

For Better or Worse • Lynn Johnston



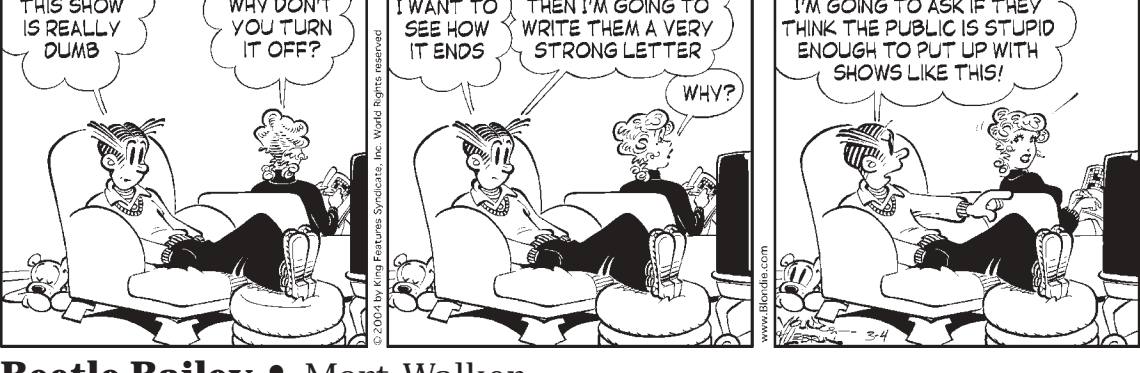
Garfield • Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Blondie • Chic Young



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



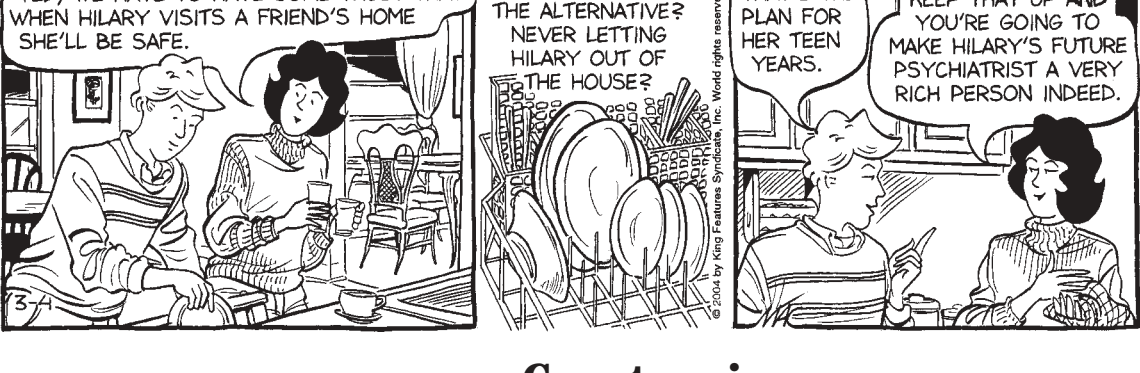
Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Parents, teen fight about alcohol



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am a normal 13-year-old kid. I play soccer and the saxophone and am serious about both.

Lately, I'm noticing my mom's drinking. She threatens all kinds of things at night: no soccer, no sax, no social life. She gets argumentative and repeats herself. We've been getting into fights because she forgets things and says things she doesn't mean.

The other night, she grabbed and pushed me. When I told her to stop, she said she has nothing to lose, but I do.

Plus my dad is kind of timid, so he goes along with whatever she says. HELP!

— CRAZY IN COLORADO

Two months after that, she came to visit me for a week. We got along great.

We talk constantly and are in love with each other all over again. Neither of us has children or other obligations. She has agreed to move here, get her own place for a while, and let nature take its course. I can't see myself without her.

Her friends think she might be acting too hastily. Do you think we need more time? We are both 38 and are ready to spend our lives together. What do you think?

— CONFUSED IN KENTUCKY

a lot of trust issues. I have my guard up all the time. I love him. He was my first sexual partner. I want to get married, but I can't help thinking he's going to cheat again.

How can I learn to trust him totally?

— C.D. IN CHICAGO

DEAR CRAZY: Your mother's drinking is out of control, and her behavior is destructive. Your father probably hopes that if he ignores it, it will go away. Please clip this letter and give it to him. He needs to contact Al-Anon, and you should attend some Alateen meetings.

Alateen is a fellowship of young people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. An active adult member of Al-Anon serves as a sponsor for each group. The number for both Al-Anon and Alateen is (888) 425-2666, and the Web site for both is www.alanon.alateen.org.

DEAR CONFUSED: You are both adults. Since there is nothing keeping her in the town where she lives, I see no reason why she shouldn't relocate to yours. Her friends mean well, I'm sure, but they are not the ones who should be deciding whether her decision is too hasty, and I think they should butt out.

DEAR C.D.: Being of sound mind and body, that would be impossible. Your boyfriend has proven at least four times that he is not trustworthy in the fidelity department. Thirteen years of this distrust and torture are enough already. If I were you, I'd talk to a lawyer, establish child support and let him go. He may be 27, but he still hasn't grown up.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Andre" since I was 12 and he was 13. We are now 26 and 27. Like any couple, we've had arguments. He's also cheated on me. We have three children. He also has four children with other women.

I am confused, Abby. We have

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Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Bridge

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ 6
♥ A Q 10 9 7 4
♦ 9 8 6
♣ A 5 3

EAST
♠ 7 4 3
♥ 8 6 3 2
♦ 3 2
♣ Q J 10 8

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10
♥ K J
♦ A 10 7 4
♣ K 6 2

The bidding:
South 1♠ West 2♥ North 2♠ East Pass
Opening lead — nine of diamonds.

A Giveaway Plan

There are plays that are basically simple and yet are frequently overlooked because they're somewhat out of the ordinary.

Usually, the reason for missing the play is that it is so far removed from normal procedure that it does not enter the player's mind.

Yet when the play is later called to his attention, he wonders how he could have missed it.

For a typical case, examine this deal furnished by Bruce Bell, New Zealand expert. He was West and led a diamond against four spades. Declarer won with the ten, cashed the A-K-Q of trumps and A-K-Q of diamonds, then led a heart from dummy.

East followed low, and South played the jack, hoping East held the queen — which would have assured the contract. But West took the jack with the queen and continued with the ace of hearts. Declarer ruffed in dummy, but then had to lose three club tricks and go down one.

All of South's plays were correct except the last one.

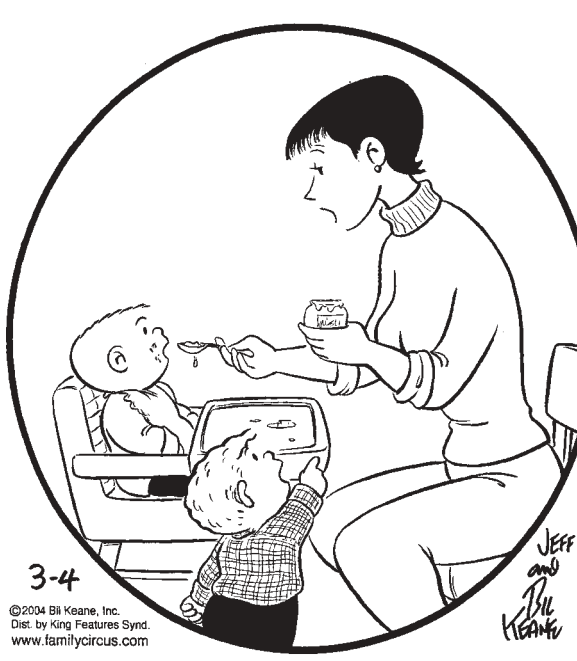
Had he resisted the temptation to trump West's ace of hearts at trick nine and discarded a club from dummy instead, he would have made the contract.

West, still on lead, would have been compelled to play a club or a heart next, and either return would have handed declarer his 10th trick.

It is true that South, by refusing to ruff the ace of hearts at trick nine, loses a trick he does not have to lose — and to that extent it is an unnatural play to make.

But it is equally true that losing two hearts to West, instead of only one, ensures the contract — and making the contract is always the first consideration in bridge.

Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Mommy, why do you keep openin' your mouth without saying anything?"

Crossword

ACROSS

1 Puts together
5 Poke
8 Undergoes recession
12 Gunky stuff
13 Singer DiFranco
14 Traditional tales
15 Writer Ferber
16 Catcher's place
17 Egress
18 Online business
20 Embankments
22 Ostrich's cousin
23 Come together
24 Sweetheart
27 Supported a motion
32 Kyoto cucumber
33 Rebs' org.
34 Tide rival
35 Stretch out
38 "Cabaret" star

DOWN

2 Old fogey
3 "I'd advise against it"
4 "The Usual Suspects" actor
5 Indie filmmaker Jim
6 Whatever amount
7 Actress Jessica
8 Football team
9 Variety of maple
10 Cheese choice
11 Collections
19 Mantra
21 Diva's problem
24 S.A. nation
25 Rushmore face
26 Housing for a ship's compass
28 Language (Suff.)
29 Australia's capital
30 Previous to
31 Rotation duration
36 Wildcatter's hope
37 Stick with a kick
38 Danny and Sandy's story
41 Evidence in the Borden case
42 Henhouse
43 Enormous
44 Duel tool
46 Funnyman Martin
47 Golf-course staffers
48 Recording
51 Nosh

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	T	A	B	T	A	P	S	P	A	M
T	A	L	L	A	I	L	C	L	E	U
E	X	P	O	S	U	R	E	R	E	N
M	I	S	T	Y	A	V	I	A	T	E
C	R	A	M	O	P	S				
M	U	C	H	R	E	S	T	U	P	S
A	M	Y	S	I	N	C	E	R	I	P
P	A	N	H	A	D	A	S	E	X	Y
O	S	E	S	T	O	P				
P	A	S	H	A	S	V	A	L	E	T
S	L	U	R	T	H	E	A	S	U	R
S	O	R	E	O	A	K	M	A	I	N
T	E	E	D	W	E	E	S	U	N	S

Yesterday's answer 3-4

THANK YOU FOR READING THE

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Cryptoquip

UREKP N SEDT NXRES N
U V T Q L C V T P H R D T J
P Q N G T Q X T D N H T P "SLKK,
S V T Q T G N C J R E" ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A ROBBER SEES TWO THINGS HE'D LIKE TO STEAL, I GUESS HE DOES A DOUBLE TAKE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals O

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				58		