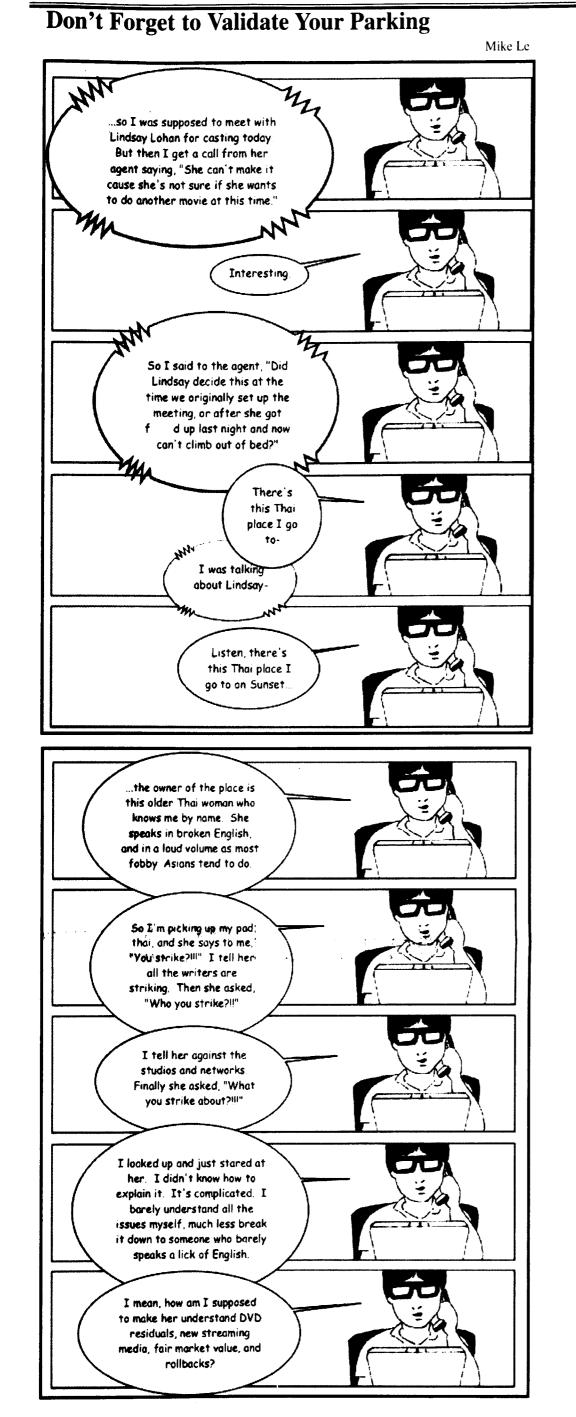


"Jokes are not really funny at all, but reflect the most serious of concerns: the pursuit of sobriety through the suppression of the absurd."- Marvin Minsky



International News Watch

Steve Gibson, a 30-year-old graphic designer from Cupertino, California, was said to be 'upset and bewildered' after his Valentine gifts of a dozen wilted roses and a box of stale chocolates were received with an enthusiastic hug and kiss from his longtime girlfriend, Claire.

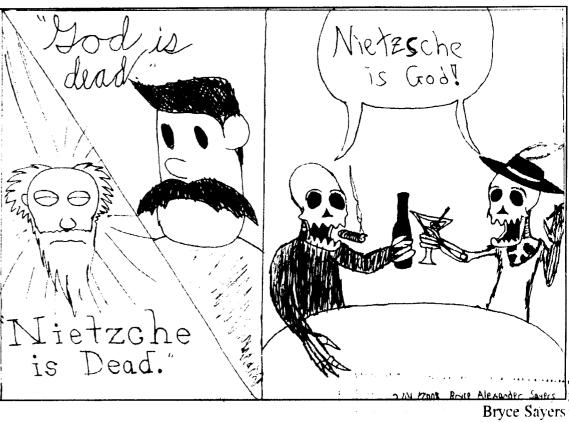
The last-minute present, which still had the price on, was supposed to have been the final straw in a six-month campaign of obnoxious behavior intended to make his girlfriend realize their relationship was over and leave him. The opposite occurred, after she discovered the gifts on their couch where Gibson had dumped them. Clare "skipped" to the kitchen to make a romantic Valentines dinner, leaving Gibson to write complaining text messages on the iPhone Claire had gotten him to mark the occasion.

Wanting for the single life but needing the rent-controlled apartment, Gibson had launched the campaign by buying Clare a newsbiscuit.com handheld vacuum for Christmas. He also went above and beyond to be rude to her

friends, he also showed up drunk and three hours late when her parents came to dinner. He purposely forgot their anniversary, which was difficult because it coincided with her birthday, and New Year's Eve. Even with all of this Clare remained upbeat and understanding.

"I'm running out of options," complained Gibson, while he cut his toenails, and watched Bikini Mud Wrestling on Pay Per View. "For the past month I've been telling her that she doesn't need that second muffin, But she won't take the hint. If this goes on much longer, I'm just going to have to tell her I've been sleeping with her sister."

Will Claire did confess she has been a bit "lovey-dovey" of late, but feels that's normal for this time of year. However, she believes that the evening she has prepared is nearly perfect.



Weekly Horoscopes

By Jerome Berarnd Pohl IIIx Failed astronomer and part time cosmometer

more important aspects to this game, but until someone will let you play that hardly matters. My advice is to find a friend with parallel woes and help each other.

Laugh Out Loud Cats #55

Adam "Apelad" Koford



ARES- Though not as popular as others, many people rely on you for your entertaining nature, great taste in music, and willingness to provide for them. This is a good time to use your computer skills, but avoid people with the initials R, I, A, and A.

TARTARUS- Despite the abundance of people you have with you, none of them are happy. Things are getting pretty hot and you wish things weren't so bleak. Despite everything people will still cross rivers to get to you.

GREMLINI- This is a good time to stay in and get out of the sum. Getting a tan by the pool is out of the question. Not just due to the bright daylight, but also the possibility of getting splashed, which would result in more problems for you and those around you. Stick to your diet and don't have any midnight snacks and things should be fine.

CANCER- You are unpopular right now, but are not entirely blameless for that. People would not want you out of their lives so quickly if you were more benign. Despite the lengths that people will go to in order to be rid of you, you serve an important purpose and your presence is only natural as time progresses.

LEGO- Your small stature is not a hinderance to you, though you may often feel lost. You are an important part of the big picture. Those you surround yourself with are colorful and full of character and style, and that counts for a great deal. You are part of something greater than yourself alone, never forget that.

VIRGIN- It's time for a change in strategy and self image. If what you've been trying hasn't been working, you can't wait for the world to change for you. You know there are

LIBERIA- Do not be consumed by the chaos that surrounds you. You may feel ignored by those you consider important right now, but take solace in the negative effects their attentions have on others.

SCORPION- Do not be quick to anger. Both your words and actions can be toxic to those around you if you are not careful. You may feel small, but when people see the sharpness of your wit, they will give you the respect you deserve.

VAGITTARIUS- At this time things are going to be rough for a couple of days Perceiver and ride out the storm. You will face troubles like this many times in your life, but that which does not kill you makes you stronger. Don't be surprised if this happens again next month, but only once in a blue moon will you have to deal with it more often than that.

CANDYCORN- Things always seem stagnant for you this time of year, but do not despair. Your time of prosperity falls with the shortening of the days. There is no need for change, only patience, stay as colorful as you've always been.

AQUARIUMS- This is a time of renewal for you. Get some smaller containers and drain out everything to make room for refilling. When you're done things will be clearer ad your room will smell better.

PIECES- The puzzle isn't complete for you yet. This is a time for self-reflection. Start with four stable corners on which to base your life and fill in a border from there. Once you have your parameters straight it will only be a matter of time before the rest is filled in.

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