

MARMADUKE



"If I pay this amount of taxes, I'll qualify for tax exemption as a non-profit organization!"

FRANK & ERNEST



Dear Annie

her during a painful divorce, offering both financial and emotional support, and I never imagined I would find myself in this position now. My other two children remain supportive, but I miss the closeness I once had with my daughter and grandchildren.

Do you have any suggestions for how I can cope with these changes and find peace?
-- Lonely Mother and Grandmother

Dear Lonely: You have poured so much love and support into your family, and it is painful when that is not acknowledged or returned. It is natural to feel disappointed, but remember that you cannot control your daughter's choices or the path she is on. What you

can control is where you place your time and your energy.

Continue to reach out with kindness, but avoid giving more than you are comfortable with, especially if it leaves you feeling unappreciated. Focus instead on the people who value your presence -- your other children, your great-grandchildren, your friends and your community. Seek out activities and groups that bring you companionship and joy.

You have already given more than enough. Now is the time to protect your peace and allow yourself to receive the love and support that is offered to you.

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Be cautious about sharing too much information or agreeing to something without verifying the facts. You need a clear conscience to move forward without regret. A domestic change will impact your emotional well-being and require time, patience and personal effort. Trust your instincts, not what others tell you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Think before you agree to participate. Refrain from taking on too much or exaggerating what you can do. Honesty will help you maintain the status quo and buy you time to develop or fine-tune your skills.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Distance yourself from anyone who wants to engage in a debate. Volatile situations can escalate rapidly, leaving you in a precarious position. When someone else goes low, you go high, and you'll win the battle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Look for a unique outlet, and it will soothe your soul. Keep your distance from people who overreact, spend, indulge or tempt you with lavish behavior.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Learn, gain experience and explore your options. Participate in events that offer thought-provoking insights and exclusive information. Be direct, thoughtful and fair.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- You owe it to yourself and loved ones to chill and catch up. Attitude and gratitude will ground you and encourage realistic choices. Choose peace over discord, and something good will come of it.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Keep moving. Choose discipline over overreaction or

letting things get to you. What you accomplish will ease your stress and encourage you to do something nice for yourself.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Put your energy where it counts. Sign up for a cause you believe in, and the people you meet will ignite your passion for your principles. Be the one to step up and make a difference.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Direct your energy wisely. An emotional outburst at the wrong time or place will jeopardize your position or reputation. Take care of domestic responsibilities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Change your perspective. A conversation or chance meeting will lead to a personal or physical change you've been considering. Update your appearance or persona.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- A timeout will give you a chance to digest what's coming down the pipeline. Be cautious about sharing your thoughts prematurely. A secretive approach to home and work is in your best interest.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Redirect your attention to domestic issues before someone close to you complains. Taking care of your responsibilities early will prevent the need to make additional compensations later in the day.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Get organized, and you'll be able to deliver on your promises. An interesting change to how you earn or use your money will put you in a better position to negotiate and build the lifestyle you want to live.

ACROSS

- 1 Bankroll
4 Hasty
8 Unconscious
12 Poetic
13 preposition
13 Repeat
14 Eager
15 Common
16 abbr.
16 Equipment
17 Opening for
18 letters
18 Fly high
20 Say under
22 one's breath
22 — anemone
23 Costa del —
24 Disperse
28 Danger
29 危险

- 38 Ollie's partner
39 Adorn with
40 droplets
42 Thrilled
44 White lie
46 The
"loneliest"
number
47 Kitchen
gadget
50 Fairy tale
goon
52 Puerto —
53 Blue-green
55 Payable
57 Stench
58 Docile
59 Pirate's cry
60 Traveled
61 Mideast ruler
62 Calendar
abbr.

DOWN

- | | | | |
|----|---------------|---|--------------|
| 35 | Again, —” | 1 | Itty-bitty |
| 35 | — -Ida frozen | 2 | — and crafts |
| | potatoes | 3 | Adorned |
| 36 | Rd. | 4 | Feel sorry |
| 37 | — Lanka | | about |

Answer to this puzzle

[illegible]

- 5 Playing card
6 Fake
7 Egyptian sun
god
8 Fortified
place
9 Stare at
10 Anchor
11 Sales rep.

- 19 Horseless carriage
21 Peak
24 Wild guess
25 Coastal inlet
26 Curved letter
27 Hard to find
29 Netherlands city
30 "Dies —"
31 Extend credit
34 Recipe direction
38 Belt out a tune
40 Exertion
41 Funny fellow
43 Picnic container
45 Actress — Davis
47 Aspect
48 Religious picture
49 500 sheets
51 Money in Madrid
52 Argument
54 Parisian pal
56 Directional suffix