

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott (Sample)



For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston





Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



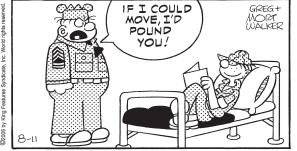






Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker





Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott











Cryptoquip IGZN JKGDV J NDO_IFC M QNTRJD NC VMEDVMJJ MAV

AI SWJEEO WJIAEO P M G

HDMLE MKD XDKO DXDIJO

ETRRNED

JIVGDZFWF KO VMAZNI: LMHQSDB, F

"KGSZ VG KW PGPWF." Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT FIRST I DIDN'T

LIKE HOW MY FINGERNAILS LOOKED, BUT THEY HAD BEGUN GROWING ON ME.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals W

HSDO'KD CFH HN VD HFDB. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HIT SONG ABOUT A

GUY WHO IS REALLY EASILY ASTOUNDED BY THINGS: "BORN TO BE WOWED."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals Y

Crossword

ACROSS	38 — out	2 Forbidden	25 Bizarre
1 "Monty	(augment-	3 Elaborate	26 Cattle
Python"	ed)	con	call
opener	39 Schedule	4 Dermatol-	28 Last
4 Cleo's	abbr.	ogy	(Abbr.)
slayer	41 Fly high	case	30 Tackle
7 Un-	45 Astound	5 Coin of	moguls
adorned	47 E.T.'s	the realm	31 Ram's
12 Cistern	craft?	6 Milkmaid's	fan?
13 Book-	48 "Koda-	burden	32 Ararat
keeper	chrome"	7 Attention	vessel
(Abbr.)	singer	getter	33 Witness
14 Fight	52 AAA job	8 Main-	36 Half
15 Kyoto	53 Corre-	lander's	(Pref.)
cummer-	spond	memento	37 Buzzing
bund	54 Space-	9 \$	music
16 "The	craft com-	dispenser	makers
Odd	partment	10 "Who am	40 Florida
Couple"	55 Payable	— argue?"	city
craftsman	56 Line	11 "Smoking	42 Surpass
18 Director	dance	or —?"	43 Conflict-
Howard	57 Simpleton	17 Genie's	ing, with
19 Dazzling	58 In need of	home	"of"
display	repair	21 Winning	44 Obeyed
20 Meditation		23 Garden	the
exercise	DOWN	invaders	coxswain
22 Doctrine	1 Tusk stuff	24 Attila, e.g.	45 On the
23 Part of	Calution tim	o. OF mino	Carib-

20 22 Solution time: 25 mins. TWIMC bean 27 Shade 46 Tackles' 29 Phony team-31 Supporte mates 48 Lobbyists of the arts org. 34 Fencing 49 In olden with days bamboo 50 Coffeeshop swords 35 Christmas vessel 51 Journey garland 37 Tease segment

aves

body

holder

pivot

money.

night

34 Skater

35 Wealthy

inside

stage

38 Reno of

Vinci

Code'

39 World's

Fair 40 Unless

(Lat.)

bigwig

43 Show the

instrument

41 Eastern

42 Muse's

way

off

44 Deviates

course

visitors

Babilonia

travelers

compound 32 Amahl's

originally

7 Organic

Florence

a sailor

38-Across

Nightingale

37 Cribbage 2 Storybook 24 Eventual **ACROSS** 1 Drunkard scorer villain 38 "Bullets 3 Compared 25 Some-4 Quiche maker's Over to 4 Royal fur 26 Sly one Broadway' need 8 Thick actress 5 Disney-27 Legume 45 Egress chunk 12 "Yuck!" 46 Biblical favorite 28 Pirouette prophet 13 Cheer 6 "An Incon-47 Verily 29 Moreover 14 Hearty venient **31** Mad 15 Support 48 Basilica Truth" system? section subject

request picking 8 Trembled 17 Indication 50 Uncooked 9 Prop for 18 "Selena" 51 Dark. in star 52 Formerly, 21 Whatever 10 Safe, to number formerly **53** Mag. 11 Mercedes- 36 Go

16 Oliver

Twist's

49 Ready

for the

22 Squirrel's hideout 23 Cineplex 19 Apprehend 37 Stuff on offering **DOWN** 20 Remiss 26 Repair 1 N. 23 Acting 27 Sch. org. 30 Satan's sentence specialty Solution time: 27 mins.

31 Massachusetts cape 32 Armstrong's destination wearv

33 Hiatus 34 Levy 35 World-**36** Listening

Yesterday's answer 8-12

Bridge

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been: South West North East

1 🖤 Pass Pass Pass Pass What would you now bid with

each of the following four hands? 1. **♦** KJ64 ♥ QJ9852 **♦** AK **♣** 3

2. ♠ 832 ♥ AKJ964 ♦ J5 ♣ K3 3. ★ 95 ♥ AQ8753 ★ AQ ♣ Q102 4. ♠ AJ ♥ KJ7542 ♦ 93 ♣ K86

Bidding Quiz

1. Four spades. The value of a hand goes up and down

as the bidding progresses. Take this one, for example. When you open the bidding, your hand is considerably better than a minimum opening bid. Although you have only 14 high-card points, the 4-6-2-1 distribution increases the value of the hand by two or three points, pending subsequent developments in the bidding. When partner responds two clubs, your hand certainly

does not improve and actually shrinks somewhat in value. The club response doesn't help your hand one bit, and about all you can count on at this stage is your 14 highcard points.

But when partner next bids spades, the situation changes again. Your hand is now worth an additional three or four points in distributional values, and you show this by jumping to four spades to inform partner about the improved nature of your hand.

2. Three hearts. Here you have no choice but to stick to

your story that you opened with minimum values, since neither of partner's responses has helped you at all. Partner might go on, depending upon his hand, but you've done your duty by hoisting a red flag. 3. Three notrump. The two-heart bid on the preceding round was a slight underbid, and you now make up for it

by jumping to three notrump. A two-notrump bid at this point would make it appear that you started with a bedrock minimum, which is simply not the case. 4. Three clubs. All you can do here is to indicate a preference for partner's first suit. You started with a relatively weak hand, and you have to bid weakly in order to try to

slow partner down. If partner proceeds in the face of two signoffs, he does so at his own risk. Tomorrow: Steppingstone to success.

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North dealer.

North-South vulnerable. NORTH ♠ K 10 5 **¥** 10 6 972 🗚 A K Q 7 4 WEST **EAST** 9 8 4 2 6 3 **♥**KJ 875432 ◆ A K Q 10 6 **♦** J 5 4 **4**83 **1**06 **SOUTH P** A Q J 7 **♥** A Q 9 **♦**83 **♣**J952 The bidding: South North West East Pass Pass Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Steppingstone to Success

Most deals are played in suit contracts, rather than in notrump. The chief danger in notrump is that the defenders might run a long suit, while in a suit contract this ordinarily does not occur, since the trumps serve as stoppers against long suits.

In choosing a suit as trump, the usual goal is to outnumber the enemy by at least 8 to 5. However, circumstances sometimes propel a side into a trump contract where the margin is only 7 to 6. When the margin is that narrow, declarer must be extremely careful not to lose control of the play. Here is an example of the care sometimes needed.

West cashes the K-A of diamonds and continues with the queen. If South ruffs and draws trumps, hoping for a 3-3 division, he goes down. When he tries to run the clubs, West ruffs the third one and cashes the 10-6 of diamonds to defeat the contract two tricks.

Note that if declarer had another spade in either hand thus giving him a trump ratio of 8 to 5 — he would make the contract easily. However, even with the cards divided as they are, South should make four spades. He should not put all his chips on a 3-3 trump division.

Instead, he should discard a heart at trick three to guard against a 4-2 trump split. West cannot counter this safety measure, since South can ruff another diamond lead high in dummy, so declarer finishes with 10 tricks consisting of four spades, a heart and five clubs. (c)2006 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Family Circus • Bill Keane



"I like Roethlisberger too, but his name wouldn't fit on my back."



'bout Grandma coming over?"