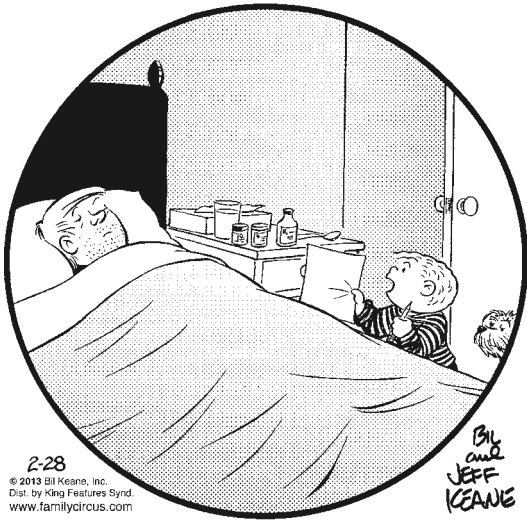


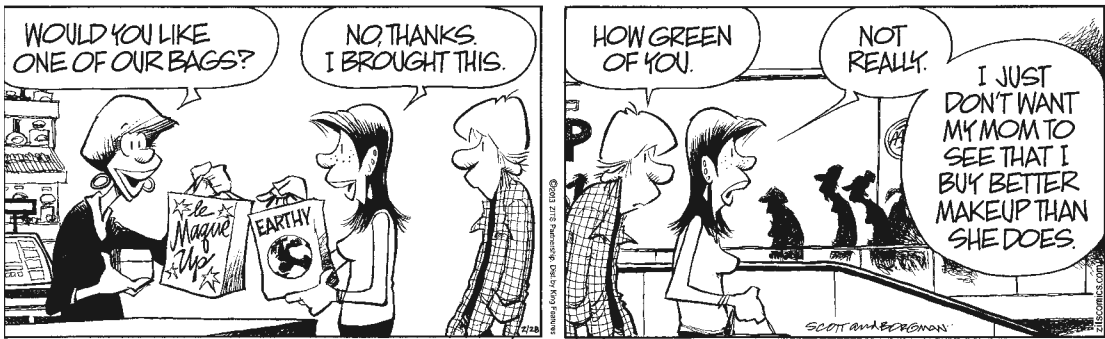
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



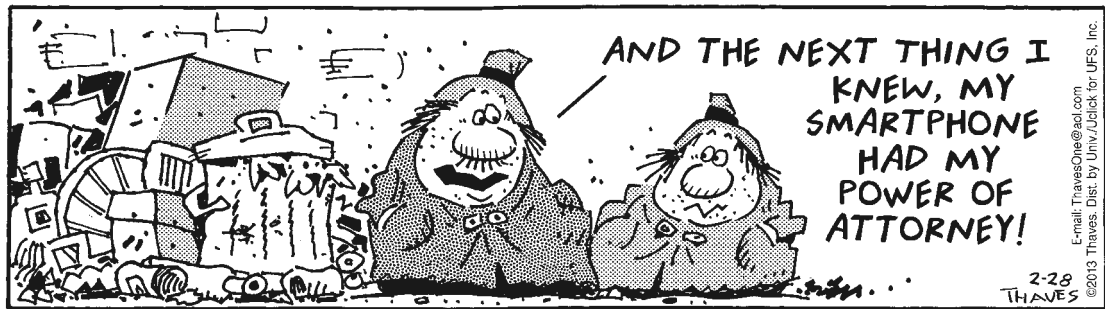
2-28
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"I'm gonna make you a get-well card, Daddy. Can you show me how to draw a bird and a flower and a ..."

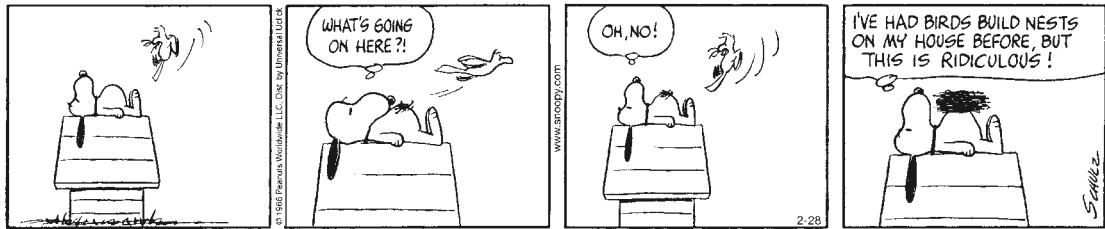
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FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



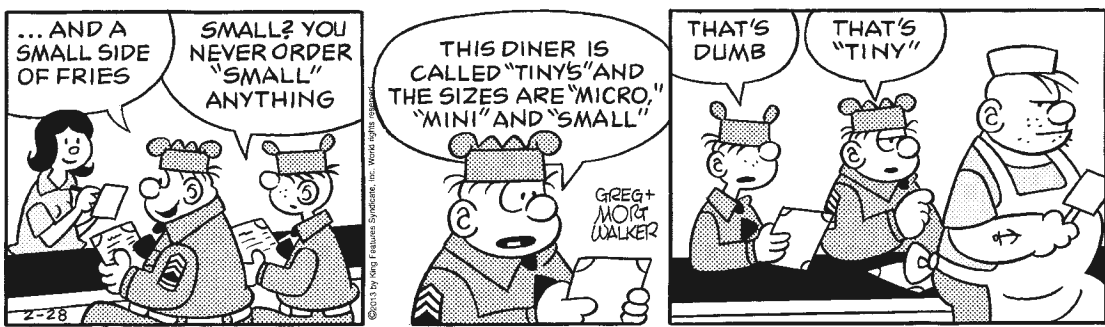
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



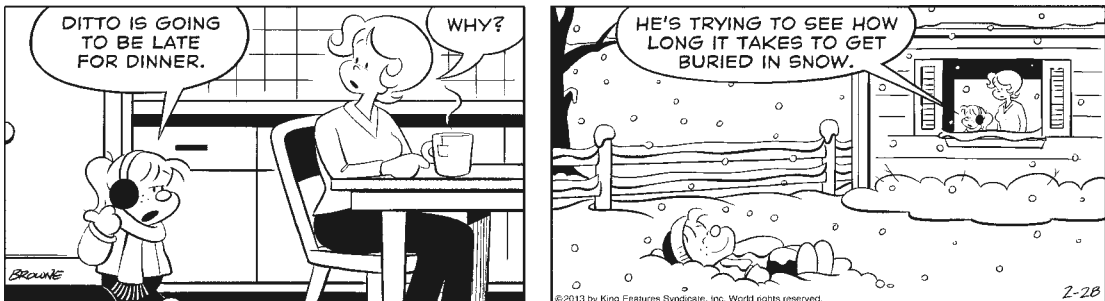
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Man Begins To Regret Giving His Ex-Wife A Place To Stay

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife cheated on me five years ago. She ran off with a nonworking criminal type and has been bouncing from place to place with this bozo ever since.

When they and their 3-year-old became homeless two weeks ago, all of a sudden she showed up at my door shoeless and with their son in a diaper. She said her boyfriend was abusive and asked to stay with me until she finds a place. I agreed under the provision that she not see this guy.

I am a hard-working single father of two. I know my heart is two sizes too big for my own good sometimes, and I don't want to be taken advantage of. Abby, did I make the right choice? Or should I have told her she was not welcome and turned her and her son away?

I really feel I shouldn't have to help her, and she should rely on her loser boyfriend — who she has started seeing again. I need guidance and your expert advice. Am I an idiot? — **CONFUSED**

DEAR CONFUSED: You're not an idiot; you're a pushover. Your ex has already broken the agreement she made when you let her in. The situation is not going to get better; it will only become more complicated.

You have helped her for two weeks. Now it's time to direct her to a shelter that can help her get her life back together and give her son a stable home. Your responsibility for her welfare ended when she left you for another man.

DEAR ABBY: I just finished reading the letter from "Cafe Crazy" (Jan. 4), about the woman changing the baby on the restaurant's table. You advised that she should have taken the baby to the ladies' room to change it on a changing table there, and if there wasn't one, there should be.

I am a stay-at-home father and many times have had to resort to an awkward changing table alternative to accomplish the task (though never a restaurant table) as there are very few changing tables in men's rooms. In these dynamic, diverse and changing economic times, the ability to stay home and raise my children has been awesome, and I would do it over again in a heartbeat. It has been hard, however, because society still assumes that raising children is a woman's job. Not only should there have been a changing table in the ladies' room, but also one in the men's room.

Abby, please help us proud papas to raise our children with the same facilities allowed the mommas of the world! — **GRANT IN SUNNYVALE, CALIF.**

DEAR GRANT: I apologize, and I'm glad to have the opportunity to not only help fathers everywhere to raise their children, but also to raise consciousness where it is needed.

Since the letter from "Cafe Crazy" was printed, I have heard from parents of both sexes, as far away as Denmark. Although some men's restrooms are equipped with changing tables, not all are — and they should be. Another solution is a "family" restroom; however, many establishments have neither the

money nor the room to install a third one.

DEAR ABBY: Something has been bothering me and I'd like your opinion. If a group of people goes out to eat together, and no one wants to order dessert except one person, is it rude for that person to keep everyone else waiting and watching while he/she orders and eats the dessert? — **CHECK, PLEASE**

DEAR CHECK, PLEASE: It's not rude if you first ask the others in the group if they would mind, and they wanted to chat over coffee.

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Pisces and a Moon in Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 28, 2013:

This year you seem to inspire others on a deep level, especially close loved ones and friends. Your trademark will be to look squarely at life-and-death issues before coming to your own conclusions about a life philosophy. If you are single, you certainly are desirable. You will meet someone of the caliber you seek sometime after June 2013. If you are attached, your sweetie most likely will want to participate in your search for depth and meaning. If not, his or her adjustment to the new you could be a little rocky. LIBRA always is congenial.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

★★★★ Defer to others. You'll come up with unusual answers because of your ability to bypass certain situations. Others initially might react strangely, but don't worry ... they will adjust. Your imagination could stretch far in present circumstances. Tonight: Listen to suggestions.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You might have more to complete than you realize. An associate or a meeting could be more challenging than you anticipated. In the future, take some time and do a little more research on what might be going on behind the scenes. Tonight: Take care of yourself, first.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ A partner might be more possessive than you realize, and it could result in an unpleasant situation. Use your imagination in order to find an interesting path out of this problem. A boss lets you know what he or she thinks of your work. Tonight: Let your imagination call the shots.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You might want to go past a boundary, but someone could put his or her foot down just as you are about to break free. Detach rather than react. You might have an interesting route to make your goals a reality. Consider taking a few days off. Tonight: At home.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Make an effort to touch base with others in your immediate circle. You could be taken aback by what

someone has been up to behind your back. Avoid a controlling person, if possible. Remember, the only way to win is not to play. Tonight: Be more whimsical.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ Curb a need to keep up with the Joneses. You are better off just being you. A family member pushes you beyond reason. Try not to play into this person's manipulative ways. Your compassion will come across clearly if you stay neutral. Tonight: Do some shopping.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You are in your element, so feel free to pursue a new path. A family member could give you a lot of flak, but don't let that get to you. An effort to please someone in your day-to-day environment will attract more caring than you intended. Tonight: Avoid going to the wee hours.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ Be aware of the cost of continuing in your chosen direction. You might be stubborn, but don't be stubborn to the point of self-destruction. Note how far-out your ideas can be in a conversation. Infuse more realism into your day. Tonight: Be naughty and nice.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You know what you want and where you are heading. A family member might have a different opinion. You could find yourself in a willpower struggle. You come from a very creative point of view, and you will find a way out. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Others will follow your lead if you are just willing to take the first step toward fixing a problem. Someone who admires you might test your patience. A conversation or a visit with this person could make a brewing storm finally calm down. Tonight: To the wee hours.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for more information. You won't be satisfied until you have clarified a problem. You could be taking a hard look at something that dominates your thinking. Be as clear as possible about a money matter. Tonight: Let your creativity take over.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ A partner or an associate wants to continue a conversation. This person hopes to convince you of the rightness of his or her ways. Listen, but don't feel pressured to agree. New information could color your thinking. Take your time processing it. Tonight: Dinner for two.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

