

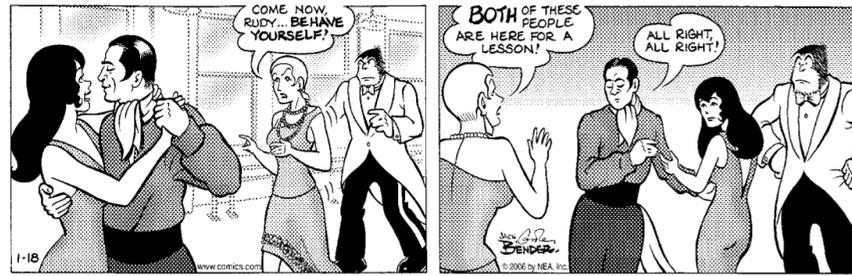
GARFIELD



PEANUTS



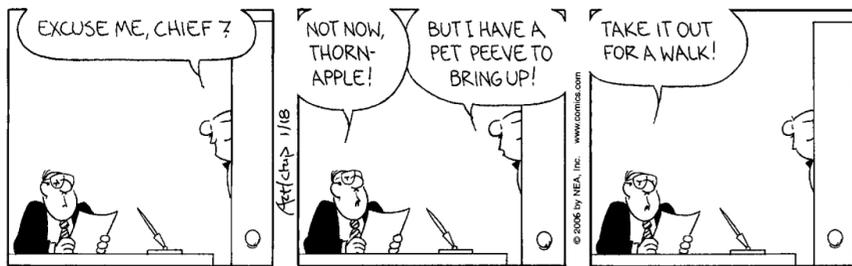
ALLEY OOP



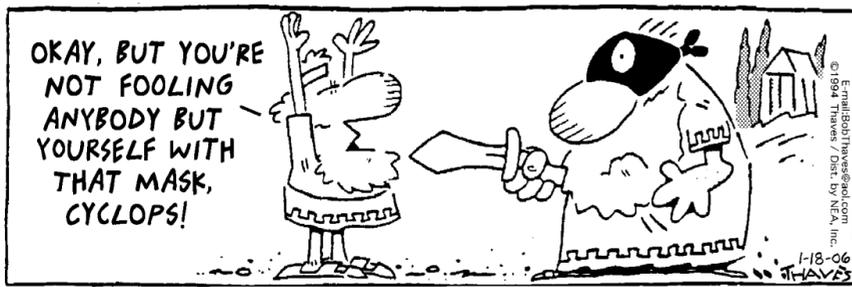
SOUP TO NUTS



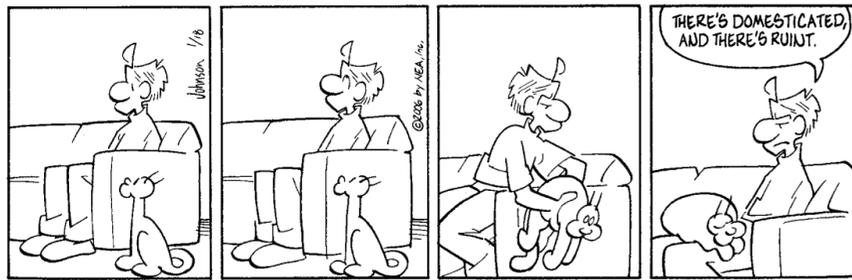
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



ARLO AND JANIS



DILBERT



COMMITTED



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



HERMAN



GET FUZZY



GRAND AVENUE



ASTROGRAPH

Your birthday:

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2006

Two large happenings for which you've been hoping have excellent chances of becoming realities in the year ahead, due in part to your willingness to do whatever it takes in order to achieve them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Push yourself a bit harder today because you are capable of doing some big things in a big way that you never expected of yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

Chances are you'll be far luckier today in situations which others already have going than you will be trying to get something new off the ground by yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

By adhering to your highest standards, friends and associates will respect you for your noble principles and go out of their way today to do what they can to help you meet your goals.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Be on guard not to let any opportunities for gain slip past you today because conditions look especially favorable for you at this time where your earning power is concerned. Rake it in.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Your intuitive instincts add a big plus to your success potential today, especially with your social concerns. If you've thought a matter through carefully, don't be afraid to take a chance on it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

It should not be just business as usual

today because the time is ripe for you to hammer out something substantial that could benefit your family as well as yourself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

You're an excellent team player today and consequently you will be a big asset to any collective involvement in which you engage whether what you do is for something serious or just for fun.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

It always behooves you to do your very best at anything in which you're engaged, but the rewards could be far grander today than they might be at another time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You're likely to be the center of attention wherever you go because people and events tend to orbit around you at this point in time, instead of you having to attempt to orbit around them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

The greatest asset you'll possess today will be your sense of timing, so use it to your advantage. When you sense things are in your corner, lock down situations that have given you trouble.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Once your work is done today, forget about your material concerns and focus your efforts on having a good time. If you don't have any plans on the calendar, make some with good pals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Be of stout heart if your financial affairs have been a bit out of sorts lately. Material trends are beginning to look quite hopeful once again and you should be able to do something of substance.



'Dear Abby' by Pauline Phillips and Jeanne Phillips

Poem brightens holiday for woman mourning mother

DEAR ABBY: While visiting my aunt during the Thanksgiving holiday, I noticed your booklet, "Keepers," on her coffee table. While thumbing through it, I came across a poem that made me think of my mother, who died in September.

I was missing her terribly at that moment, and the poem lifted my spirits and comforted me.

Is it still available, and how can I get copies? I'd love to share that poem and some of the others in your collection with my sisters and brothers.

— ISLAND GIRL FROM OAHU DEAR ISLAND GIRL: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your mother.

Yes, my Keepers booklet is still available. It contains some of the most frequently requested poems and essays that have appeared in this column. To order it, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY: After 26 years of marriage, my parents seem headed for divorce. My father is the one who wants it, and it sent my manic-depressive mother into the hospital with thoughts of suicide. My mother doesn't want to talk to my father, so the only information he can get is from me. He has mentioned several times the idea of my moving back home and taking care of her. (He is planning to move out in a month.)

I only recently got out on my own, and I am enjoying my independence. I love my mother but I am resistant to moving back into a house where I have experienced so much pain. What should I do? — FEELING GUILTY IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: The person who's selfish is your father. He's trying to talk you into assuming the responsibility he assumed when he promised to love, honor and cherish your mother at the time of their marriage.

If your mother were in her right mind, she would not want you to sacrifice your independence. Do not allow your father to guilt you into moving back. This is his problem. Please do not allow him to make it yours.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips. Write to Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

KidSpot™ by Dick Rogers

What's the color connection? To solve the puzzle, write the color the two items suggest in the blanks. Then copy the numbered letters in the matching answer boxes below.



Sun and corn \_\_\_\_\_ 6 7
Night and ink \_\_\_\_\_ 2
Chocolate and hot fudge \_\_\_\_\_ 5 1 4
Nickels and dimes \_\_\_\_\_ 8 3

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
ANS: RAINBOWS