

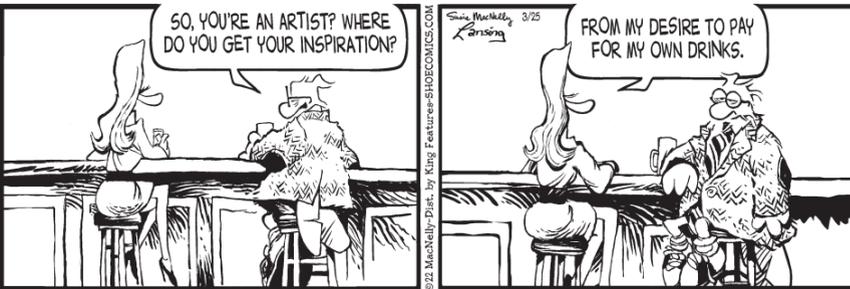
**Peanuts**



**Hagar The Horrible**



**Shoe**



**Garfield**



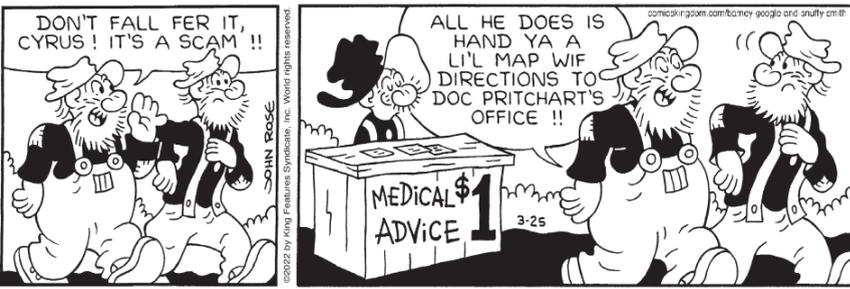
**Frank and Ernest**



**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



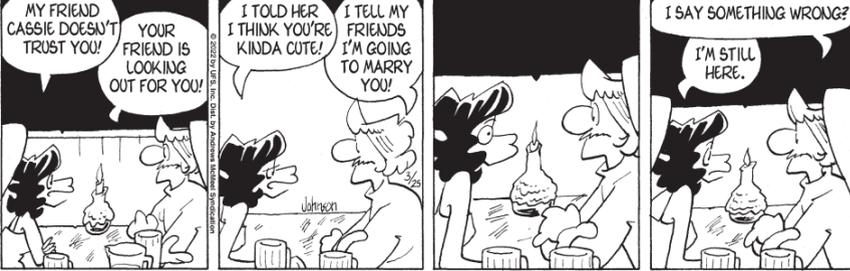
**Hi and Lois**



**Beetle Bailey**



**Arlo and Janis**



**Your Birthday today:**

Keep life simple, change what's necessary and strive to play fair. Don't look on the dark side or dwell on the past when the future depends on you embracing life with an open mind. Reassess your options and put your energy where it counts. Use your skills to turn what makes you happy into a fruitful endeavor.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- A tough situation has more to offer than you realize. Avoiding the inevitable won't help you get ahead. Take a chance and try something you've never done. Don't fear change or give up on your dreams.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Delve into research that reveals potential pitfalls that can hinder your progress. Don't let a change someone makes disrupt your plans. Work to master skills that encourage your success.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- Keep secrets to yourself. If you reveal too much information, it will damage your reputation. Put your energy into a physical outlet. Adjust your spending to reflect your income.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Someone will pull you in a positive direction. Don't let your emotions get in the way of a good thing. Move forward with enthusiasm, and let your imagination and creativity lead you to success.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Pick up information quickly. Take responsibility for your life, future and the changes necessary to reach your goal. Raise your profile using self-promotion. Education will be necessary to advance.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Embrace change. You stand to make progress if you use your intelligence, money and originality to gain momentum and draw attention to what you have to offer. Honest communication will be crucial.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Evaluate contracts and shared expenses. Show interest in others' contributions and do whatever it takes to maintain equality and avoid potential disruption of your current lifestyle.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take the most inviting path. Put your heart into something purposeful. Share your thoughts and use intelligence and imagination to reach your target. Present your plans in a fun manner for best results.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Keep busy; idle time will give others the chance to try your patience. An emotional issue will be difficult to resolve. Be a good listener and observer, and avoid conflict.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Observe the opposition, and you'll gain insight into how to handle the changes going on around you. A positive change at home will help eliminate a problem. Don't take a health or financial risk.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Embrace the positive aspect of a situation and find an outlet that suits you. Act and follow through with your plans. Be responsible for the outcome and unapologetic for doing what's right.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- It's up to you to fulfill your dreams. Think big, but stick to a budget you can afford. Balance and integrity will help you reach the finish line. You can get things done on your own.

**DEAR ABBY**



Advice written by  
 Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I have wanted to write you for years, but my ex-husband thought it was "ridiculous." We were married 29 years and rarely argued, which led me to believe we had a great marriage. Then, 10 years ago, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I had a mastectomy and was on chemotherapy for a year.

Shortly after the mastectomy we went on vacation, and my husband began verbally abusing me. He even slapped me. When the chemo caused me to lose my appetite, he told me if I wasn't going to eat I shouldn't bother coming to dinner because he didn't like me being the one who got all the attention. Believe me, I was not seeking attention. Nine years ago he announced he was filing for divorce because my health was a deal-breaker ("In sickness and in health" was off the table.) The one time I needed his support, I found myself ALONE.

I looked up statistics and saw that 80% of men walk out when their wife is ill. It made me sick. The entire time I was going through hell, he was on dating sites looking for a healthy partner, ignoring the pain and suffering I was experiencing with not a care in the world other than preventing his various girlfriends from knowing about each other.

My advice to other women is: Be sure you put aside a nest egg as insurance to get you through life without your "partner." I was married for 29 years to a complete stranger -- a selfish jerk of a man -- and I am determined to keep going, if only to spite him. -- SURVIVOR IN CALIFORNIA

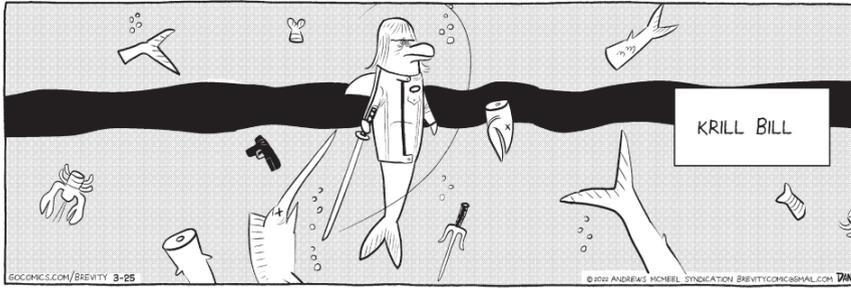
**DEAR SURVIVOR:** Your suggestion to put money aside in case of emergencies is a good one for all women, not just those who might be diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. However, I'm pretty sure the statistic you quoted about the number of men who leave their wives when the going gets tough may be off the mark. Although desertion has been known to happen, nowhere near 80% of men are selfish, abusive cads like the one you married. While I don't blame you for being angry, for your own sake, please don't let "spite" be your only reason for living. What a waste of time that would be.

**DEAR ABBY:** I feel fortunate to be the mother of two healthy children. At times, I encounter other moms whose children have severe food allergies or special needs. I'm afraid I say the wrong thing when addressing them.

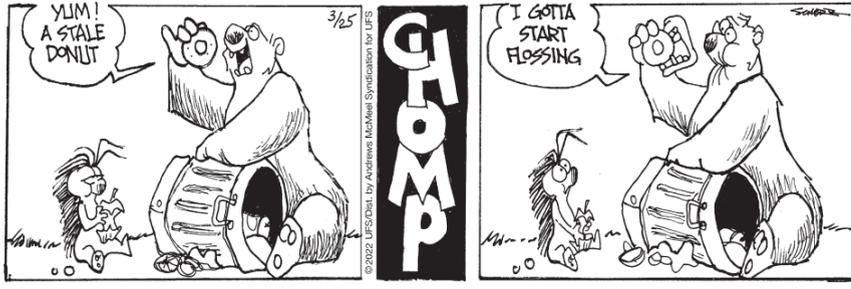
Parenthood is a challenge, and for some, it's more challenging than for others. I sympathize with their additional challenges. However, when I said it, they were offended. I lost a close friend because of it. What's an appropriate response when this situation comes up? -- SPEECHLESS IN ARIZONA

**DEAR SPEECHLESS:** Parents of children with special needs are not looking for sympathy. When you are told about a child's food allergy, thank the mother for alerting you, and assure her that when her child is with you, you will be extra careful to ensure he or she is safe.

**Brevity**



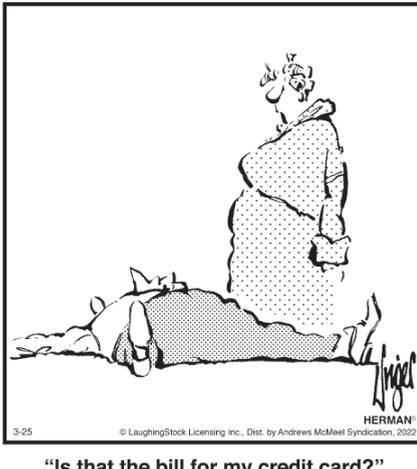
**Grizwells**



**Heart of the City**



**Herman**



**Moderately Confused**



**Born Loser**

