COMICS

MARMADUKE

"You can keep the leather jacket, but there is no way on Earth I am getting you a motorcycle."



HERMAN

"My hands are not as steady as they used to be."

MODERATELY CONFUSED

REALITY CHECK

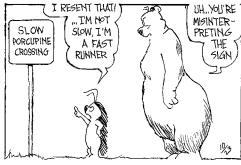


I WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH STAKEHOLDERS. INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY SEMINAR STAHLER

FRANK & ERNEST



THE GRIZZWELLS





PICKLES









BLONDIE



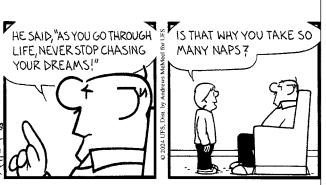




BORN LOSER







HI AND LOIS





CRABGRASS



Unfulfilled by Long-Distance Relationship

Dear Annie: I've been in a long-distance relationship with my girlfriend for almost a year and a half. While it's been good for the most part, I feel like it might be time to call it quits. We video chat twice a week and text maybe twice a day, but it's not enough for me anymore. I brought this up early in our relationship, but she told me that's all the time she could give. I understand she has a demanding job that requires her attention four days a week, but even on her days off, she rarely texts me outside of our video chats. It wouldn't be such a problem if our video chats lasted more than two hours, but they don't, and I'm growing increasingly frustrated.

I work, too, but I would love for us to text more often or, at the very least, have a third video chat every once in a while. What frustrates me most is that even though we've been together for a year and a half, we still haven't met in person. I told her from the start that if this relationship was going to be real, we'd need to meet within a year or consider breaking up. She initially agreed, but when I brought it up again last January and February, it led to a big fight,



ANNIE LANE

Dear Annie and she didn't speak to me for a week. We reconciled, and I promised not to bring it up again until she was ready to talk about it. I've kept my word, but it's frustrating that we're approaching two years together, and she still hasn't initiated a conversation about meeting.

I feel like I'm spinning my wheels in this relationship. İ don't want to end things because I care for her deeply and wonder if I'm overreacting. But lately, the thought of breaking up has been crossing my mind more often. She tells me she loves me, and I believe her, but our relationship isn't making me happy anymore. I don't want to continue dating someone I only see twice a week for an hourlong video call, or who hasn't made any plans to meet in person after almost two

When I've asked her what's holding her back from meeting, she's never given me a clear answer. I'm left questioning whether I'm being unreasonable or if my feelings are valid. -- Hater of Long-Distance Relationships

Dear Hater of the Distance: Of course you hate the long-distance nature of this relationship. Your feelings are completely justified. A relationship where you can't meet in person isn't fulfilling, and you deserve more. It's time to call it quits and find someone who can truly be present in your life.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology -- featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www. creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.

COPYRIGHT 2024 **CREATORS.COM**

ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Do the legwork yourself to avoid being put in a vulnerable position. It's your year to shine, but first, assume the role of a leader, even if you feel like letting others take care of matters for you. Stay on target and in control, and success will be yours.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Take nothing for granted. Your success will come from doing for yourself in your own unique way. Dedication and being true to yourself will outmatch anyone who tries to stand in your way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Gather your thoughts and put your energy into completing your mission. Setting boundaries and maintaining a disciplined attitude will ensure you get things done promptly while deterring outside interference.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Protect your health and physical well-being. Don't take a risk, let someone lead you astray or allow others to take advantage of you. Put yourself first and say no to anyone infringing on you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Push forward with vim and vigor. Set a good example, and you'll feel good about yourself and get the respect you deserve. Hard work will pay off, and financial gain looks promising.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Take your time, don't rush decisions and refuse to let someone's impatience push you in an uncertain direction. Look for opportunities that feel good and right for you, and stand strong under pressure.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Gather information, set a budget and follow through with

33 Same-age

sibling 34 Fear 35 Play part 36 Paws 37 Monk's title

38 Abbr. in

46 Toward

timetables

43 Bring about

Implement

49 Santa -. CA

shelter

50 Ice cream

holder

wrong

54 Blushing

letters

52 Have a meal

55 Ambulance

(2 wds.)

Lone

DOWN

"Dream on!"

51 Gets it

53 Try

"Can't Help

- in Love'

пог	manon, set a buc
	ACROSS
1	Cleopatra's
	undoing
4	"That ship
	sailed"

- 7 Understands 11 Old French coin Be right for 13 Complain
- Feeling poorly 15 Big sandwich 16 Greek peak "Saturday Night -
- 19 Strew **Flightless** bird Baby fox Old rum drink

Pickle

- Throw in a curve **Dismounted** Lead balloon A few
- 30 **Snooze** Language suffix

46

10-23

moment to observe. ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Do your best to get along. Keep your thoughts to yourself and concentrate on getting things done. A physical

your plans. Refuse to let what others do deter you

from pursuing your dreams. When in doubt, take a

approach to your day will bring the highest returns. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Take the

initiative to make your surroundings user-friendly. How you live will affect your attitude and determine how well you get along with others. Let your imagination lead the way. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Participate in an

event or activity that interests you, but be wary of anyone using pressure tactics to manipulate your response. Learn from experience and take the path that promotes freedom of choice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Check out what's available in the job market and reach out to anyone who can offer insight into how to reach your true potential. Take an interest in investments, budgeting and pursuing a financial goal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Taking care of personal business will free up time to enjoy the people and pastimes that put a smile on your face. Implement a positive lifestyle change, and distance yourself from people who bring you down.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Communication, travel, learning and participating in activities will be eye-opening and encourage you to implement positive changes. Size up your situation at home and consider how it affects your well-being.

Answer to this puzzle

S	M	П			U	П	ע		\perp	S	П	1
Р	U	S		S	В	В	Ξ		П	Ν	0	၁
Α	Ν	A		٦	0	0	Τ		Ш	3	7	A
В	U	0	Ν	1		O	Ν	1	_	٦	\forall	Н
		п	Ж	A			V	π	П			
	Т	Ξ	Ш	IТ		Τ	၁	Α		3	Μ	Α
Z	1	>	H		3	ß	Ξ		П	Z	0	a
Ш	M	0	ഗ		U	\subset	а		Н		٦	A
B	0	_		Σ	A	۲		۵	0	К	O	
			Н	-	Х			\subset	Σ	Ш		
В	Ξ	Т	Н	A	0	S		Д	П	Λ	П	Н
A	S	S	0		0	В	3	Ι			П	Τ
ρ	R	\forall	0		1	_	$ \cap $	S		J	0	S
S	3	П	ß		S	Þ	Ι			σ	S	¥

- 3 Reduce to powder
- Color Ventilates 6 Military prison
- Composer Joplin Sunrise
- direction
- 9 Gaelic 10 Pole on a vessel 12 "Beats me"

gesture

20 Point carefully 23 Radiance 24 Righteous 25 Not

18 Överact

- capitalized (2 wds.) 26 Drop London's
- Big -28 Oklahoma city

Crystal

- bottle 30 Severe 35 "Exodus" hero
- 36 Flunks 37 Group of
- warships 39 Actuality 40 vera
- 41 Telescope part 42 Pierce with
- horns 44 E pluribus
- 45 Knocks 48 Law (abbr.)
- © 2024 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS