTS.

AN IPOD!COOL!!

CORN SOUP & SCONE
BUFFALO BURGER
MICHIGAN TACO
MICHIGAN'S BRUNOCK

Wife's habits get under man's skin

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful woman, "Leora," for 35 years. We have five grown children any parent would be proud of. Throughout our marriage, I worked while Leora took care of the children. I retired about three months ago. Now I am home with Leora all the time and have just realized that she bathes only about three times a week. This has not only upset me, but also disgusts me!



DEAR EMBARRASSED: One way to stop her would be to turn around, look her in the eye and say, "Anita, I know you are bitter and angry, but the kind of underwear he chooses is up to him and is longer your business. So knock it off." And then smile.

I know she used to bathe the children every night when they were little, and she insisted they bathe regularly growing up. When I asked her about this, she said she has "always bathed when she needed it," and that might be nightly — or not. She attributes this to being raised on a ranch where water was scarce. The cost of water is not an issue.

DEAR ABBY: I'll be brief. Can a person get an STD from oral sex? — NEEDS TO KNOW IN ORANGE COUNTY

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: Yes, and that is why it is so important to know the person and his or her health status before beginning a sexual relationship.

DEAR ABBY: My former fiance has recently begun calling and asking me to meet him for dinner at a fancy restaurant. Our relationship ended badly, and I have neither spoken to him nor seen him for almost two years. He will not explain why he wants to meet, and insists that it's just "casual."

I told her that people have to bathe daily in order to be clean. She asked if I could ever tell she hadn't bathed daily and the answer is no, but I know now, and it bothers me.

Please tell her that people have to bathe daily to remove dead skin cells, etc. She seems to think if I couldn't tell for 35 years that she hasn't bathed every day the topic is not an issue. It's getting to the point that I don't want to sleep in the same bed with her knowing she hasn't bathed that day.

DEAR ABBY: My fiance, John, wears women's underwear and hose. He likes it, and I realize it doesn't mean he's gay. That's not the problem.

I don't see anything "casual" about meeting my ex in a fancy restaurant for dinner. I am curious about what he wants to say, but I don't want to disrespect my new beau by going to meet my ex-fiance. (I know I would be upset if the tables were turned.) I am happy in this relationship, and I don't want to encourage my ex to continue trying to contact me, or trying to be friends.

— SEPARATE BEDROOMS IN THE FUTURE

DEAR SEPARATE BEDROOMS: You say you retired three months ago and now you're at home with your wife "all the time." If ever I heard about someone who needed to get out and find a hobby, do volunteer work or start a new business, it is you. For the sake of your marriage, please stop obsessing about your wife's hygiene.

For people with oily skin, or in professions where their skin be-

His ex-wife, "Anita," insists on starting conversations with me about it, preferably within earshot of others. She asked, in front of their attorneys after a recent court hearing, if I "liked" the fact that John wears women's silk panties! (She owes child support and doesn't feel a need to pay it.)

How should I handle this with tact and grace?

— UNCOMFORTABLE IN WYOMING

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: Handle this with tact and grace by smiling into the telephone as you tell your former fiance exactly what you have told me. By smiling when you speak, a warmer, friendlier tone is generated than if you tighten your jaw and speak from the throat. Your message is entirely appropriate.

Garfield • Jim Davis

THAT CEILING LOOKS LIKE A WALL

WHICH PROVES MY POINT

STANDING IS OVERRATED

Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne

HALT! WHO GOES THERE?!

FRIEND OR FOE??

IT HAS TO BE LUCKY EDDIE...

HE NEVER GETS ANYTHING RIGHT!

Blondie • Chic Young

HONEY, THE BELLMAN'S HERE

C'MON, HONEY, THE CAB IS WAITING

DON'T WANNA GO!

THIS IS THE WORST CASE OF 'DON'T WANNA LEAVE HAWAII' I'VE EVER SEEN!

Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker

THE BEST THING ABOUT SPORTS IS DOING WHAT THEY SAID YOU COULDN'T

WHAT DID YOU DO?

GREG! MORT WALKER

MARTHA SAID I COULDN'T PLAY TODAY

Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

JEREMY'S ROOM IS STARTING TO LOOK MORE LIKE A NEST THAN A BEDROOM!

TRUE.

PLUS, HE EATS LIKE AN ANIMAL, HE GROWLS AT US, AND HE ROAMS WITH HIS OWN KIND IN PACKS!

WHAT'S YOUR POINT?

I THINK WE'RE RAISING A FERAL TEEN!

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

TED, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT WE PUT ON A LITTLE WEIGHT AS WE GET OLDER.

BUT WE'RE CONSTANTLY ON THE GO! DRIVING EVERYWHERE ON ERRANDS. WORKING ALL THE TIME IN FRONT OF OUR COMPUTERS...

SITTING ON OUR FAT BUTTS 24/7.

PERSONALLY, I THINK OUR PROBLEMS STARTED WHEN WE REPLACED OUR USUAL COFFEE WITH FRAPPES.

Sally Forth • Greg Howard

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH PUTTING ON A LITTLE WEIGHT, AS LONG AS WE PREVENT IT FROM BECOMING A LOT OF WEIGHT.

LET ME GUESS, YOU HAVE A PLAN TO DO JUST THAT, RIGHT?

RIGHT.

BY ANY CHANCE DOES IT INVOLVE THE PHRASE "QUE SERA, SERA"?

CLOSE, BUT WAY OFF.

Bridge

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 9 4
♥ 8 6
♦ 10 6 5 3
♣ Q J 10 5 2

WEST
♠ K 8 3
♥ Q 5 4
♦ J 9 7 2
♣ 8 7 3

EAST
♠ J 10 7 2
♥ J 10 9 7 3
♦ A
♣ 9 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 6 5
♥ A K 2
♦ K Q 8 4
♣ A K

The bidding:
South West North East
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead — two of diamonds.

Family Circus • Bil Keane

"YOU'RE RIGHT-- WE DON'T SEE WOMEN SITTING AT SPINNING WHEELS ANYMORE.."

9-29

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A Royal Sacrifice

Some plays are regarded as fancy, but often these plays are both logical and necessary. Consider this deal where West leads a diamond against three notrump.

Let's say East takes the ace, dummy and declarer following low, and returns the jack of hearts.

South wins, cashes the A-K of clubs and plays the king of diamonds, on which East shows out. It is the end of the road for South. Eventually he goes down one or two, depending on the course of the play.

The outcome is not surprising, because, if declarer plays this way, he should expect to go down. Dummy's club tricks get lost in the shuffle because there is no entry to cash them.

This lack of communication is obvious when dummy appears, and declarer cannot properly plead surprise.

But let's suppose South is by nature a meticulous declarer who, when he sees trouble ahead, tries to prepare for it.

In that case, after East plays the ace of diamonds — presumably his only diamond if West is making a normal fourth-best lead — South drops his queen on it!

This play eventually pays handsome dividends. South wins any return (including taking the ace of spades if East shifts to that suit), cashes the A-K of clubs and king of diamonds, then leads a diamond toward dummy's ten. Sooner or later he gets to dummy with the ten of diamonds and finishes with 10 tricks.

You could call dropping the queen of diamonds under the ace a fancy play, which it is, but it is surely justified by the circumstances.

It guarantees the contract, come what may, and is therefore the right play — fancy or not.

Note that declarer does not even lose a trick by playing the queen on the ace.

He still wins two diamond tricks despite his seeming generosity.

But, more importantly, he makes the contract. Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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"... unless they're in casinos."

Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Sultan of Swat"

5 Snake eyes

8 Jet forth

12 One side of the Urals

13 Ashen

14 Moolah

15 Broker's advice

16 Follower (suffix)

17 Bohemian

18 Word beginning

20 Bygone, to Burns

22 Itsy-bitsy spider's place

26 Assertion

29 Through

30 Gun-lobby org.

31 Quest

32 Halloween shout

33 Cribbage scorers

34 — budget

35 Diving bird

36 Losses color

DOWN

1 Grate

2 PC operator

3 Mah-jongg piece

4 Fool

5 Between

6 Existed

7 Eastern-most of a noted quintet

8 Seek huge profits

9 Forgive

10 "Guinness Book" suffix

11 "Explain yourself!"

19 Cartesian conclusion

21 Uncle Sam's home

23 Bring forth

24 Incite

25 Cold War news agency

26 Comes-tibles

27 Moth variety

28 Cursed

32 Yokel

33 Verve

35 Branch

36 Supporting

38 Modern money

39 Ungracefully thin

42 \$50, in "Monopoly"

43 Afflictions

44 Sisk. neighbor

45 — de deux

46 Mischief-maker

48 Mound stat

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-29

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

FY X GJKTZQTZB'G KBMTZG

NXLT YZBL XKKHT

KZBAJNSG, F VTS QT MBJHA

VT PXLTA NFATZ - LXP.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU ARE YAWNING OFTEN WHILE PRESSING CLOTHES, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD BE IRONING BORED.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals P