



CAROLYN HAX

She's sick of being pregnant and tired of being lectured

Adapted from a recent online discussion:

Dear Carolyn: I am a very unhappy pregnant woman and friends/family seem to be bothered by that...

Miserable Pregnant Woman

Find a few outlets who you know won't mind your complaints...

Whining about pregnancy is akin to complaining about all the hangers-on who appeared after you won the lottery...

And, as annoying as this suggestion will sound, please try to find some good in what's happening to you right now...

The whole pregnancy business is plagued by extremes — the Miracle of Life extreme (but if it's such a miracle, why are there 6 billion of us?)...

What's happening to you is a big, fleeting deal; a moment. Your discomfort is real, for sure. But to reduce it to weight gain and (frankly, minimal) food restrictions strikes me as a tragic waste of that moment.

Dear Carolyn: With the new Internet dating culture so prominent these days, how can one tell if the other party is simply killing time or is in it for a long-term relationship?...

Maryland

Online dating might make it easier for people to "kill time," but it has always been important to weigh someone's true intent — and that has been difficult since the dawn of dating...

All you can do is be cautiously receptive to what the other person is telling you about him- or herself, both verbally and non-...

Read the whole transcript or join the discussion live at noon Fridays on www.washingtonpost.com/discussions.

Write to Tell Me About It, Style, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071, or tellme@washpost.com.



NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

REPORT FROM WEEK 882

our annual contest in which we ask for limericks featuring words from one sliver of the dictionary, this time words beginning with dr-: We received about 1,000 limericks, of which about 850 didn't contain the requisite hickory-dickory-dock / dickory-dock rhythm...



A line, hint or clue; to my knees; A subject, a bomb and my fees; Off or out, in or by; The ball and my guy — Droppin' everything, even my g's.

(Carole Lyons, Arlington)

AABBA DABBLING: HONORABLE MENTIONS

When invited to dine with Count Dracula, I expected a menu spectacula; But d'you know what I got? Merely blutwurst, that's what!

(Hugh Thirlway, The Hague)

While the airlines denounce him emphatically, Seems the blogosphere lauds him fanatically: Steven Slater (with brewski).

Bid a fond "toodelooski" And then exited rather dramatically. (Craig Dykstra, Centreville)

By chance, a tattooist named Scotty Encountered his client (a hottie!). He had to think fast, So he drew from the past, Saying, "I have designs on your body!"

(Beverley Sharp, Washington)

Ground Zero should hallow the dead, So Muslims now fill us with dread By expecting to pray At a mosque blocks away. We should build a new strip

club instead! (Chris Doyle)

When Roy Pearson dropped off his dry-cleaning, No one knew what a tale we'd be gleaning. But with each new report Of his chutzpah in court, The word "pant-a-loon" gained a new meaning.

(Nan Reiner, Alexandria)

As memories pass of the spill A BP executive, Phil, Became a new dad of a promising lad He aptly named Drill — Baby Drill.

(Rob Cohen, Potomac)

My name's Friday. I carry a gun. And a badge. I'm a cop. It's no fun. I take calls at my desk. My talk's Hemingwayesque.

"This is Dragnet. You're busted." (I'm done.) (Brendan Beary, Great Mills)

In the Draize test, a drug costing money Is put in the eyes of a bunny In numerous spurts To see if it hurts. (This lim'rick's not going to be funny.)

(Mae Scanlan)

As Rush Limbaugh's fourth

Online discussion Have a question for the Empress or want to talk to some real Losers? Join the Style Conversational at washingtonpost.com/styleconversational.

THIS WEEK'S CONTEST

Week 885: Mess with our heads



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New Lawsuit to Challenge Laptop Searches 'I Beg Your PARDON!' No Longer Seen as Effective Deterrent to Gawking Co-Worker

The return of this week's contest — a hardy perennial — was prompted by a headline in last Sunday's Post: "Atlanta copes with becoming a one-race town." We were concerned for a moment that the Paragon of the New South had, overnight, undergone some horrible ethnic purge...

After 60 years, 'Peanuts' to get new syndicator

BY MICHAEL CAVNA

Some things with "Peanuts," you could always count on. Charlie Brown would never actually kick the football. Linus would never see the Great Pumpkin...

The characters' fates will never change in the fixed universe of "Peanuts Classics," but come February, a new syndicate will offer those reruns, which are carried by more than 2,200 newspapers worldwide...

"We feel Universal is a natural partnership for us," says Jean Schulz, wife of late "Peanuts" creator Charles M. "Sparky" Schulz and curator of the strip's legacy...

"We've enjoyed our long association with 'Peanuts' since the comic strip started on October 2, 1950, and we wish the Schulz family all the best for the future," the New York-based United Feature Syndicate said in a news release...

"We're honored to be able to represent 'Peanuts' and its tradition of brilliance," said Lee Salem, president of the Kansas City-based Universal Uclick. "We believe the future of syndication — in print, online and in mobile — is especially promising for this timeless classic..."

Jean Schulz said "Peanuts" is "playing catch-up" in terms of maximizing various media platforms for comics. The plan is for "Peanuts" to be available on mobile devices through the interface of GoComics, which is Universal Uclick's comics Web portal...

United Feature Syndicate — which launched "Peanuts" six decades ago in just seven U.S. newspapers — said it will no longer distribute "Peanuts" as of Feb. 26, 2011.

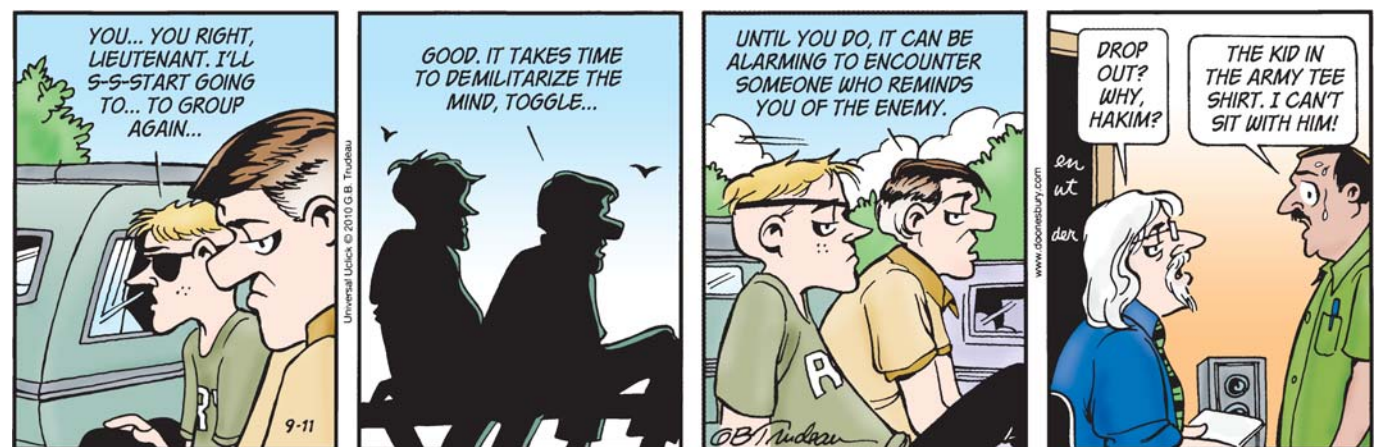
cavn@washpost.com

IMOGEN QUEST BY OLIVIA WALCH

Winner of The Post's "America's Next Great Cartoonist" contest.



DOONESBURY BY GARRY TRUDEAU



CUL DE SAC BY RICHARD THOMPSON



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