



*"Would it help if I told you how moved I was
by 'The Vagina Monologues'?"*



"It's Lyme disease again."



"I'm sorry, Jim. I love you, but I hate Vermont."



"And you're also trailing in the polls."



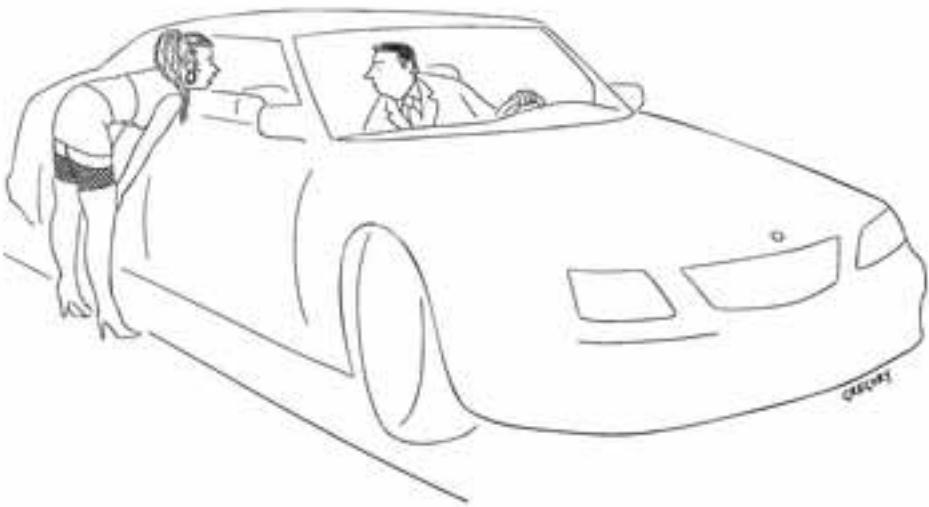
"Here I was, all this time, worrying that maybe I'm a selfish person, and now it turns out I've been suffering from compassion fatigue."



"He's been in a marvellous mood ever since he learned one out of every hundred and fifty Americans is in jail."



*"And now, for your entertainment, I will drink a glass
of water while Rempert, here, remains eerily silent."*



"For an extra fifty bucks, I'll let you show me your Palm Pilot."



"Living brings up a lot of issues for him."





"Love the exposed brick."



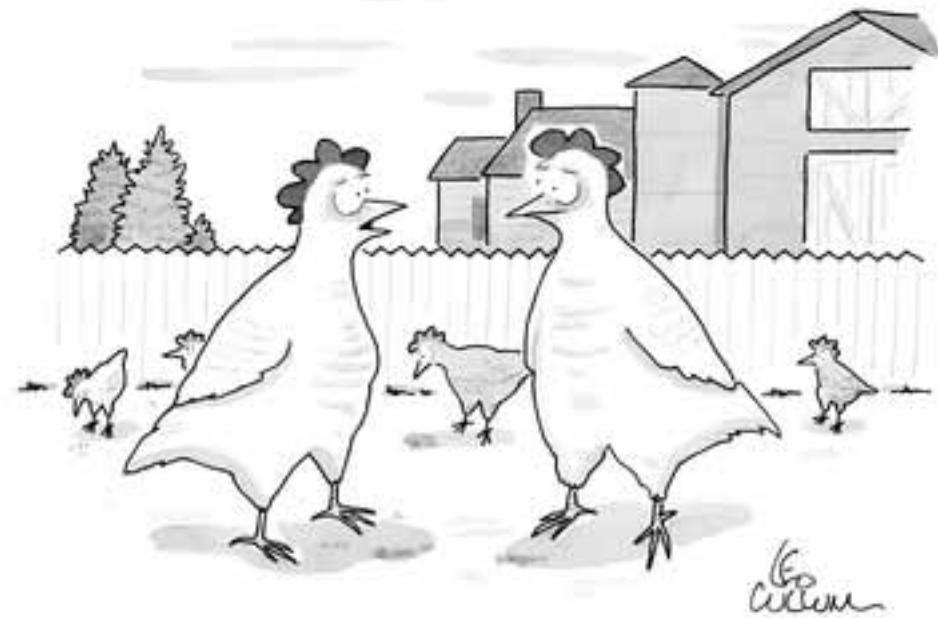
*"I'm supposed to be someplace downtown right now,
sucking the air out of the room."*



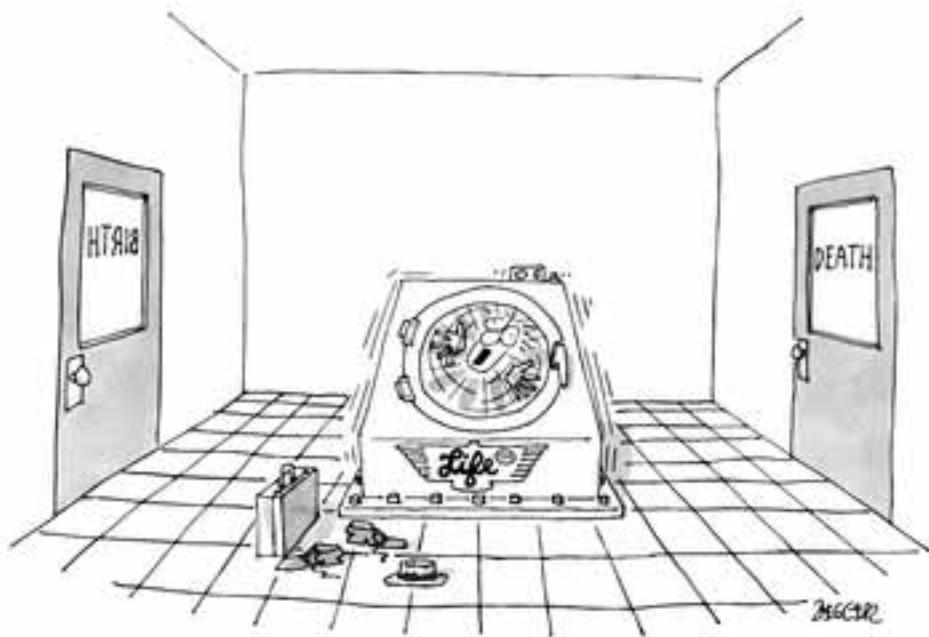
"Sometimes having to have the happy childhood my parents never had is just too much of a responsibility."



"July, 1967. An antiques fair in Peekskill, New York. A gorgeous eighteenth-century French armoire for an unbelievable three hundred dollars. What's-his-name here says, 'This we don't need.' Are you getting the picture?"



*"Explain something to me. Are 'boned' and
'deboned' the same thing?"*





"Captain, it looks like we've entered cyberspace."



"We've enjoyed our little visit, son, but we'd better leave—I think they're getting ready to fire."



"I've done the numbers, and I will marry you."



Shanahan

*"I've decided to step down, Chilton, and,
regrettably, you're underfoot."*



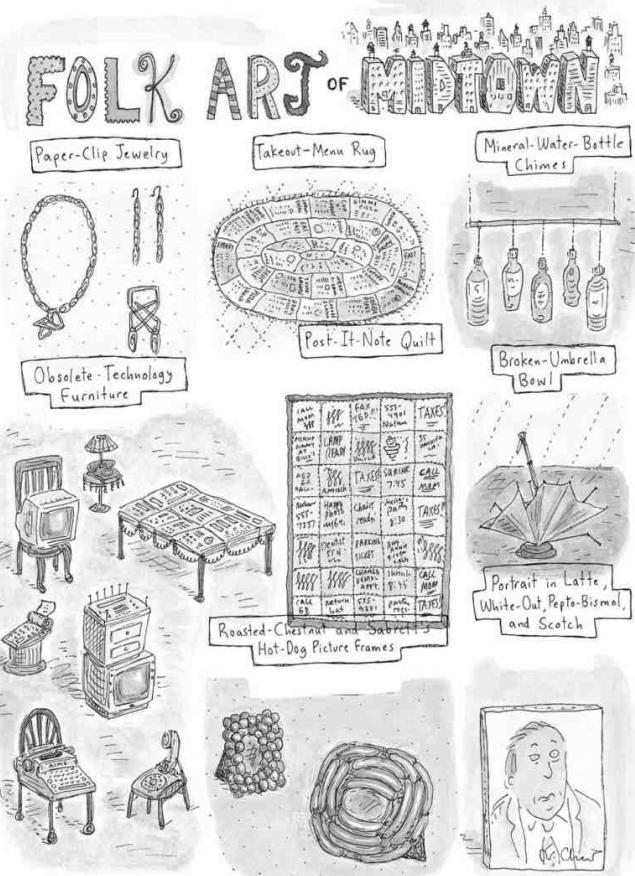
*"Right. How could anyone look at a rotting zebra corpse
and not believe there's a God?"*



"We feel that your female characters are somewhat undeveloped."



"There comes a point in a man's life when he just has to stop and say, 'O.K., I have hair on my back.'"



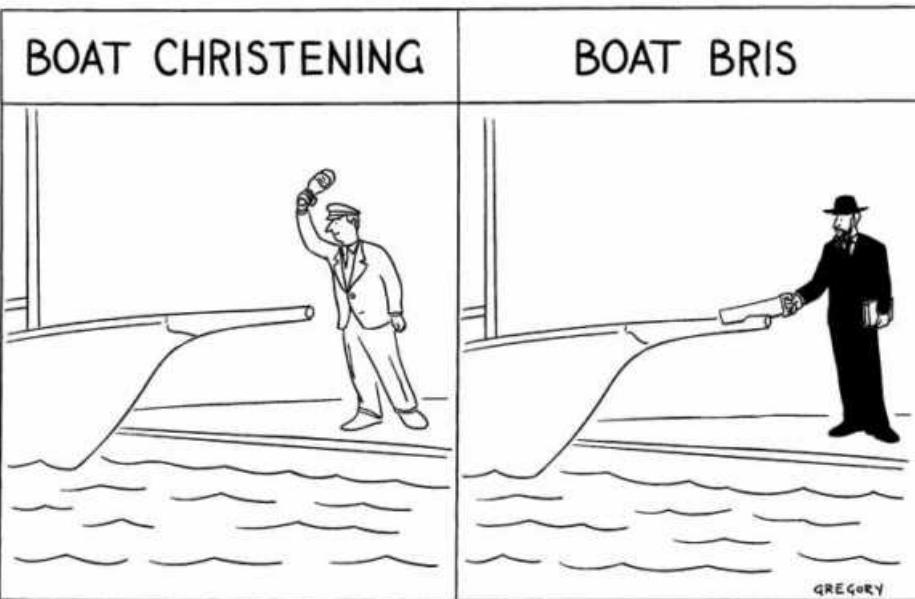


*"You know, Burkhart, if you're so damn afraid of the flu
maybe you should just stay home."*





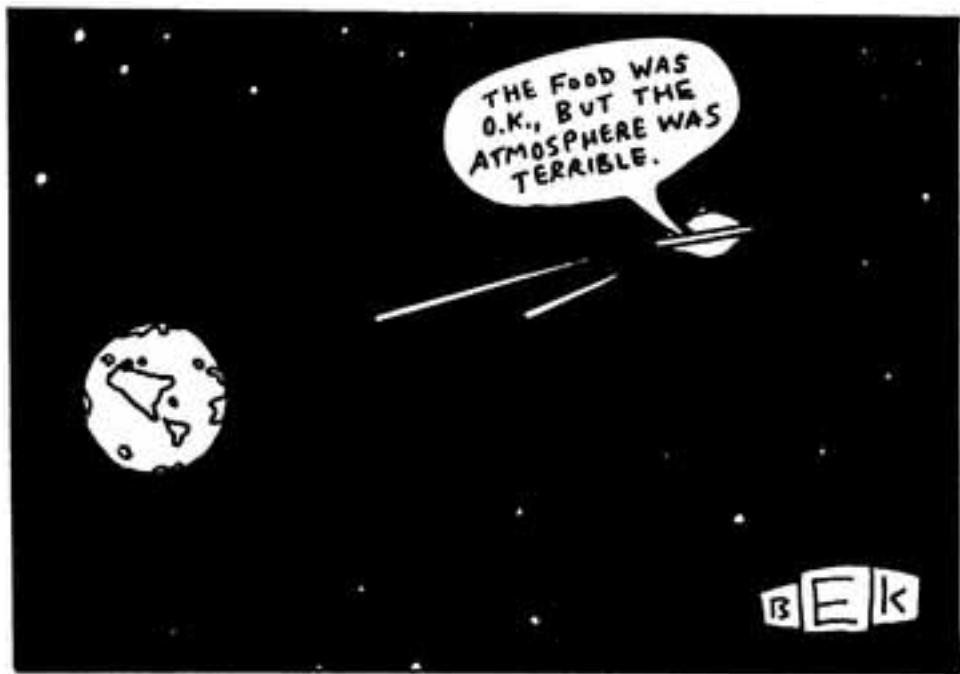
*"You don't have any time? Try fitting
Taoist sex into your schedule."*

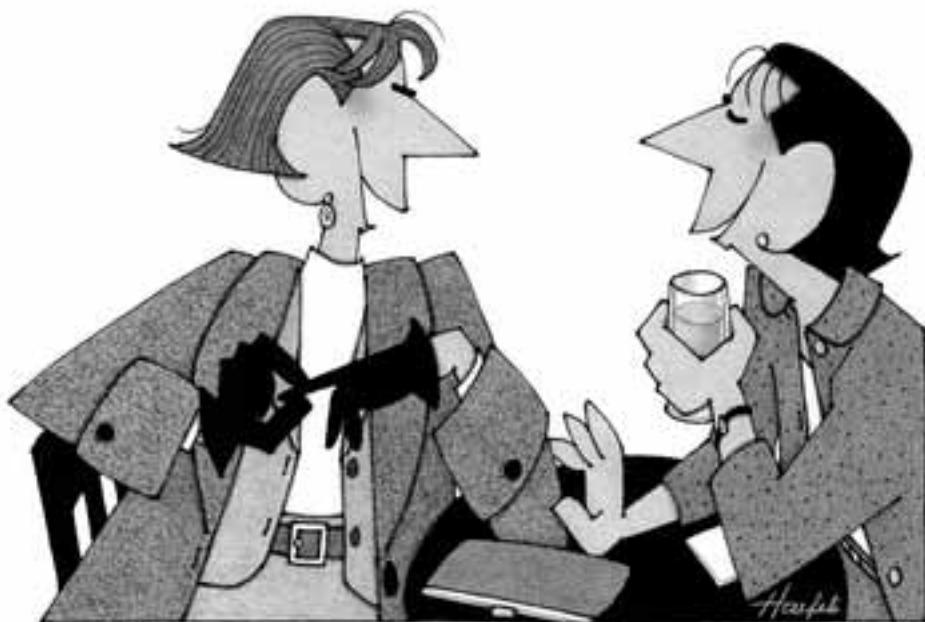






*"It seems to me that ordination of women might
brighten the place up a bit."*





"I sold his unlisted phone number to telemarketers."



"WAITING FOR THUMPKIN"



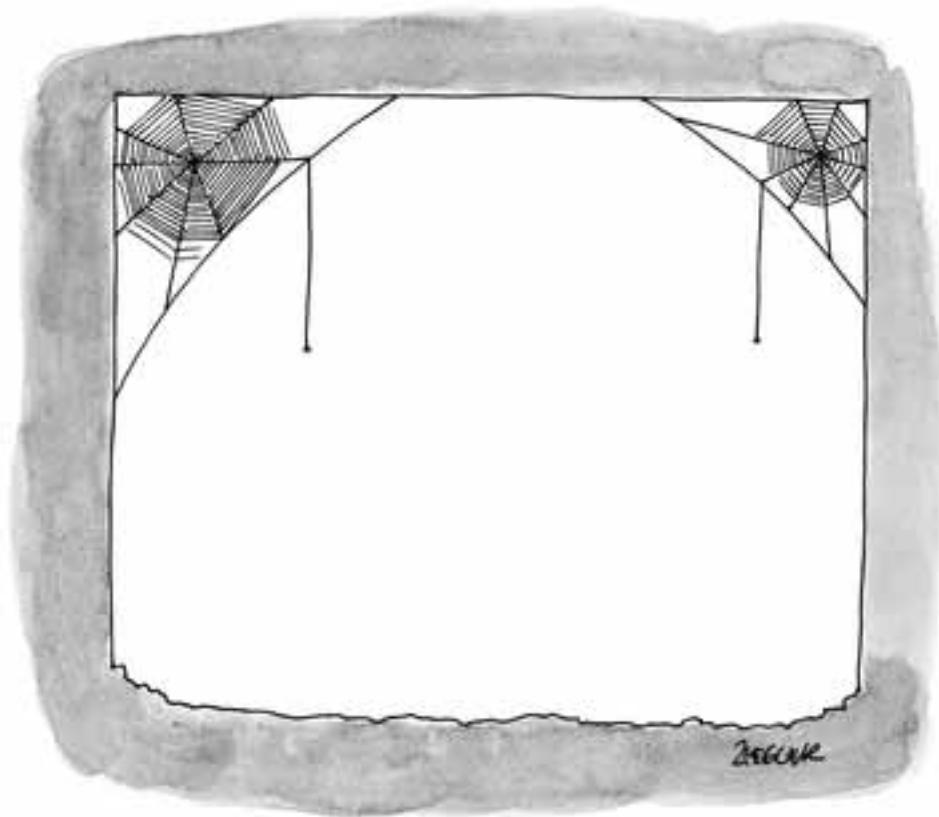
*“People shouldn’t get married unless they’ve
been married.”*



"I'm in the mood for some good Egyptian food, too. But who in the neighborhood would know of a good place to go?"



*"If I'd known shopping could be this easy, I would
have dressed up as a cop ages ago!"*



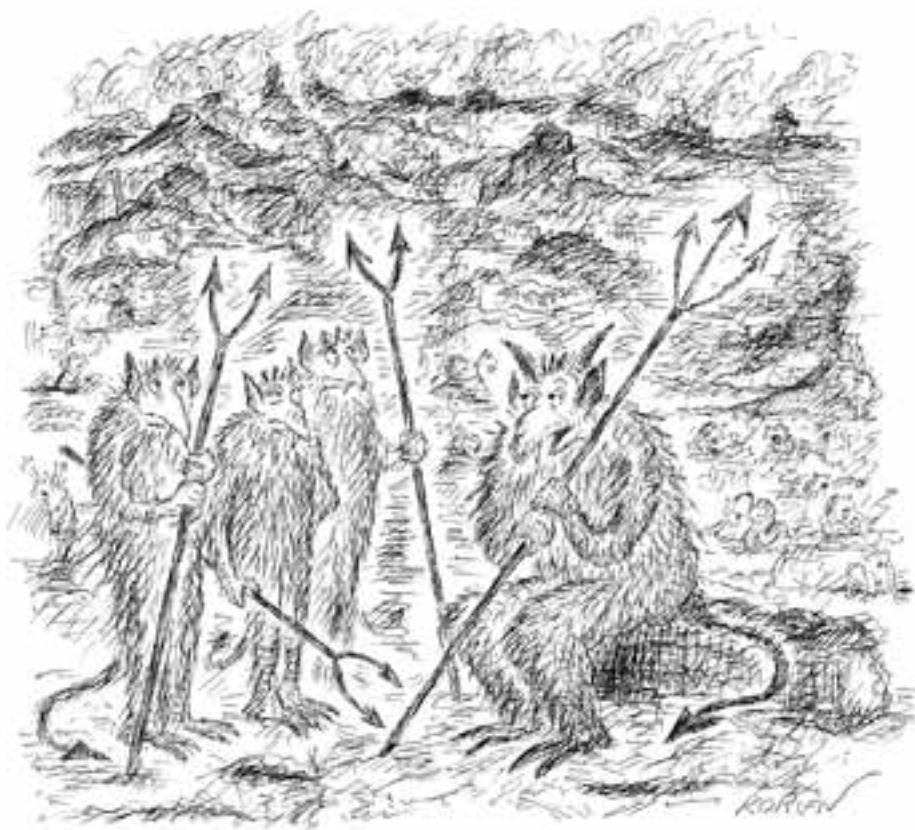
“EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEK!
Oh, it’s only you.”



"Oh God, I forgot to ask if anybody had lard issues."



*"In flagrante delicto," indeed! You never miss
an opportunity to show off your classical
education, do you?"*



"It's getting much harder for me to distinguish good from evil. All I'm certain about is what's appropriate and what's inappropriate."



"Take away their Game Boys!"



"Oh, dear, I'm afraid you've backed me into a corner."



*"What sort of flowers say, 'I promise to obey
the restraining order'?"*

When in Rome...





"You have a choice of three-bean salad or lethal injection."

There is a broader point: Internet companies trade at such high prices because they are supposed to be completely different from ordinary firms, so standard methods of valuation, such as comparing a firm's stock price with its earnings, don't apply. (Before last week, A.O.L. had a stock-market capitalization almost twice that of Time Warner, despite the fact that its revenues are only a sixth as large.) But in the wake of the merger announcement,

A.O.L. and Time Warner don't seem so different after all. Both are media companies that make and distribute "content" to the masses. True, subscribers access A.O.L.'s Married But Cheating chat room through a phone line, while Warner Bros.' "Eyes Wide Shut" arrives on TV screens through cable wire or videocassette, but once we finally achieve what the techies call "convergence," such distinctions will be mean-

the degree of monopoly power they possess—not by whether they have .com after their name. Since A.O.L.-Time Warner would have many popular products and a lot of market power, its stock would trade at a premium, fetching maybe as much as twenty times the amount of cash that the company generates each year. (Until recently, ten times cash flow was considered a high rating for a media company.) According to the companies' own projections, a combined A.O.L.-Time Warner could throw off as much as ten billion dollars of cash a year, implying a market capitalization of two hundred billion dollars—about what A.O.L. alone was valued at before the merger announcement.

Arithmetic like this has started to addle even the most bullish Wall Street savants. The torment will surely increase, especially if Alan Greenspan (the Banquo's Ghost at the A.O.L.-Time Warner party)



*"I don't think this merger between the text
and the cartoons is working out."*



"This one's for not asking, and this one's for not telling."



"Are you there now, Linda? Are you in that happy, safe place that brings you peace and assurance, and deep contentment?"



"I'm getting esophagus notes with a bouquet of red and white blood cells and a bitter spinal-cord aftertaste."





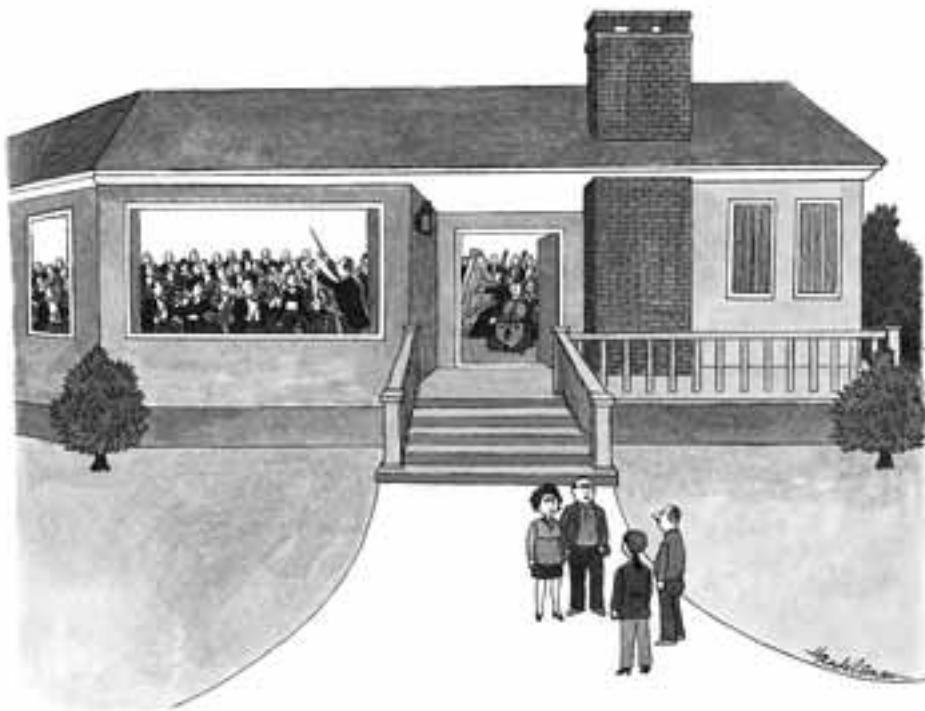
*"Then invite them. No one likes them, but
every salad needs a little vinegar."*



*"I can get you to San Francisco through Dallas via Atlanta,
but we'd have to take a kidney right here and now."*



"Been there. Done him."



"We tried six speakers, then twelve, and finally we put in the Pittsburgh Symphony, yet we still feel something is lacking."



*"Now, before I give my pat answer, does anyone else
have any dumb questions?"*





"What's cool about this guy is that he's one-hundred-per-cent idea-free!"

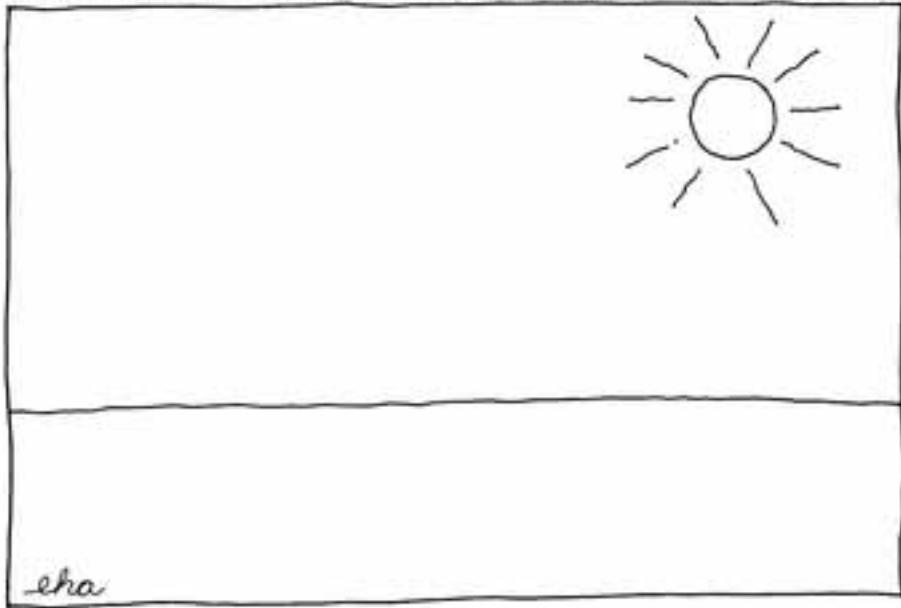


"Am I too late to loot the dead?"



*"What's your problem, Chloe? My client loved
this presentation."*

When DIRT Ruled the EARTH





"The country grandpa came from was a stinking hellhole of unspeakable poverty where everyone was always happy."

2000 THE ORIGINS OF EVERYTHING

The Big Soufflé Theory

First, the universe puffs up nicely.
Then the whole thing caves in and
becomes a gross mess.



The Faux-Pas Theory

A teensy mistake gets made. In trying
to fix it, the mistake gets bigger.
And so forth.



The 'Fantasticks' Theory

It has always been there. It will always be
there. Other than that, we know nothing.





*"Remember when I said I was going to be honest
with you, Jeff? That was a big, fat lie."*

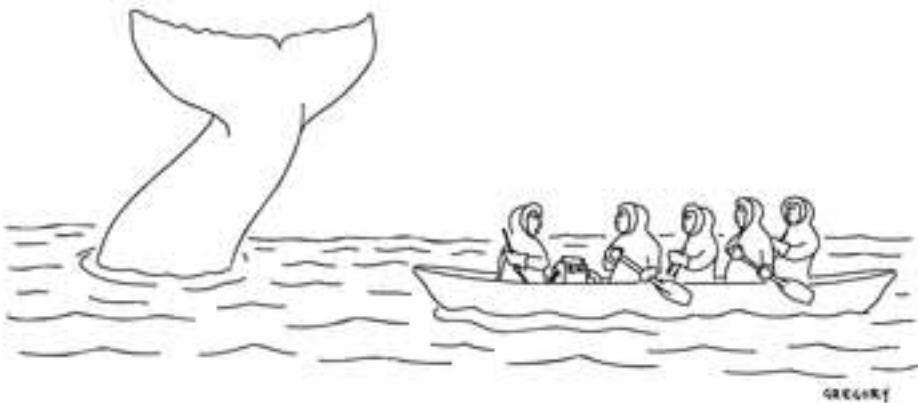


"Am I the only guy at this table who goes back to when this stuff was two hundred and fifty dollars a bottle?"





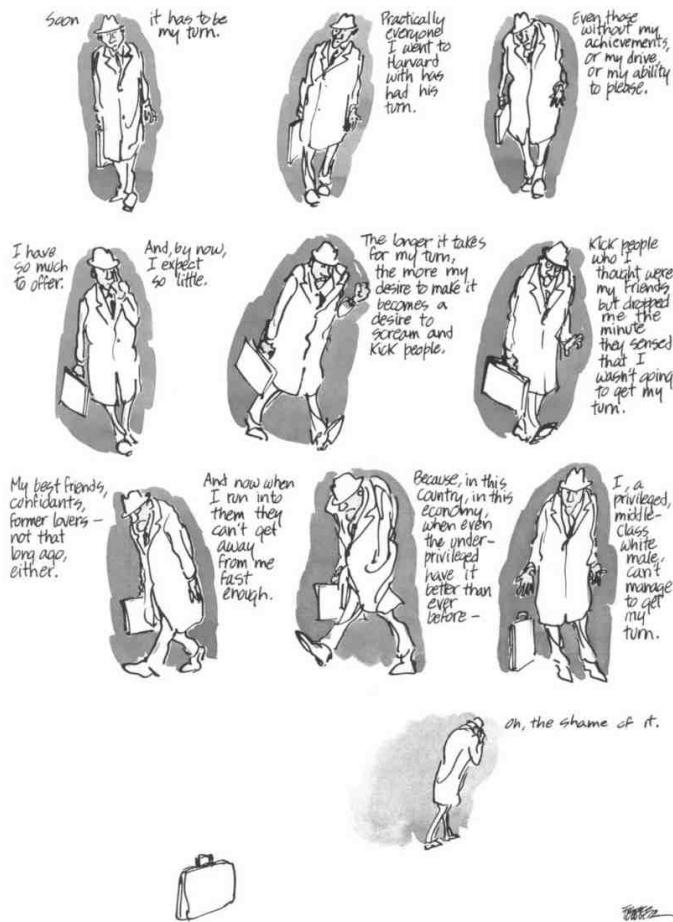
*"Am I the smart one and you're the pretty one or is it
the other way around?"*

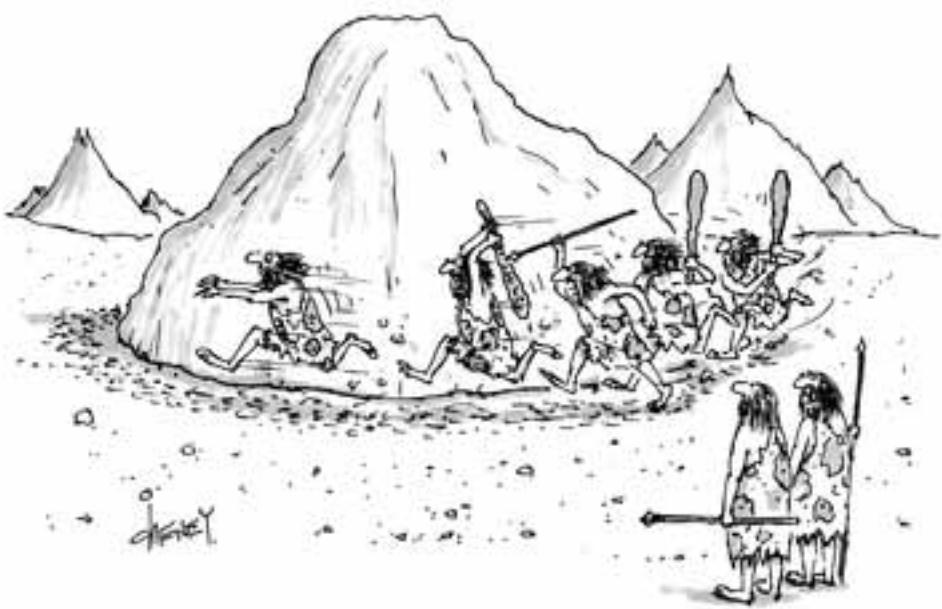


*"Instead of killing the whale for its blubber, we're
going to do a little lipo."*

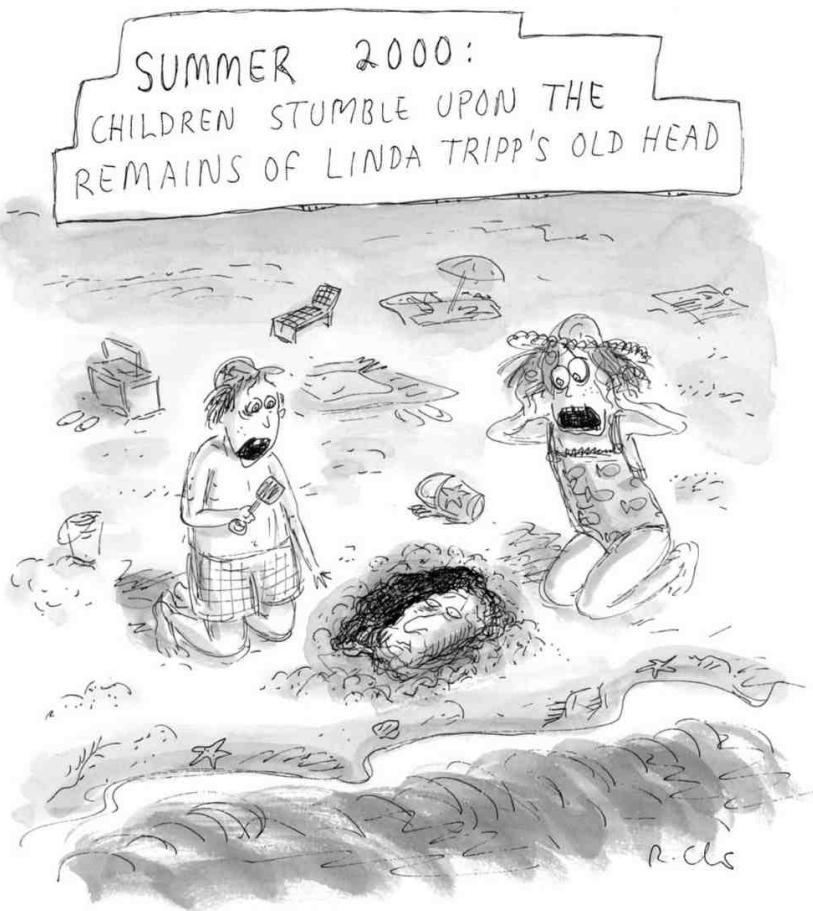


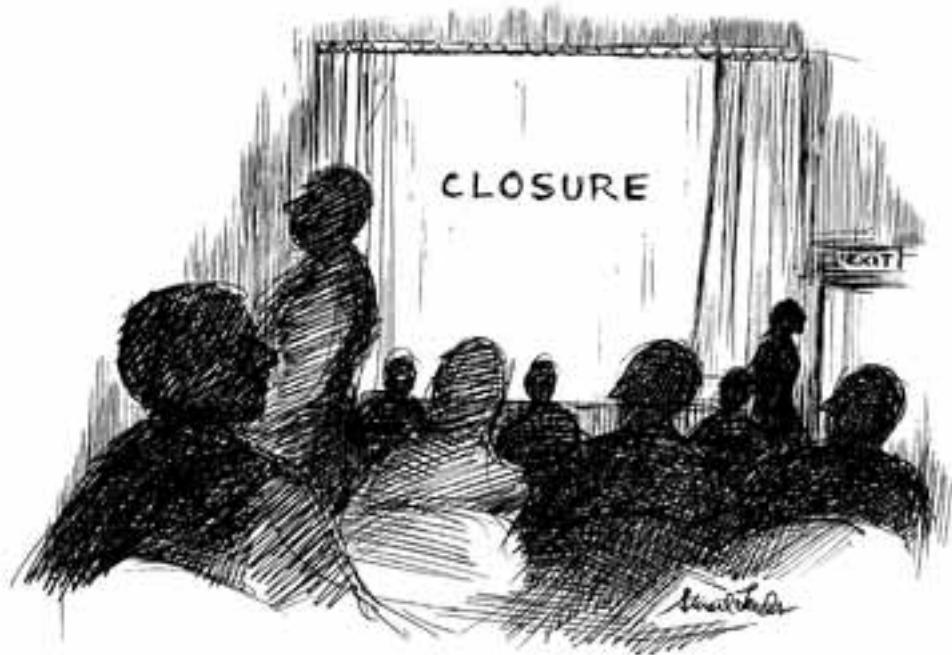
"Sorry, Sylvia, but your mother's long-term care has been going on just a little bit too long."





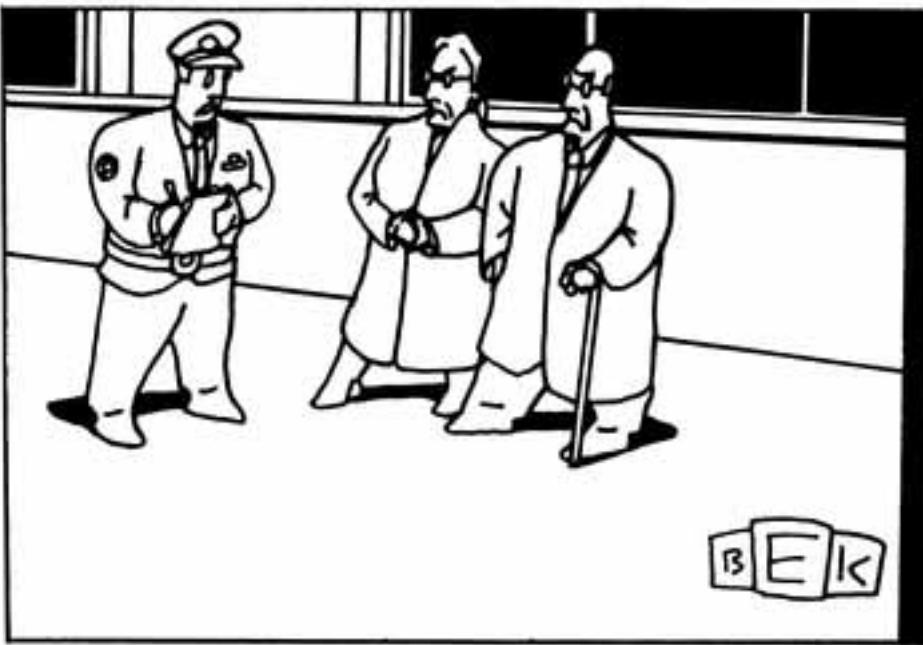
"It's a little game we play called 'Who wants to be a survivor?'"







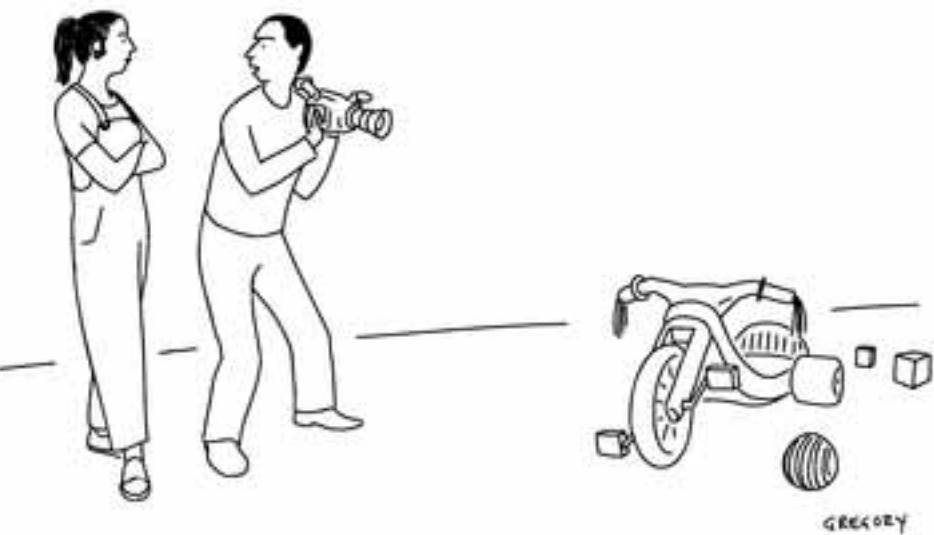
"Edward? Can I play with your stuff?"



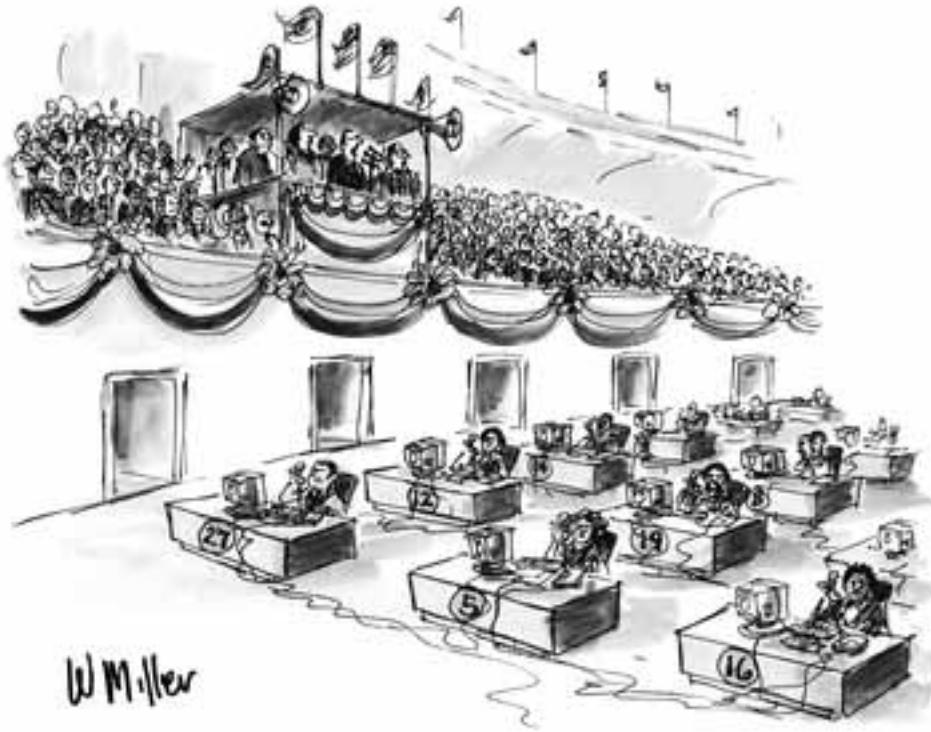
*"Did he have any distinguishing characteristics besides
a strong sense of entitlement?"*



"I hate my nose."



"I figure we can blue-screen the kids in later."



"Ladies and gentlemen, start your companies!"



"My bill isn't terribly controversial. It would provide modest tax breaks for people who don't really need them."



OXYMORON

P. Steiner



*"It's an amazing coincidence, isn't it, that we all
served on the same board of directors?"*



"I've been fired, but they let me keep my secretary."



*"No, no, no! You're, like, 'I really, really, really love you,'
and you're, like, 'Whatever.' "*

DECONSTRUCTING LUNCH





"You're only making this harder on yourself, Powell."



OVERSENSITIVE CAR ALARM



"That's pork—the meat of the pig. It makes an excellent substitute for tofu."



"Long time no see!"



"Have you anything to say before I change your channel?"



"My parents are at the age where they're very involved with their own activities."

GOTHAM'S WINTER WONDERLAND (1 OF 4)



The Druidic Polar Bear Club

GOTHAM'S WINTER WONDERLAND (2 OF 4)



Ice Fishing

GOTHAM'S WINTER WONDERLAND (3 OF 4)



Ski Central Park

GOTHAM'S WINTER WONDERLAND (4 OF 4)



Learn Tracking



"In the interest of cultural diversity, we've hired Jason, here, who owns a number of hip-hop CDs."



*"You can't be insured, Harry and Louise, because of
your preexisting condition."*



"They should just ask Elián González who he wants to be when he grows up, Gloria Estefan or the Buena Vista Social Club."



"Go ask your search engine."



"Sorry, Ma'am. Down only."



"Daddy doesn't have a job. Daddy goes to the gym."



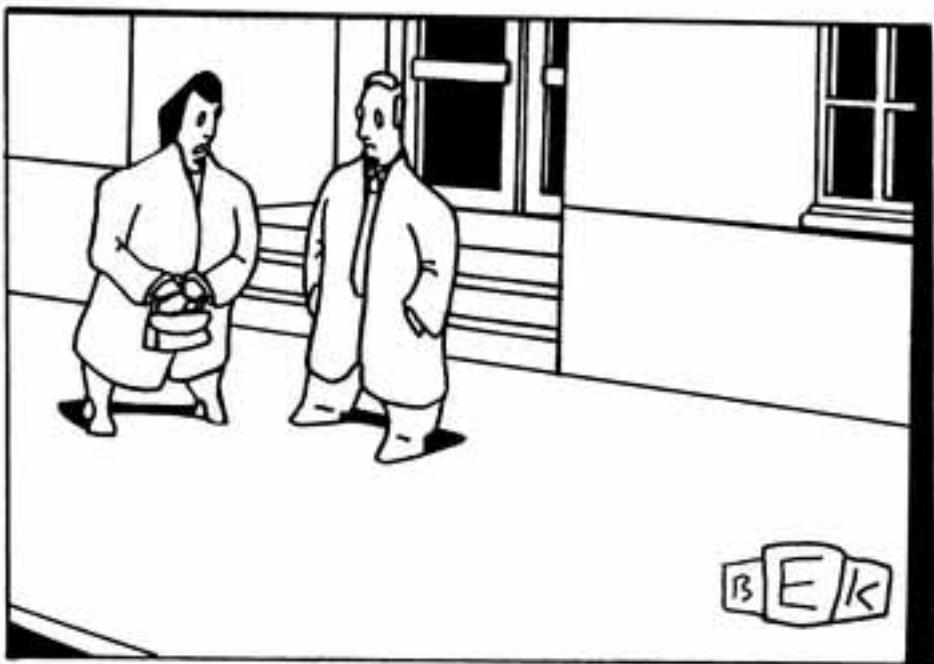
"Grace and polish, all bundled up together in one man?"



"You have to admire his professionalism."



"It's your grandparents, claiming their visitation rights."



"Do you want to see where I fester?"



"To our divorces—powerful tools of capital formation."



"Could we be getting a little too museum-quality?"

GEORGE GERSHWIN, PSYCHIATRIST

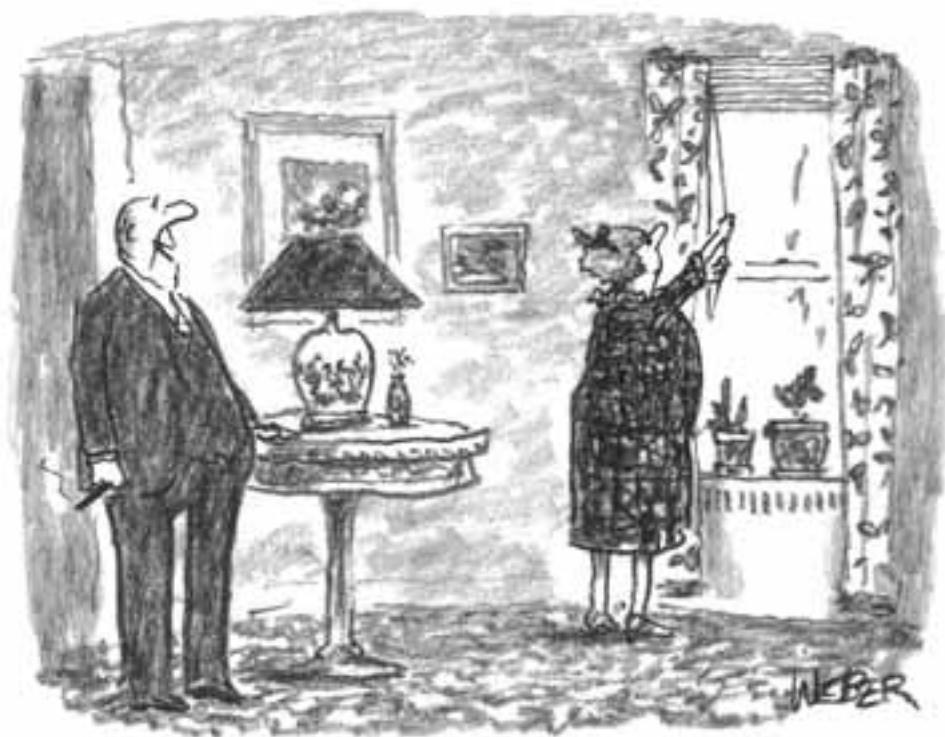




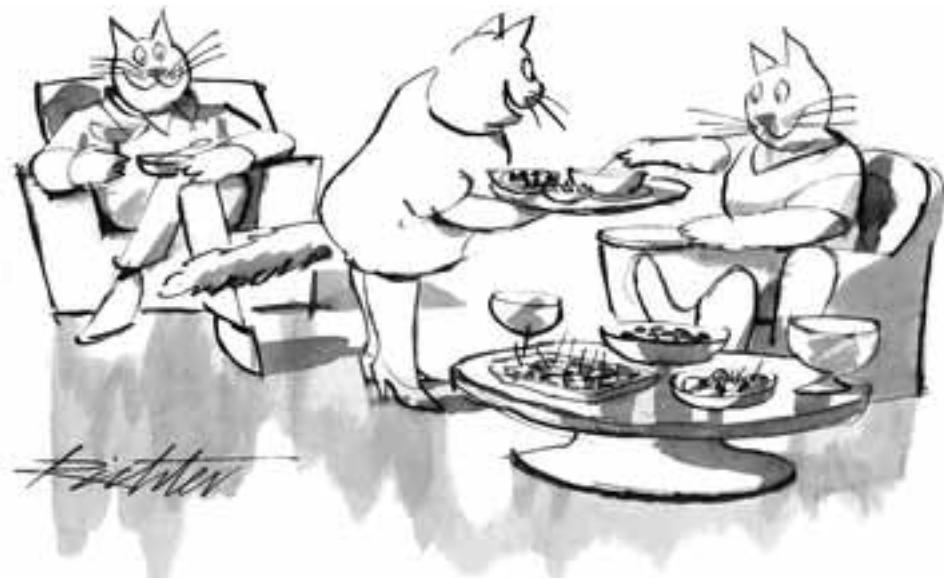
"Sometimes I sell puts. Other times I sell calls. It's a full life."



"Don't sweat the Castilian pronunciation."



"Hey, what do you say we just skip Valentine's Day this year?"



"We grind our own catnip."



"Have you folks been menued yet?"



"Have I got a girl for you!"

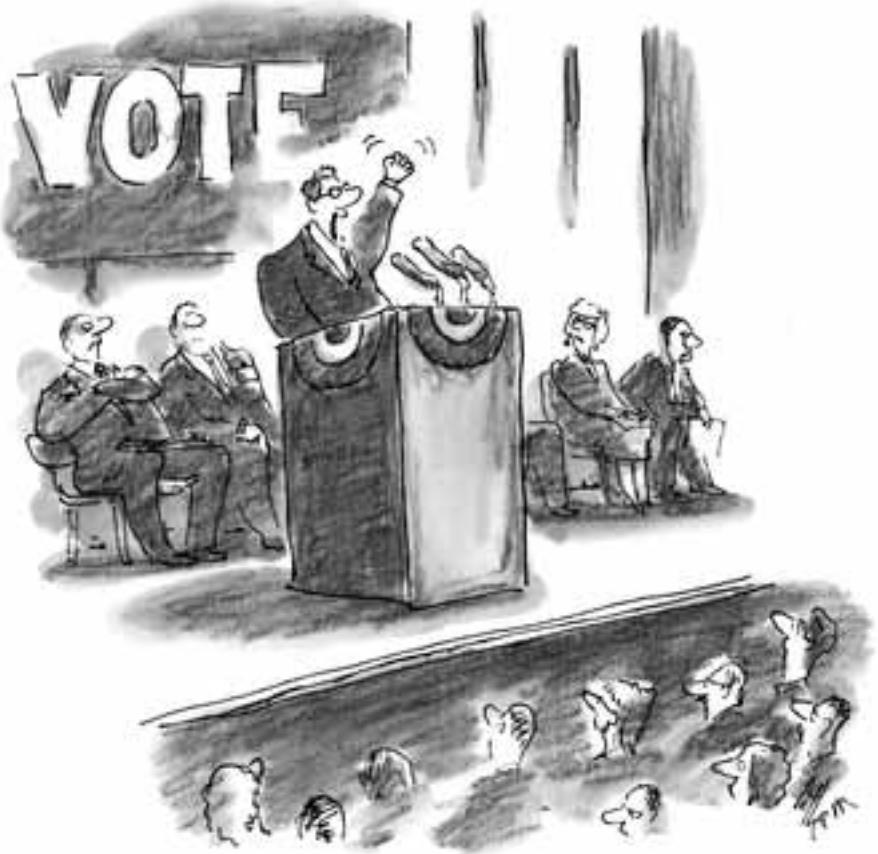


*"The Governor has granted a stay of execution until
your Benetton ad comes out."*





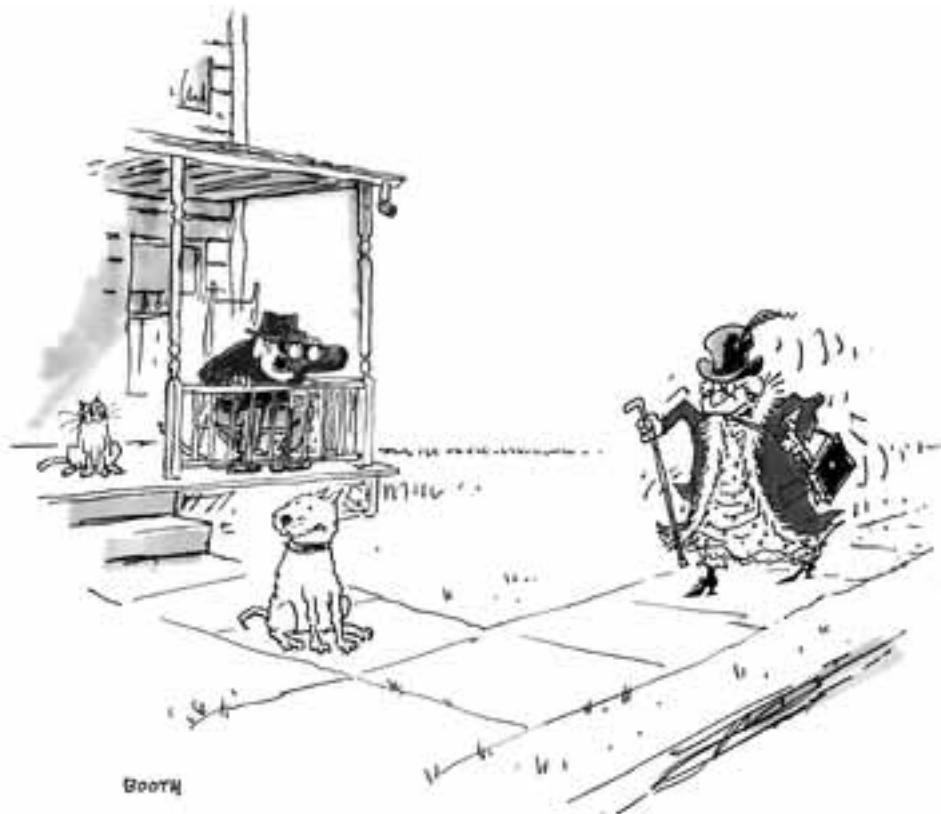
"I'll be right back—I'm going to blink."



"Give me moderation or give me death!"



"When we were together, he was always singing 'It Had to Be You.' Then, suddenly, he switched to 'I Gotta Be Me,' and I haven't seen him since."



"Be still, my atrial fibrillations!"



REALTOR FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

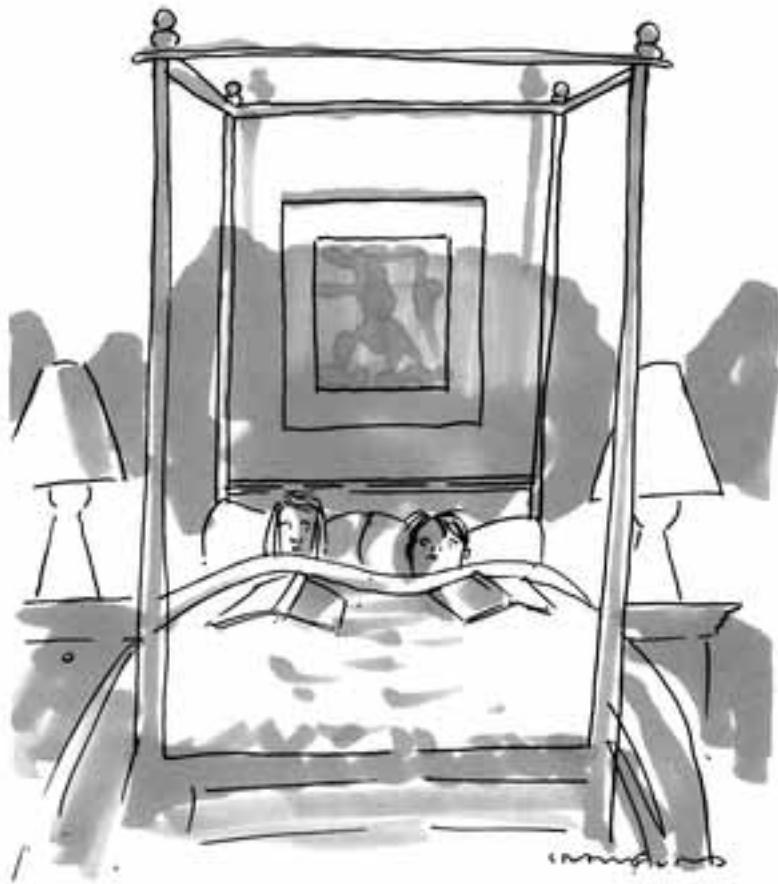




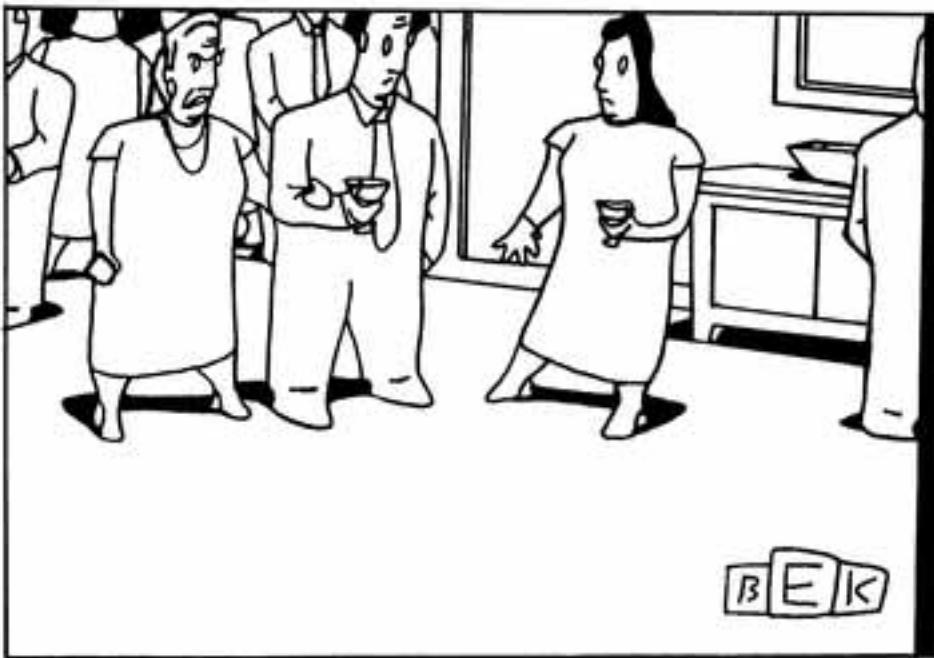
"I may only be in promotion, but I have seen the knives in the night."



*“Sadly, no food was produced after they all
became motivational speakers.”*



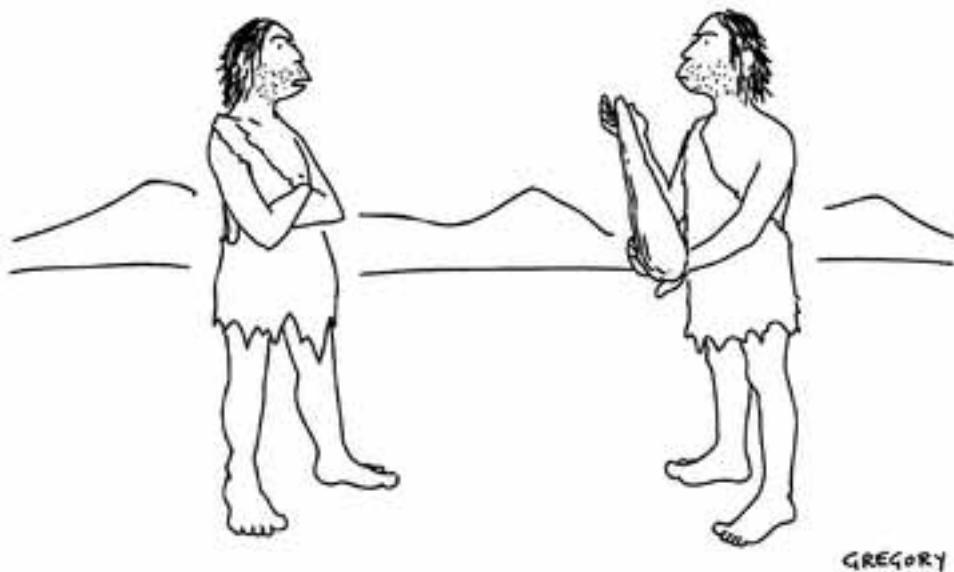
*"Next week is out. I'll be in Houston
merchandising my pain."*



"I'm the lot of baggage he comes with."



*"I admire your enthusiasm for—well, paint and,
you know, canvas."*



"I don't know. I'm something of a technophobe."



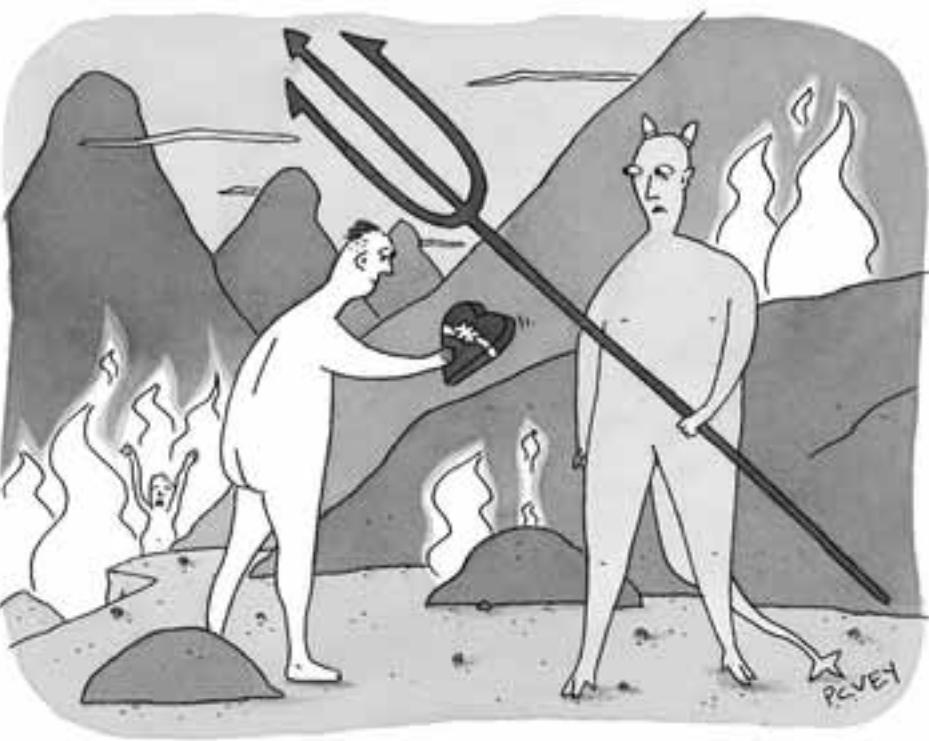
*"You set 'em up with one of these babies, and they're
good for the night."*



"All too human is fine—unless, of course, it's all too often."



"I've found that there are times in a person's spiritual journey when prescription drugs are entirely appropriate."



"We don't much go in for the Stockholm syndrome around here."

MISDEMEANORS OF THE HEART





"Really, I'm fine. It was just a fleeting sense of purpose—I'm sure it will pass."



“Simply put, Marcia, I want to be your President.”



*"Well, J.B., we're not a successful Internet company
because we're not an Internet company."*



*"End of February, McIntosh. Time to think about
our spring plantings."*





S.GROSS



*"Old is when your daughter announces she's
seeing a younger man."*



*"This is so cool! I'm flying this thing completely
on my Palm pilot!"*



*"Ideally, husbands should be spaced at least
three years apart."*



"That dead person is still on our lawn."



"He's long gone, sheriff—you'll never catch him."



"He'll have abandonment issues."



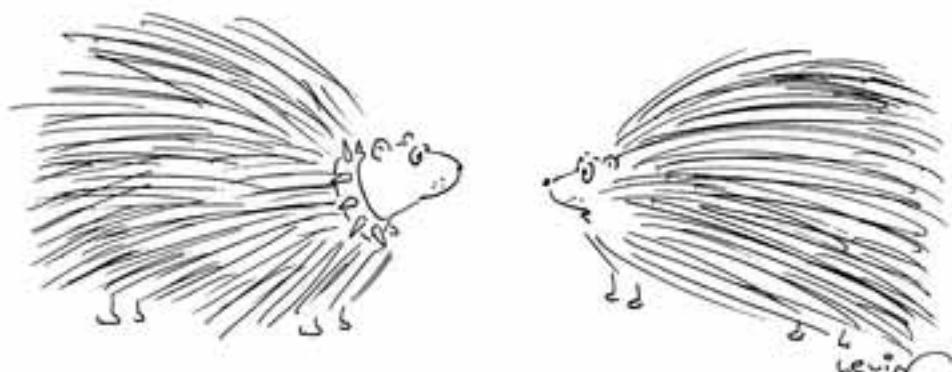
“Those D’s are misleading.”



"We can give you enough medication to alleviate the pain, but not enough to make it fun."



*"If I won forty-seven million dollars in the lottery,
I wouldn't change a thing. Not at first."*



"I think it's overkill."



"Have you ever wanted something so bad that you'd actually save up the money to buy it?"





*"I don't know how to draw a merger—you'll have
to go back and kill them."*

2000

THE MOVING FINGER WRITES; AND, HAVING WRIT,
MOVES ON TO A THREE WEEK, TWENTY CITY BOOK TOUR.





*"Number Three, please step forward, rip open the
bag of garbage, and throw it around."*



"Can Johnny come out and eat?"



*"No, sir, they don't come with the cubicle—you have
to order the cubicle separately."*



*"Listen. It's at the quiet moments like this that you
can actually hear the meter running."*





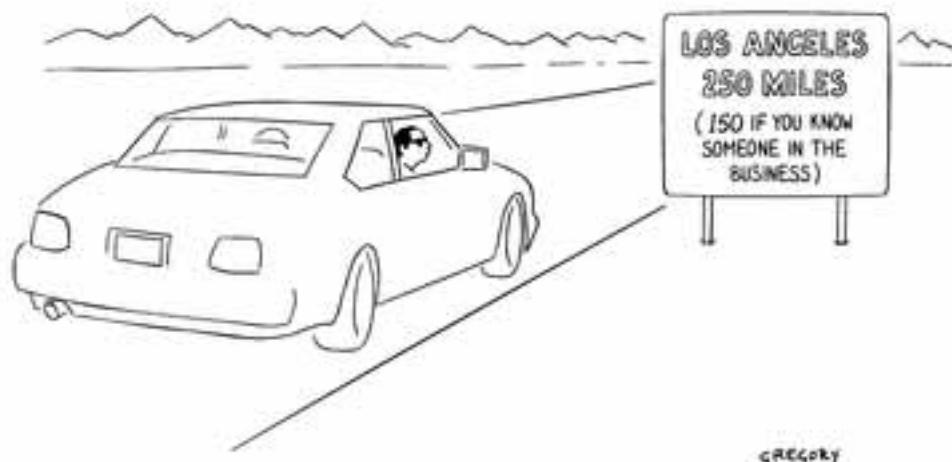
"I'm sorry, dear. I wasn't listening. Could you repeat what you've said since we've been married?"



"I'm out of the closet but under the radar."



"You're supposed to point the pop-ups at the kid!"



2000

75 YEARS: THE COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES





“Sure, it may be great for us, but it’s hell on the markets.”



*"He's at that awkward age when
they can try him as an adult."*

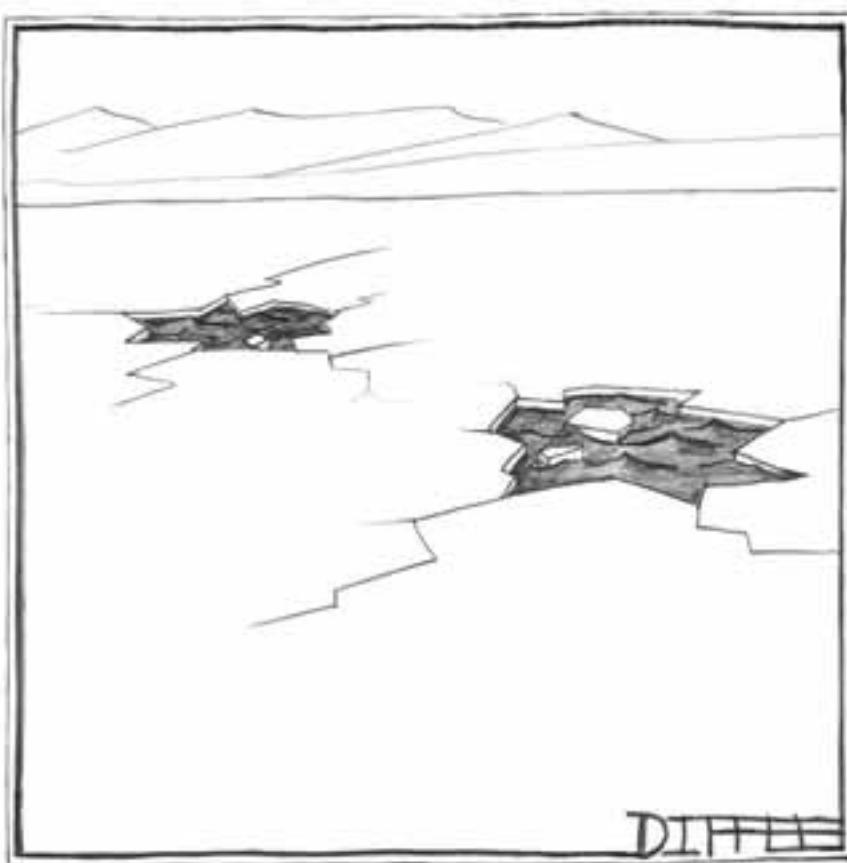


"That's an excellent prescreened question, but before I give you my stock answer I'd like to try to disarm everyone with a carefully rehearsed joke."



"We found we really missed going to the theatre and eating in nice restaurants, so we gave our kids away."





Sumo on Ice

Matthew Diffee (3/6/2000)

[Return to Main Menu ▶](#)



"Your metabolism is the envy of everyone at this party."



*"I'm not trying to sell you anything, sir.
I'm doing market research, and all I ask
is two or three hours of your time to
answer a few thousand questions."*



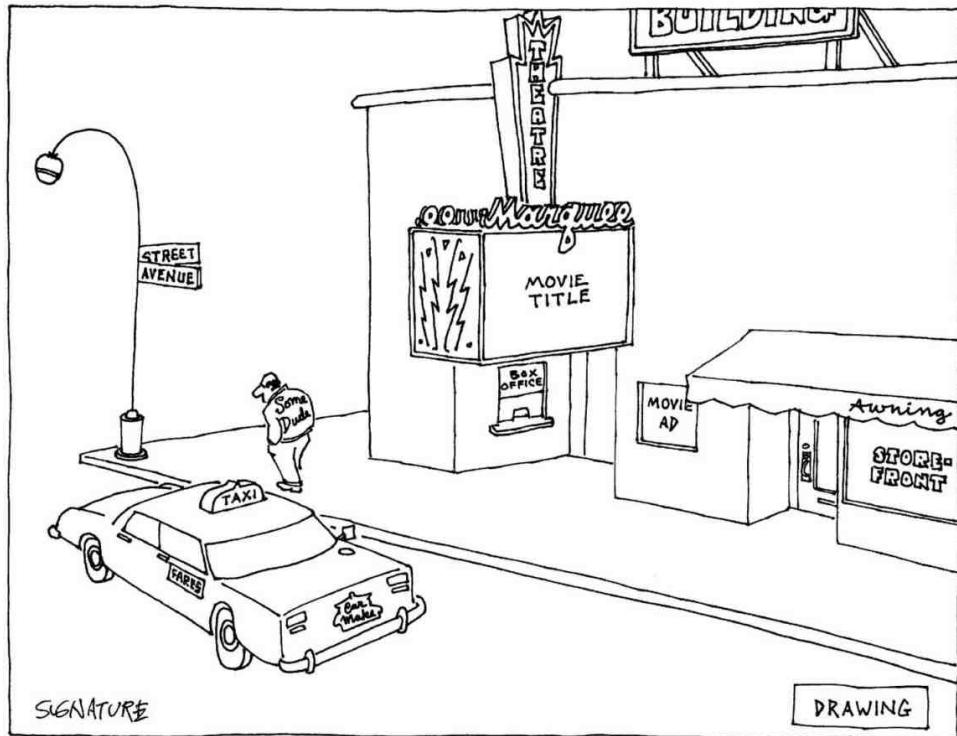
"An interesting selection, Dad, yet essentially a failure—as you can see, I'm still awake."



"Jehoshaphat! Look at that gait!"



"We would like to be genetically modified to taste like Brussels sprouts."





*"A well-regulated militia being necessary to
the security of a free state, we need cheap,
available handguns."*



"We've been married a long time in Hollywood years."



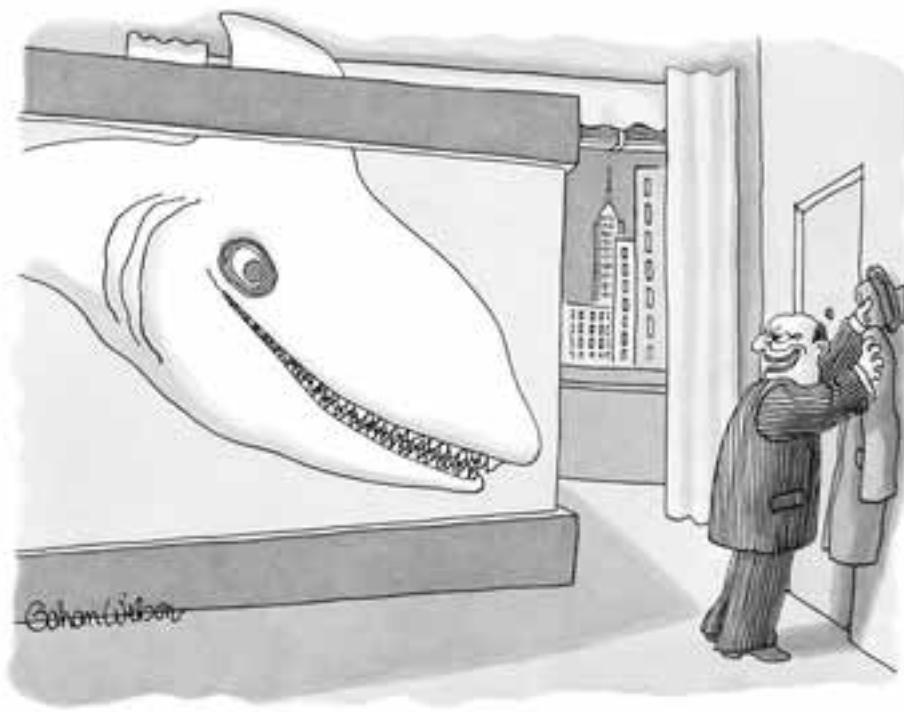
*"Know what we do with nosy little creeps like you?
We deprive them of their broadband data connections
to the rest of the world, that's what we do."*



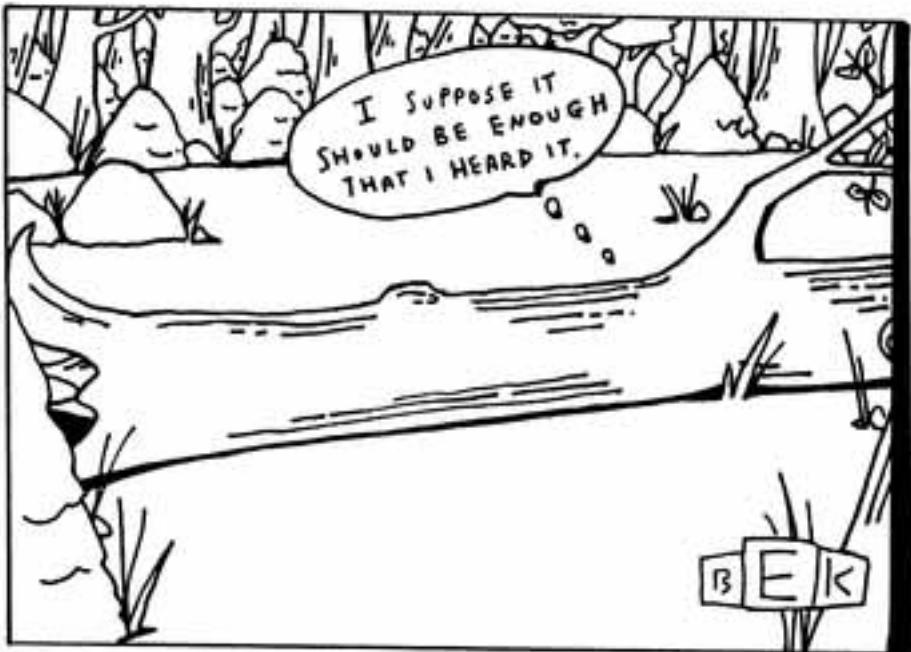


"To Hillary—and politicians without borders!"





"Hi there, big guy!"

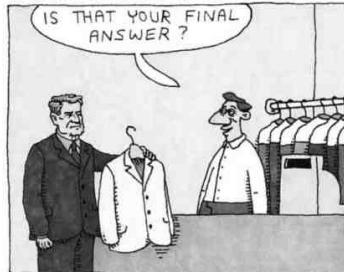


WHO WANTS TO BE REGIS?

REEGE AT LUNCH...



REEGE AT THE DRY CLEANER'S...



REEGE AT THE GUN SHOW...



REEGE UNDER ARREST...



REEGE ON TRIAL...



REEGE ON DEATH ROW...





"Some guys from the state board of medicine are here to see you."



"He's coming across as Reaganish but not Reaganesque."



B. Smaller

"Well if I can't be a cowboy I'll be a lawyer for cowboys."



"Will the role of wife call for any nudity?"

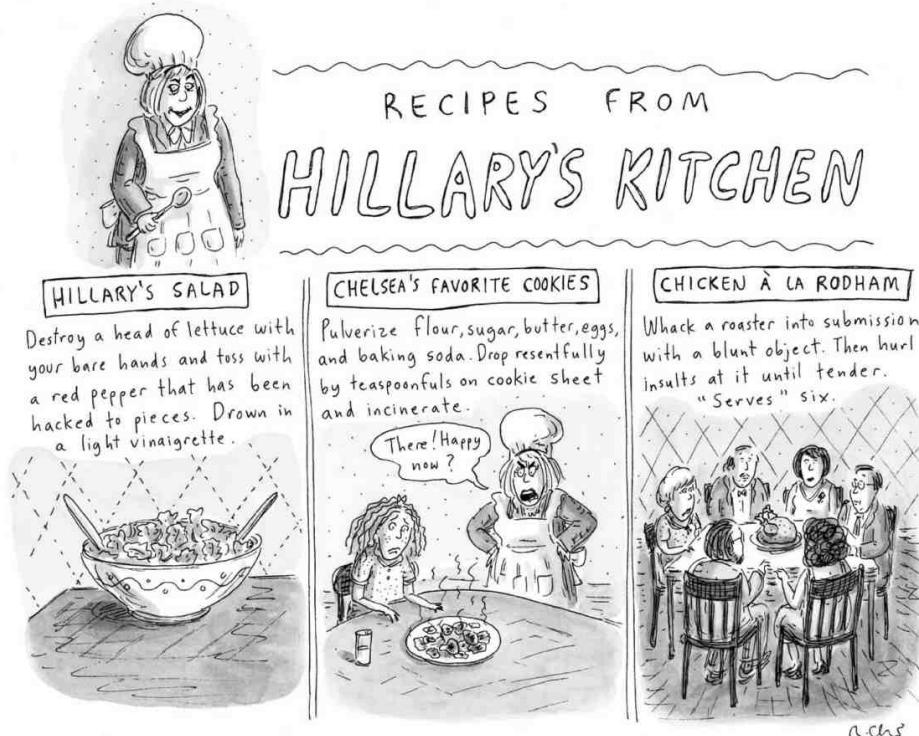


*"Sorry, Mr. Winsler was just let go. You may
finish his latté if you'd like."*





"So we finally reach the summit of Everest, and who's already there but that pushy sportswear buyer from Bloomingdale's, Tanya Urquhart."





*"She turned out to be my kind of horse but
not my kind of woman."*



"And, folks, if you'll take a look out the right side of the plane you'll see a cloud that looks exactly like a pirate."



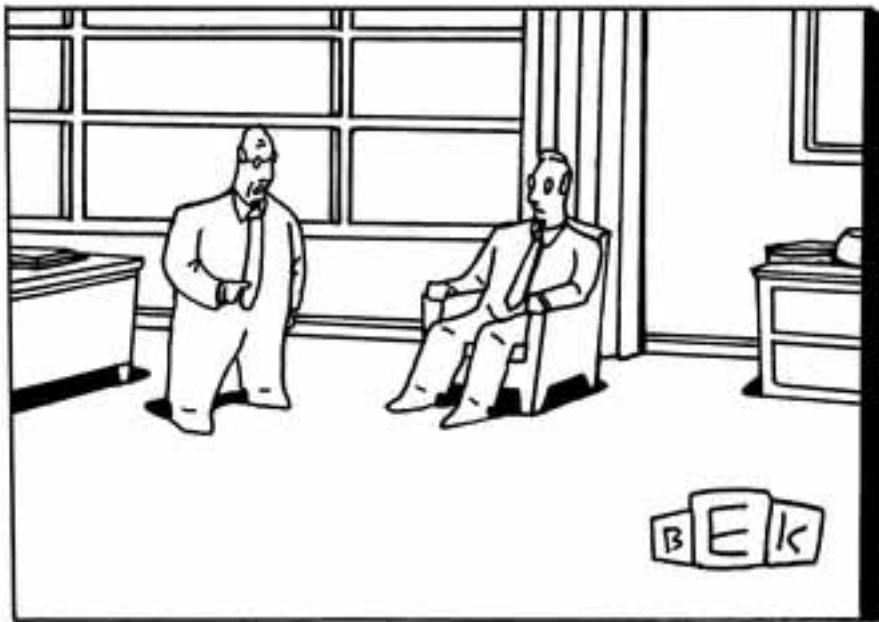
"I begged him to get help."



*"Why is it we never focus on the things
that unite us, like falafel?"*



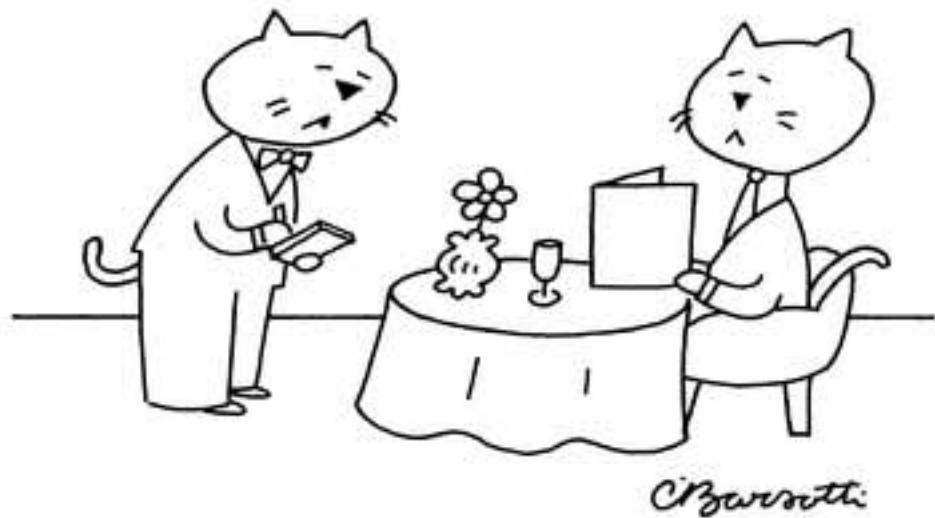
"I am going to SoHo. My doshas are all out of balance. Well, my kapha is hunky-dory but my pitta and vata are out of whack. Today the practitioner is going to get rid of all the stress with geranium, ylang-ylang, bergamot, and patchouli, and, of course, a little time in the steam tent."



"Now you're going to be procrastinating with the big boys."



*"And if you'd like your artwork displayed please
include a brief bio."*



"Well, I wouldn't eat any of it."



"Mind if I turn my hearing aid down?"



"I was comped."



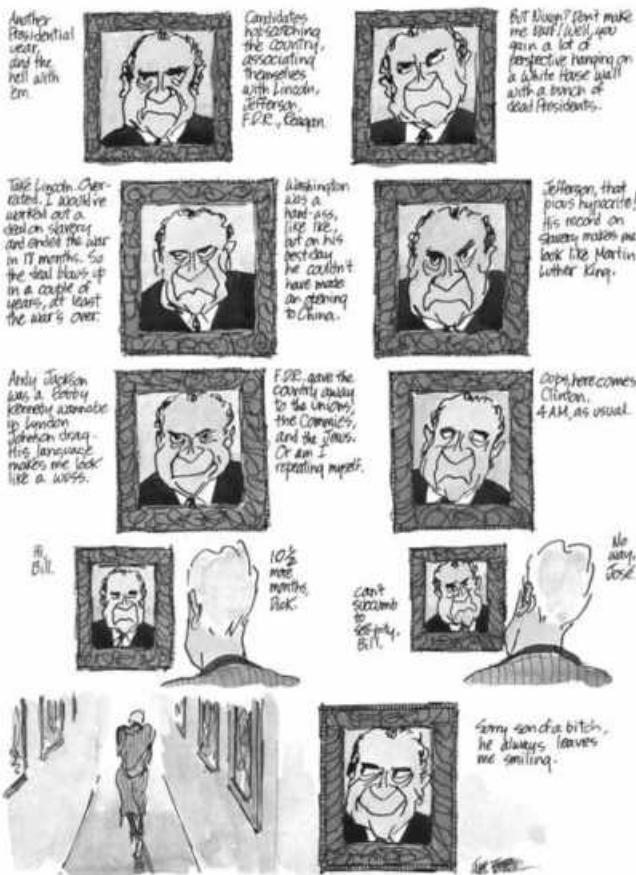


"It must be his beeper."



"My boyfriend is the son my parents always wanted."

PORTRAITGATE









*"I'm a Reagan Republican. That's probably why
I smile and wave for no reason."*





"Somehow, on you it doesn't look shaved—it just looks bald."



"Have you popped all those pills I prescribed?"



SIPRESS

"My mind is especially empty today."



"We're thinking maybe it's time you started getting some religious instruction. There's Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish—any of those sound good to you?"



"You were hungry? Case dismissed."



"I'm sorry, dear, but you know how I feel about intra-marital sex."



*"Is that your cell phone or are you
just glad to see me?"*

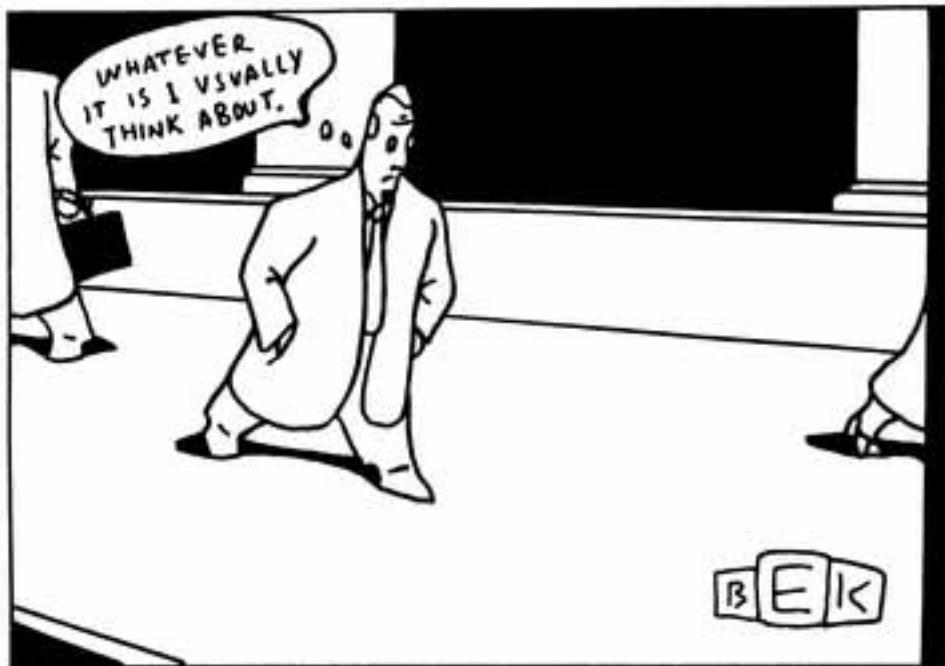




*"She did only twenty-eight of the thirty-two
fouettés in the 'Black Swan' pas de deux . . .
or are my eyes deceiving me?"*



"I'm sorry you're having a hard time, Roy. Please forgive my Schadenfreude."

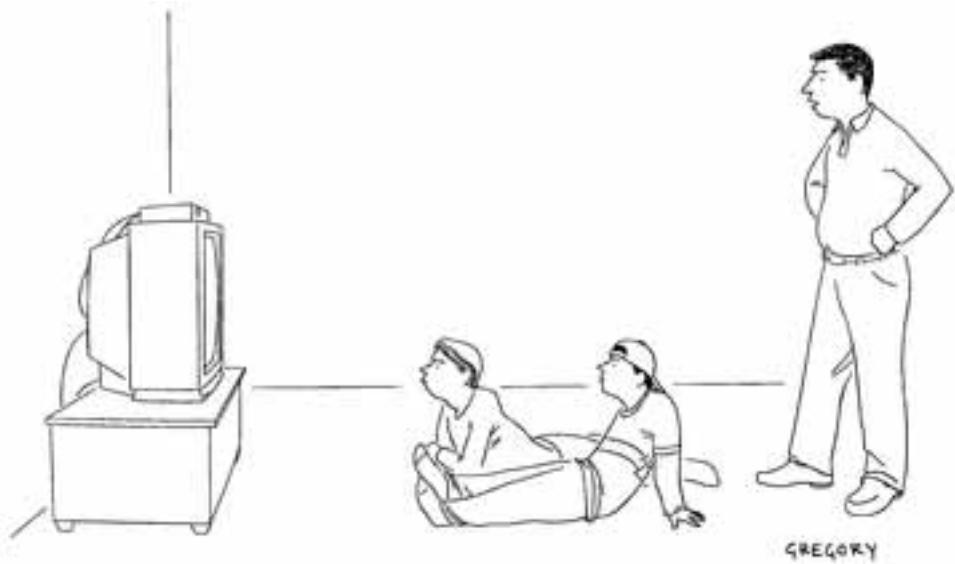




*"I'm hearing a lot of buzzwords from you, but I'm
not getting a buzz."*

It begins





"Instead of just sitting around, why don't you kids go out and co-opt some black culture?"





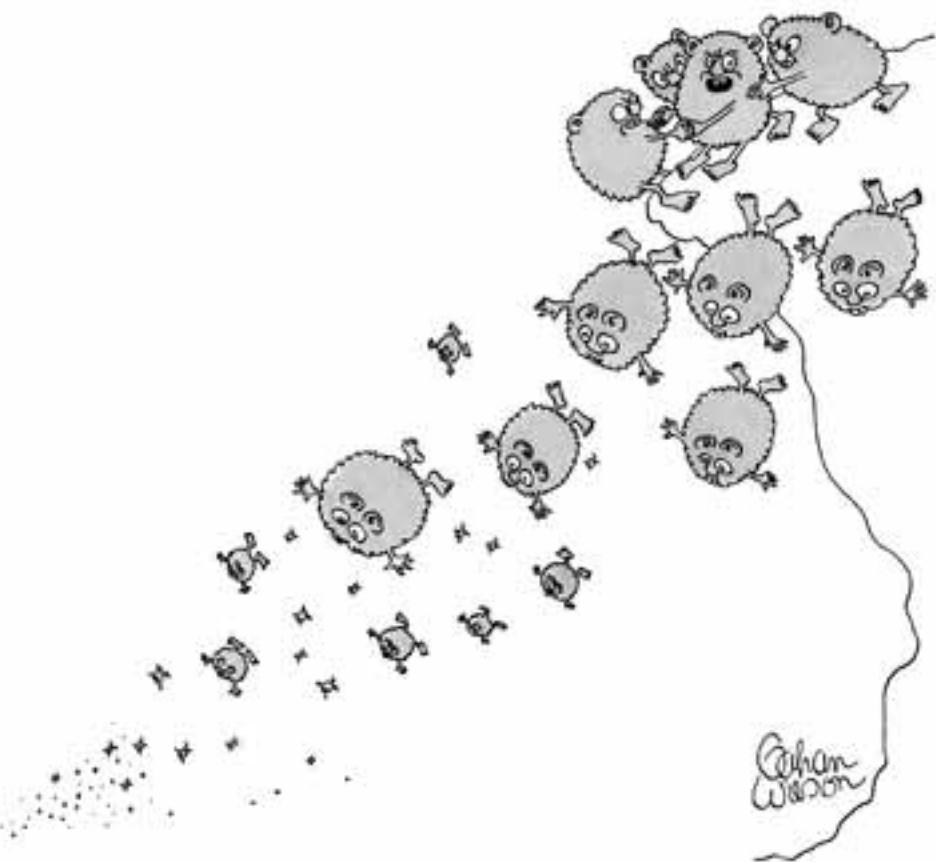
"It has yet to turn a profit."



*"You look like this sketch of someone who's thinking
about committing a crime."*



"Oh, Julius, look! It's the first robin!"



"Nobody told me about this!"



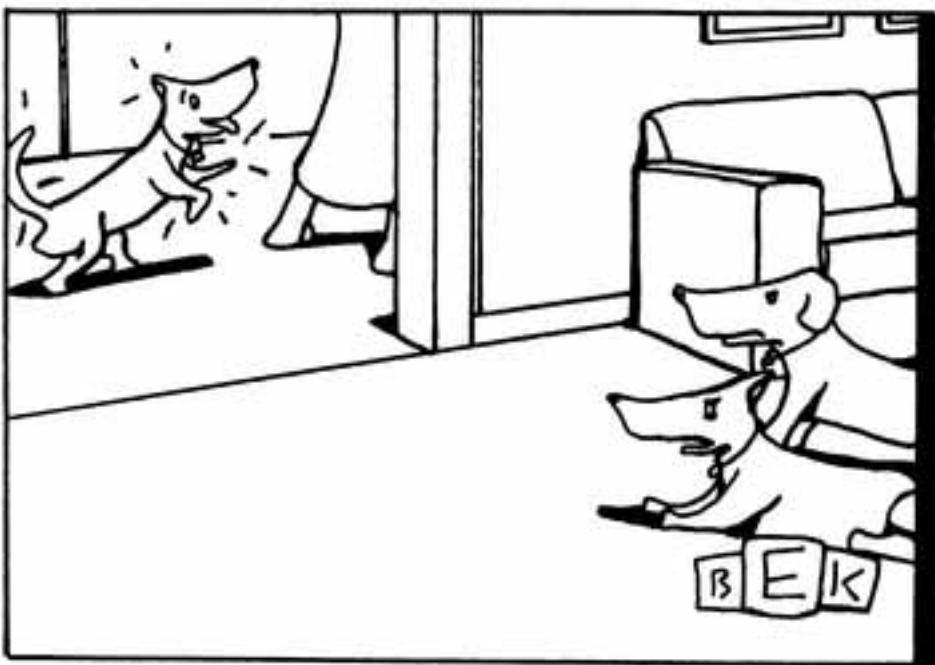
"Put that out! It's over. And lose the goatee."



"Hey—truce? It looks like I might be fertile!"



"It's a new rent concept—fifteen minutes for a quarter."



"I hate it when he gets all Robin Williamsy."



"Nothing against Rudy. I just feel that a woman would be instinctively better on dairy issues."



"Of course, we love you. Hasn't Maria told you?"



“Crazy bastard thinks he’s Napoleon.”

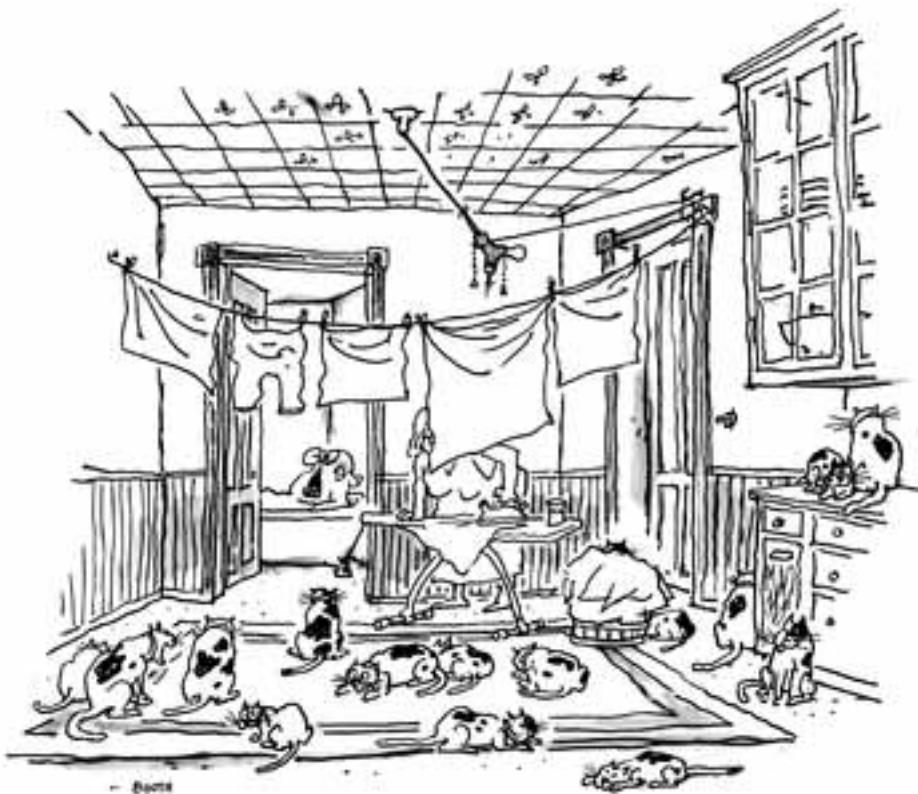




"It's a Popemobile."



*"Of course, now I'm just a class clown, but eventually
I'd like my own sitcom."*



"It's Oscar time—there's that special tingle in the air."



"Which should we go see: the straight romantic comedy where the heroine's best friend is a gay man, or the gay romantic comedy where the hero's best friend is a straight woman?"



*"May I buy you ladies a drink? I once rode in
an elevator with Ernest Borgnine."*





"Wow, thanks. I'm a big fan. I've downloaded all your stuff."



Mort Gerberg

"Dear J.J.: Thank you so much for your lovely present of fourteen million dollars for my campaign. It was sweet of you to remember. I promise to spend it on something nice."



*"It's the editorial he was fulminating against when
he keeled over and croaked."*



*"I've decided to return to my first passion in
life—selling drugs to kids."*



*"By breaking the seal on this dress, you accept the terms
and conditions printed on my panties."*



B. Smaller

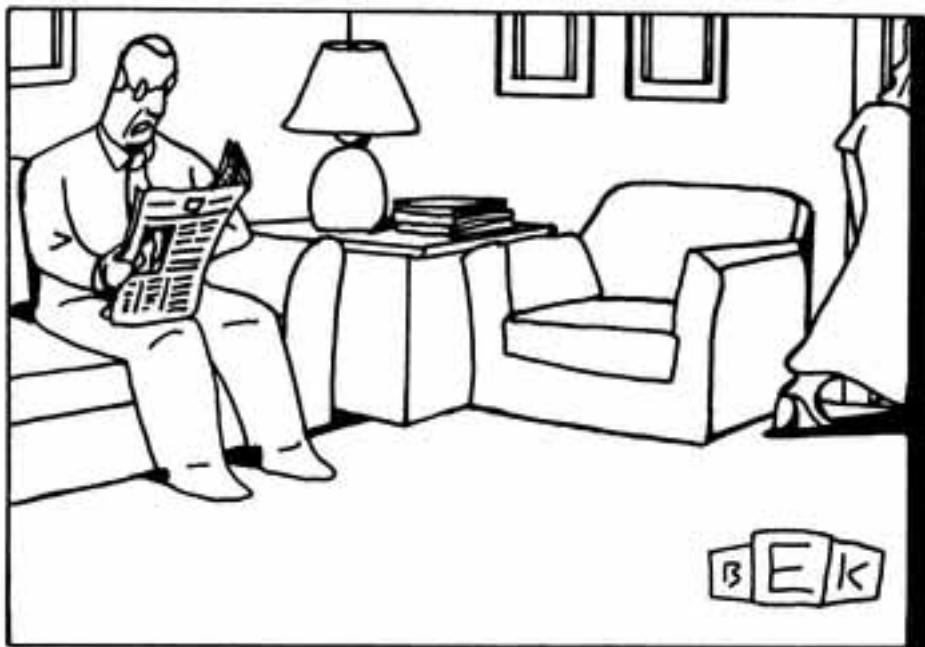
"Don't cry, Mom. Lots of parents have children who didn't get into their first-choice college, and they went on to live happy, fulfilled lives."



"Like many large people, Benson moves with remarkable grace."



*"I'm not a miracle worker. I can't do the surgery
for less than four thousand."*



B E K

*"Don't walk away from me while I'm not paying
any attention to you."*



*"Of course mating is natural. It's just not the kind
of thing you want to see your parents doing."*



"He's like this perfect combination of Oscar de la Renta and Oscar de la Hoya."





*"Hey, baby, what's happenin'? How's about a little kiss,
mama? Woof, woof, woof! Ar-oooooooo!"*



"Did you do that to be hurtful?"



"Before we begin, may I ask which of you is the good cop, and which is the bad?"



"Nothing from the governor, but I did manage to get you a tax extension."



"Marjorie, I've got something to tell you."



"The following is a test of the fire-alarm system. It is only a test. Please ignore the intense heat and combustion."



"So, once again, we have agreed to disagree."



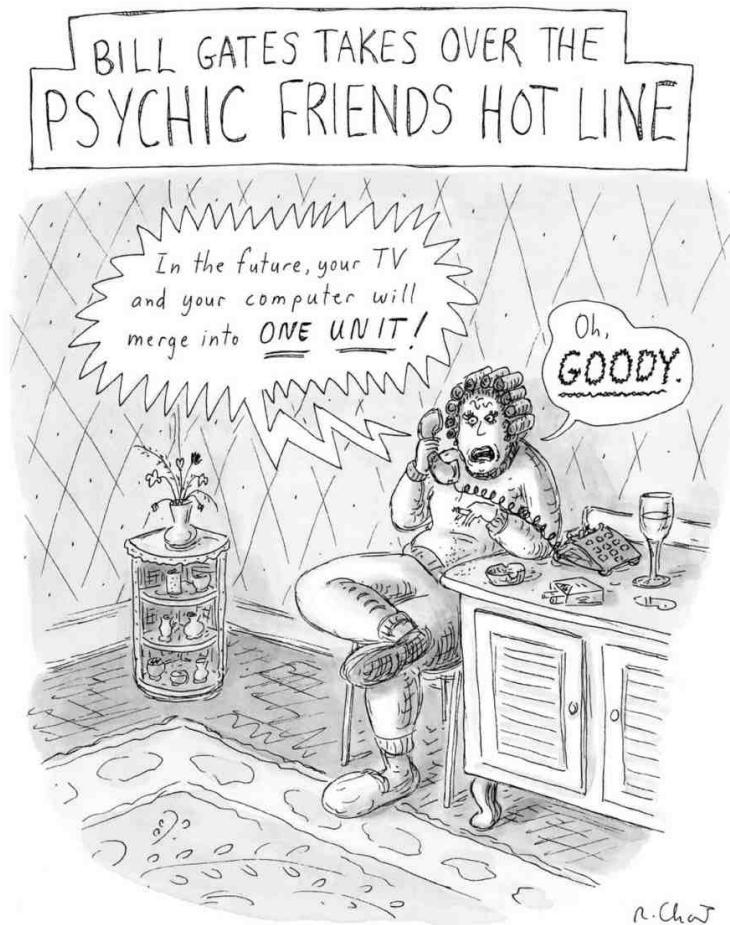
*"Next thing we knew, he started subjecting us to all
this harsh, unfair criticism."*



*"And now, if I may, I'd like to put You
on hold for a moment while I have a
few words with Mammon."*



"Recess does things to a man."





*"Well, you've brought me down to the sea again, to the lonely
sea and sky. Now will you take me back to Vegas?"*



*"I can't understand a word you're saying, Roger.
Have you got a gun in your mouth?"*



"I hate what we've become."



"I don't know about hair care, Rapunzel, but I'm thinking a good cream rinse plus protein conditioner might just solve both our problems."



“Sure I can’t pop that in a bag for you, sir?”



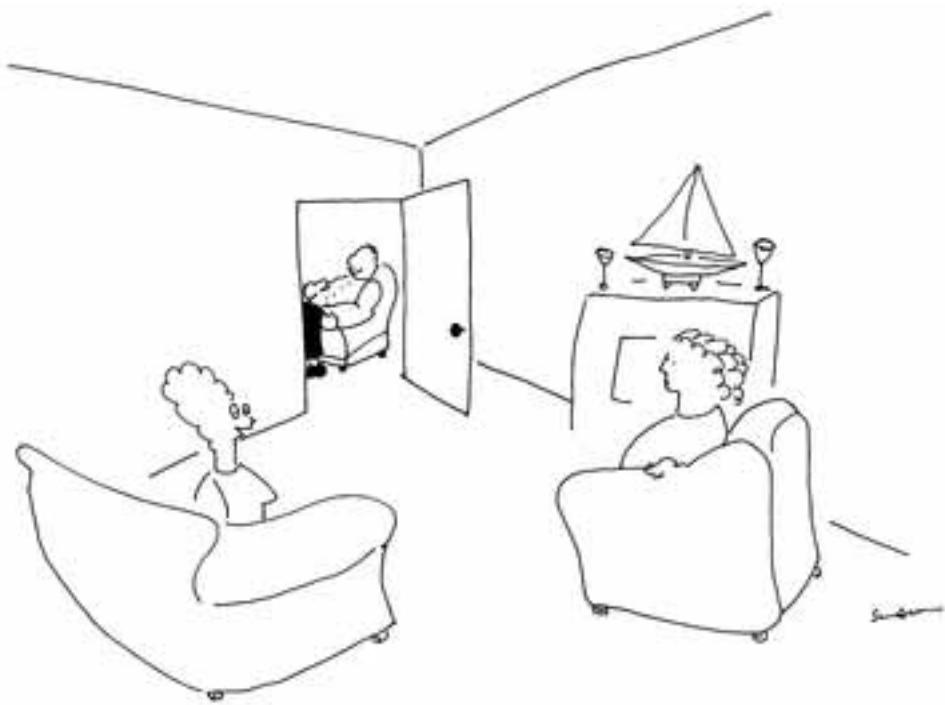
"I don't pout when we invite people you've slept with."



"In my day, people died."



"Good news—I got you into a terrorist camp."

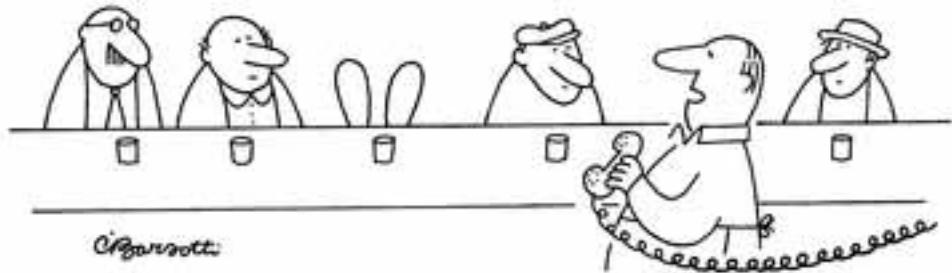


"My feng-shui consultant placed Harold in the closet."



"What I'm proposing, Ms. Fenner—Gail—is marriage."





"Anyone here named Hippity?"



"And for a left-handed designated hitter and a player to be named later, Mr. Steinbrenner would gladly fly Elián home."



*"It's National Poetry Month, Marion, and by God
we're gonna read some poetry."*



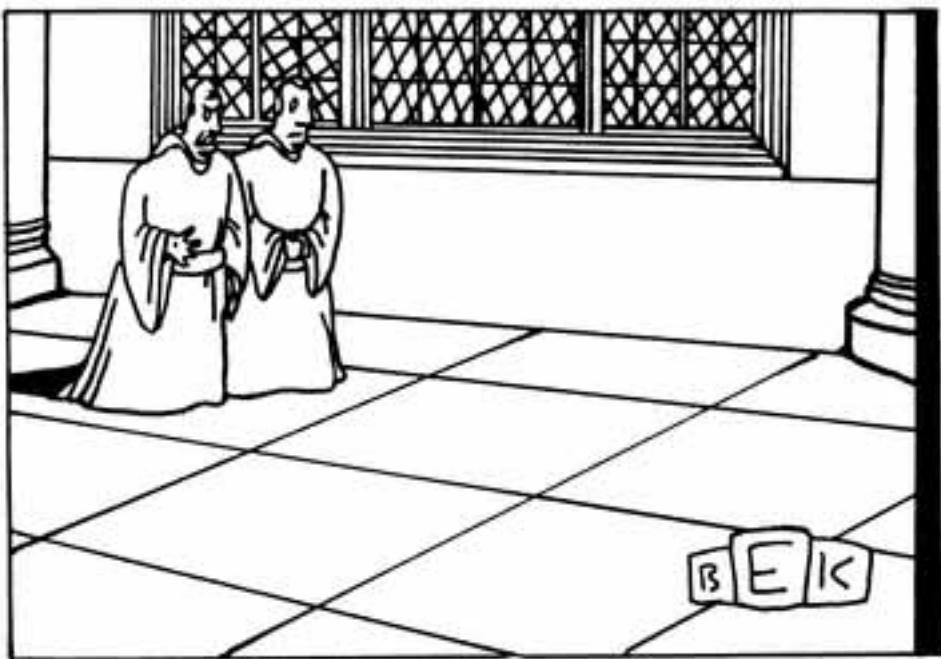
"I can't imagine why we didn't think of this before."



"And do you, Robert, mind if I smoke?"



*"Your fluids are fine, but you've got a slow leak in your left tire
and a hidden explosive device in your right wheel well."*



"That's just so God."



"I laughed so hard I almost scent-marked."



*"I know you're wired to respond to successful older men,
but what are you doing in the meantime?"*



*"Sometimes I fear that wheat germ has been lost in
the health-food shuffle."*



"I know there's nothing wrong with the carburetor. I'm just interested in the stories it has to tell."



"We'd love to come, but we can't seem to find a sitter."



"Uh-oh. The so-called marriage penalty."



"I got my ticket for three dollars over the Internet. Are you going to eat that salmon?"



S.GROSS



"Remember the great cranberry scare of '59? And the cellular phone hysteria of '93? Ralph Nader's killer hot dog with the nitrates? Our evacuation at Love Canal?

*Remember the toxic-teeth scare, with the amalgam fillings leeching mercury into our gullets? Oh, Wheeler,
kiss me now!"*



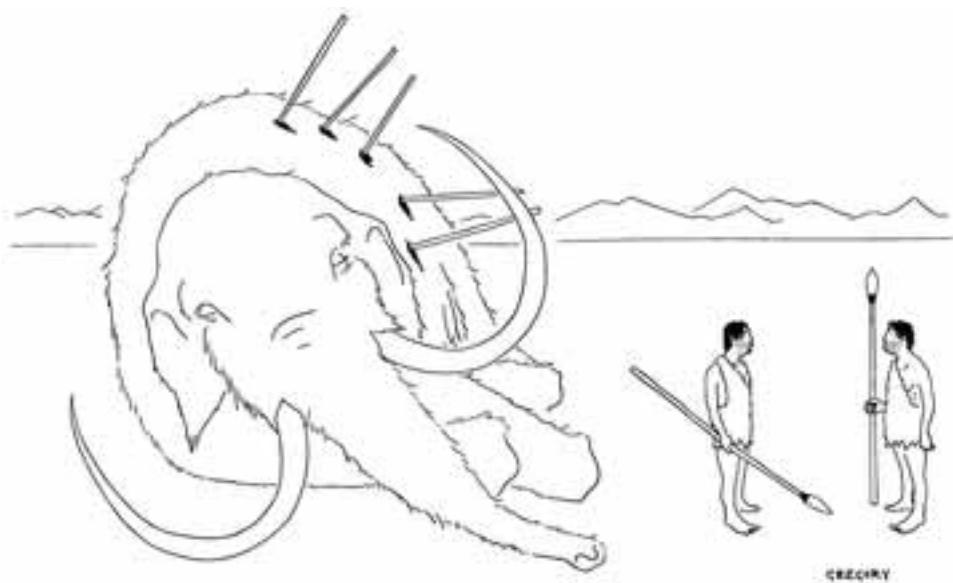
"He's interesting. But he's not Brazilian-bikini-wax interesting."



*"No, it's just that the royal inbreeding makes
me look like a frog."*



"O.K., right about now I'll bet you're thinking, What's the catch?"



*"Should we pick up something for the folks who
don't eat red meat?"*



*"I just hope we last long enough to get a turn at despising
some new people ourselves."*

2000

THE HOUSE OF MYSTERY





"My name is Bunny, and I'm a chocoholic."



"What was it this time, old economy or new economy?"



"If I were money, you'd listen to me."



"Where are you going with this, Wingate?"





*"This is my friend Ted, and this is Ted's
lower-priced knockoff."*



"Well, as we thought, it's something gross."



"O.K. guys, now lets go and earn that four hundred times our workers' salaries."



*"Of course, we're happy for you and Klaza, Beega.
But tell me, what do his people do?"*





*"My attorney says your attorney had to take the
bar exam three times."*



"I regret to inform your lordship that I have been offered, and have accepted, an attractive position in valet parking."





*"My entire vision for the future
passed before my eyes."*





*"So what if he's not the man of your dreams.
The 'Times' is going to be there."*







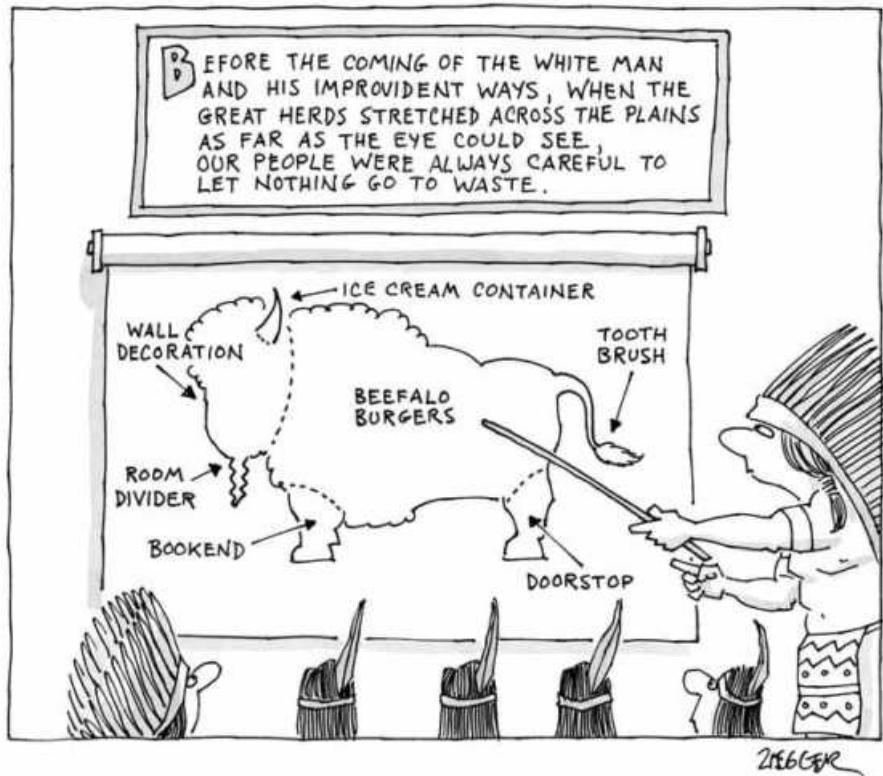
"I meant everything I said last night, especially the part about how diversifying your equity portfolio allows you to participate in growth potential."







*"We do not usually acknowledge unsolicited manuscripts,
but we want you to know that we tore yours into
tiny pieces. Yours sincerely, The Op-Ed Page."*



2000

MONEYTM

MADE A MAN OUT OF MATT





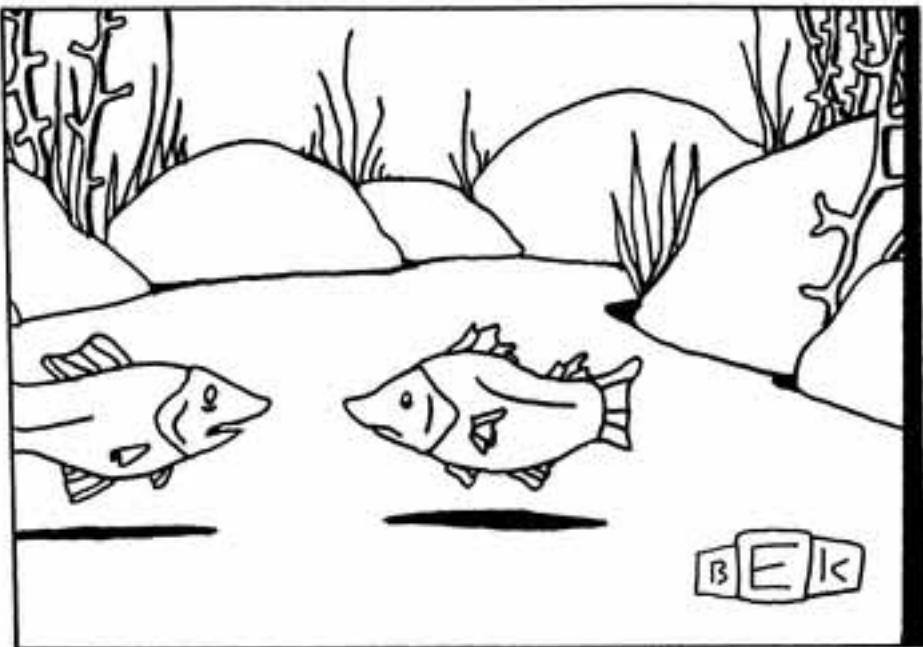
"I suppose we have Judge Judy to thank for all this."



"Last night, I had the weirdest dream sequence."

STOCKOPOLIS





*"To tell you the truth, even when I'm in water I don't
feel that comfortable."*





"We're not certain why they disappeared, but archeologists speculate that it may have had something to do with their size."



"We finally hashed out the pre-nup, but I'm never going to speak to him again."



"I've been getting in touch with the puppy in me."



*"Then I said, 'So what does a lesbian vegan
Wiccan do for fun?'"*



*"Hi, I'm your court-appointed lawyer—whoa!
Don't tell me you've been executed already."*



*"You're in luck. We have an opening for low man
on the totem pole."*



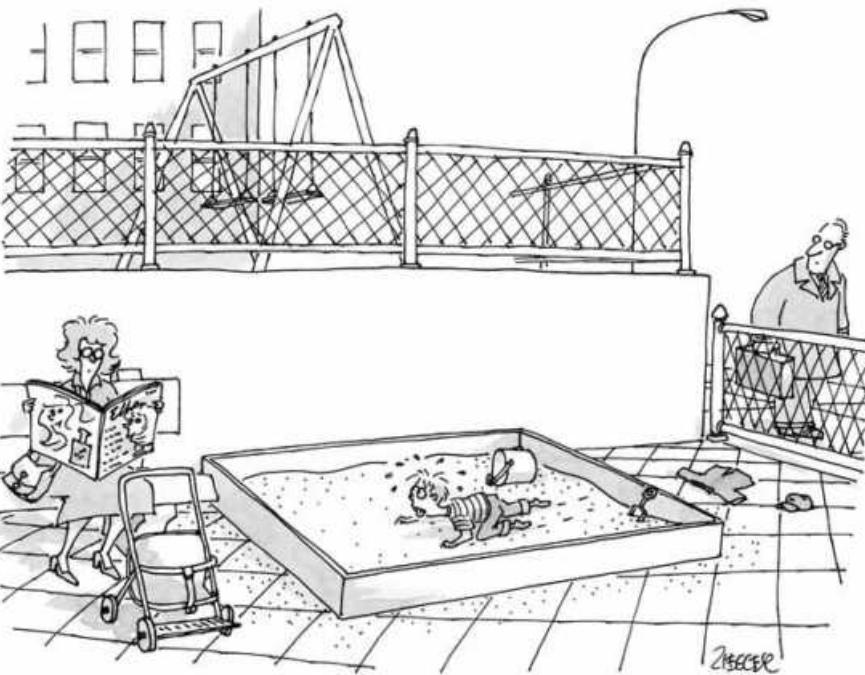
"Forty minutes at three hundred and fifty degrees should do it, Miriam, but don't neglect to baste continuously."



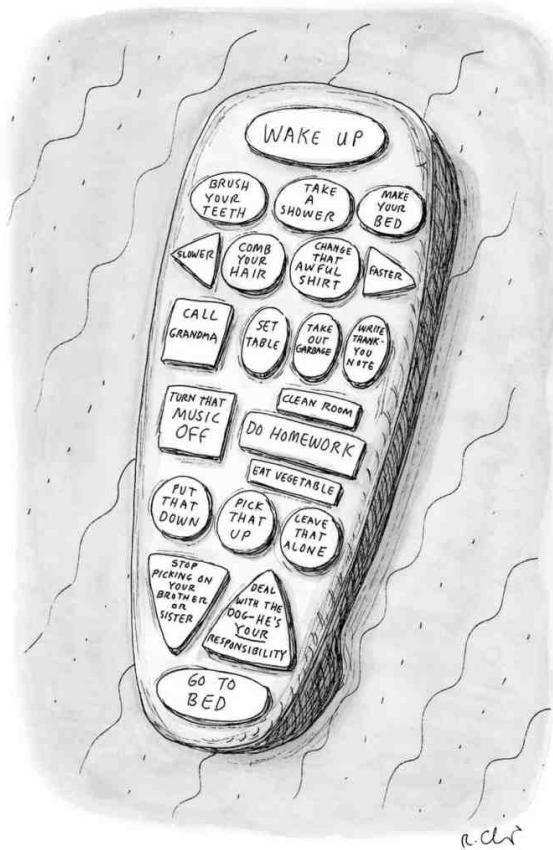
"They're in a statistical dead heat."

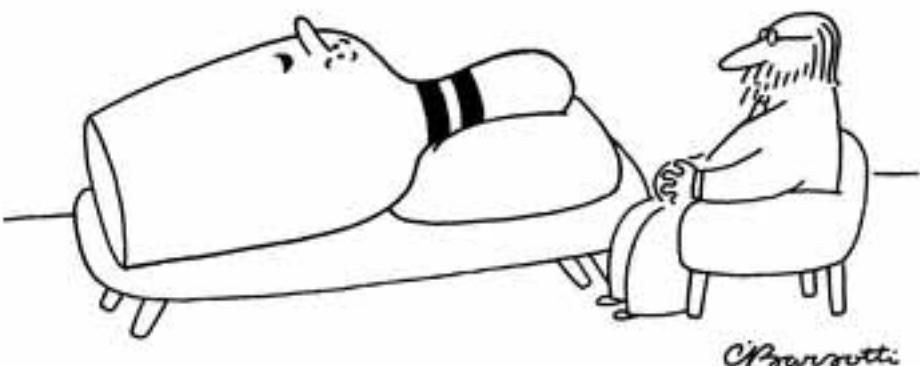


"Derek's sneakers were made in Malaysia. Can anyone show us where Malaysia is?"

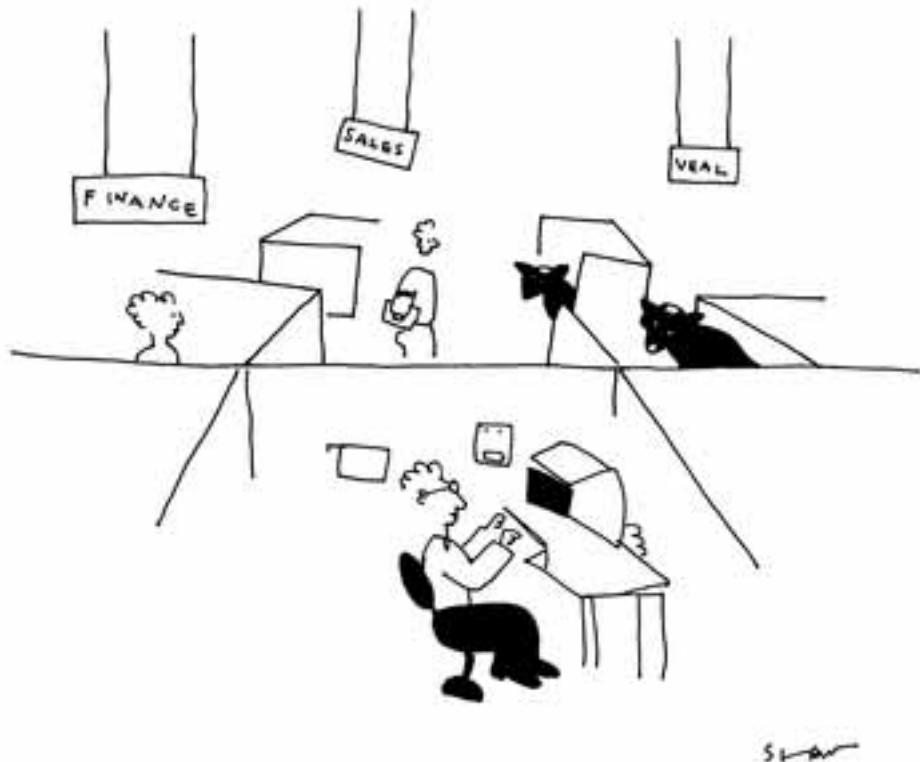


THE DREAM REMOTE



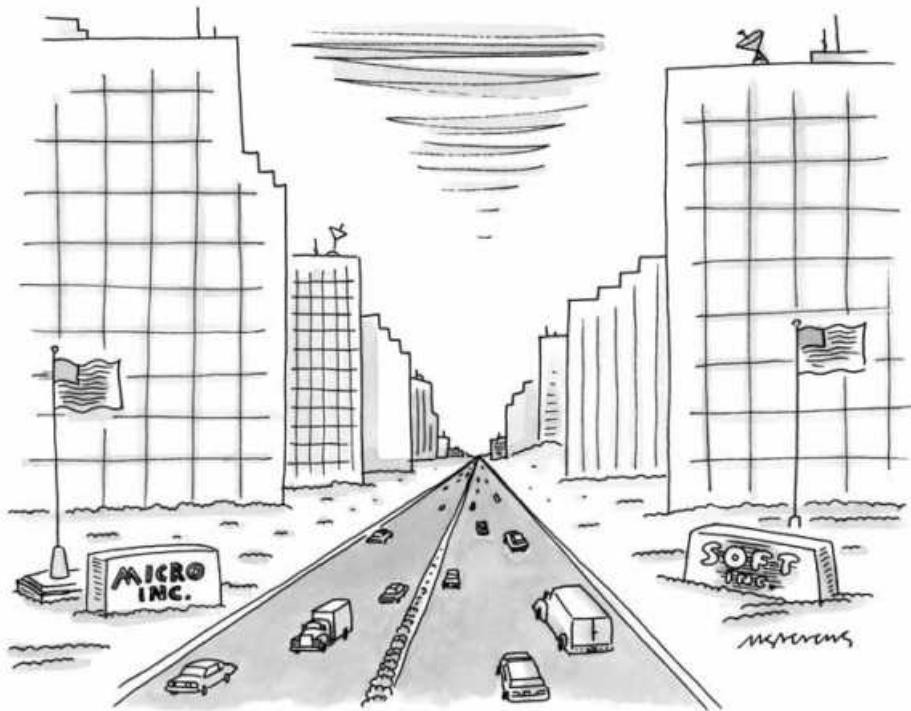


"Why me?"





*"Are you telling me you won't even ask the computerized
navigational system for directions?"*





"We're pretty sure it's the West Nile Virus."



*"Pi what squared? Long John, you should be
able to get this."*



"I honestly don't know what you're waiting for. By the time I was your age, I'd been married twice."





"It's such a nice day I think I'll walk."

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL
INVENTS THE
UNSOLICITED PHONE PITCH



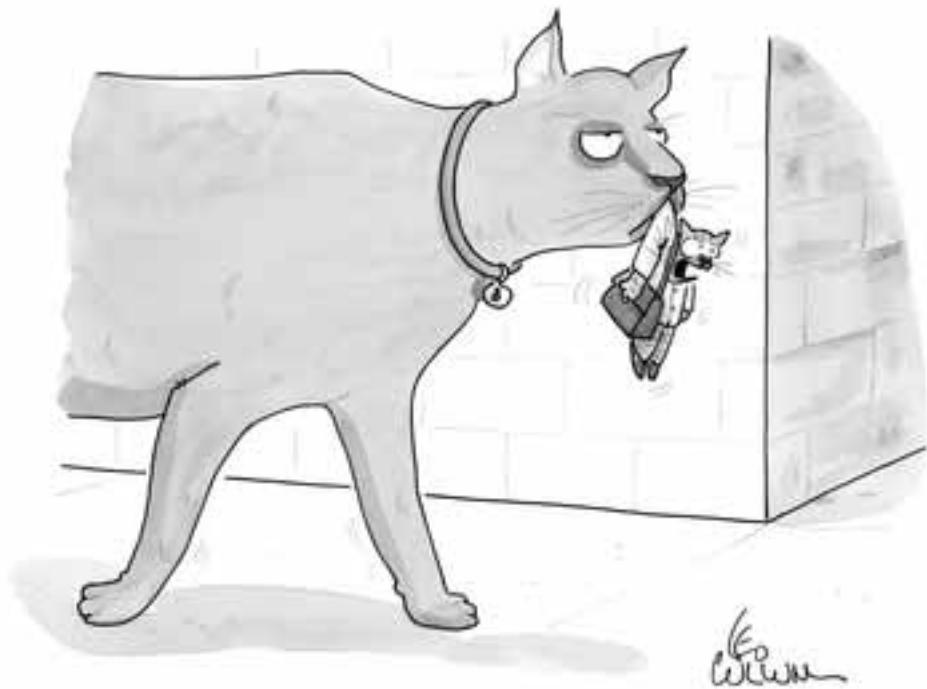
"Mr. Watson, have you ever thought what would happen to your loved ones if you died tomorrow?"



*"I don't know, sweetheart. Perhaps Daddy can
tell us if chickens have souls."*



*"He was doing just fine till he choked on
one of those flexible straws."*



*"This is humiliating. Couldn't you drop me
a block from school?"*



"She's all surgery and he's all pharmacy."



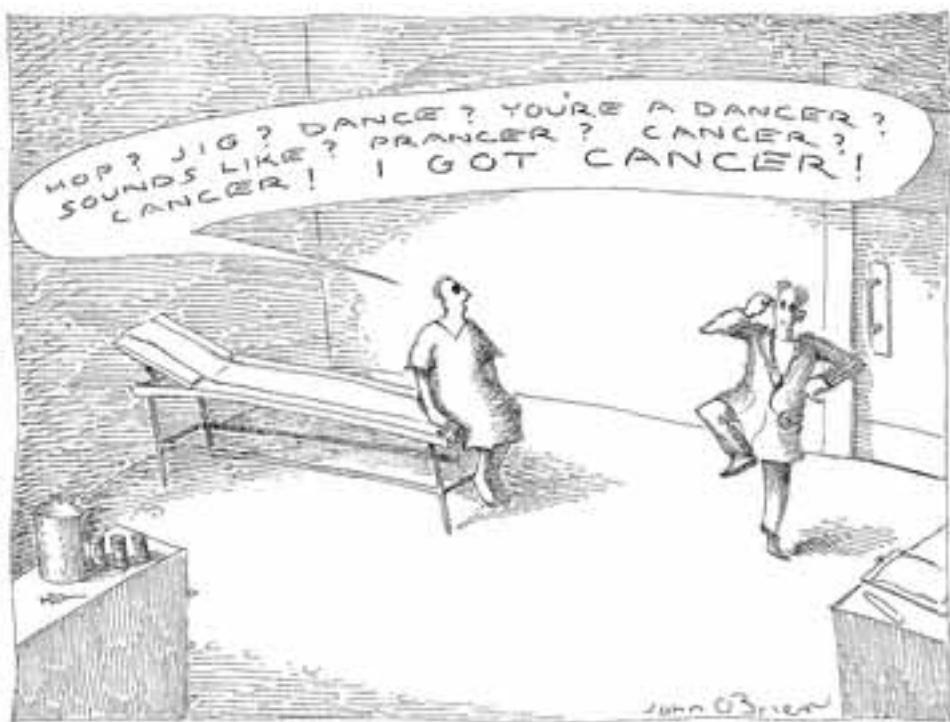
"This is your day, Ma. Let me carry your ammo."

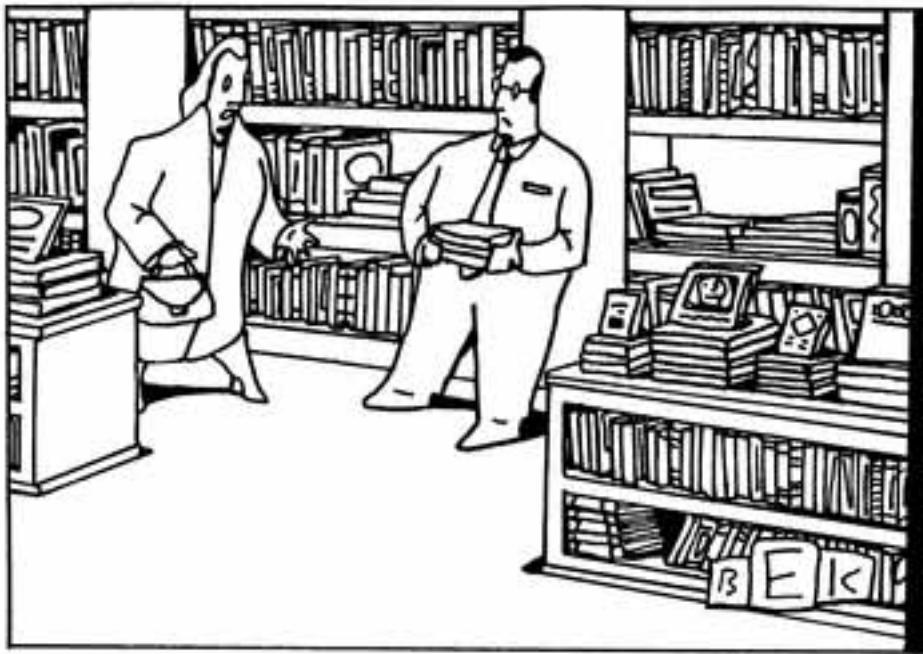


*"Make that a double, and give one to the old bitch
at the end of the bar."*



*"If anyone needs me, I'm on my biscotti break
in Bryant Park, ogling the shirtless losers."*





*"Where's your section of books that tell you simple
things you already know?"*



DONNELLY

*"Your dog has told me so much about you—all
good, I might add."*



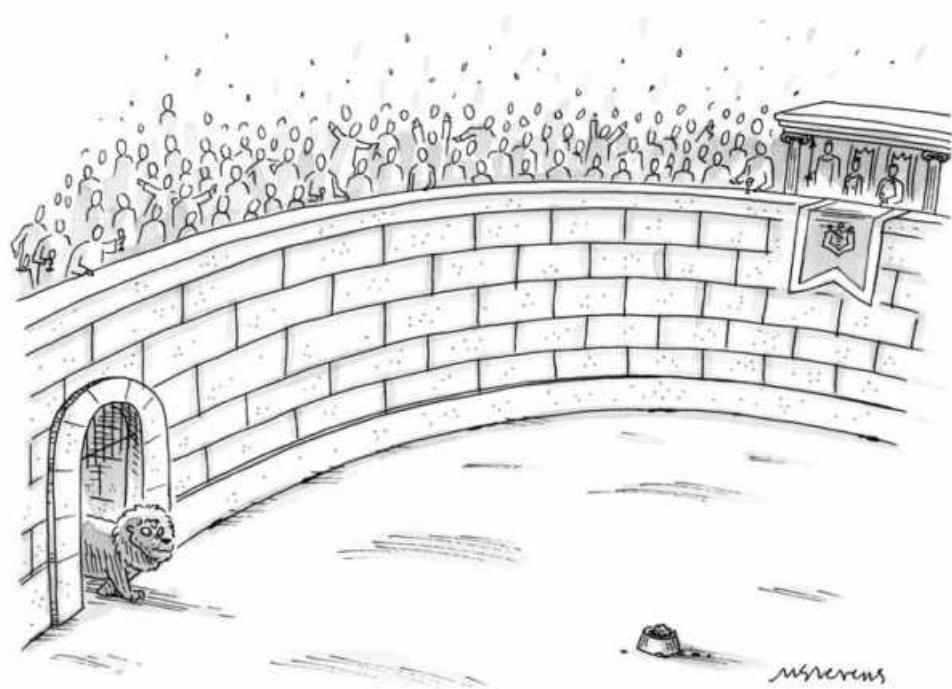
"You may kiss the brides. You may also kiss the concubines, but don't make a big tzimmes about it."

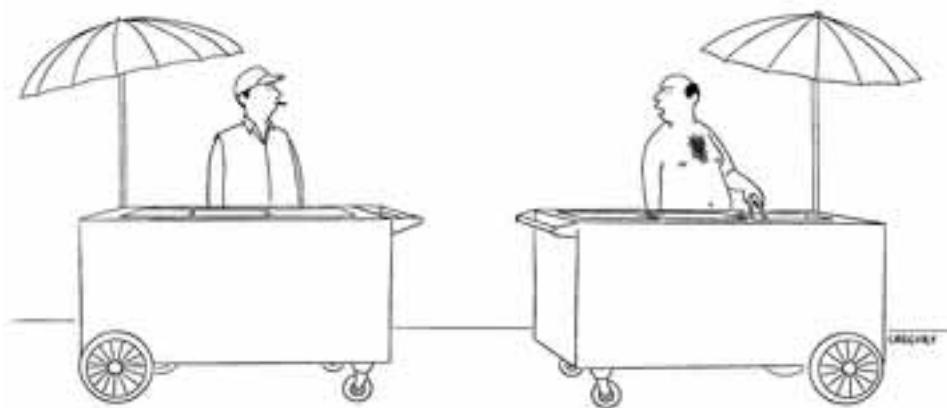
MAMMA MIA!





"Great coffee, honey!"





"Trust me—sex sells."



"That's my best advice to you, Mr. Gilbert. Try not to reject it out of hand simply because it also happens to be Mike Lupica's advice to the Mets."

WAITING FOR GODOT



VLADIMIR ESTRAGON

ACT IX, SCENE IV

VLADIMIR Will you please stop fidgeting?

ESTRAGON When's Godot gonna get here?

VLADIMIR In five minutes.

ESTRAGON You said that five minutes ago.

VLADIMIR Do you want to play Hangman while we wait?

ESTRAGON Hangman's stupid. I hate Hangman.

VLADIMIR How about a game of Twenty Questions?

ESTRAGON I wanna go, like, NOW.VLADIMIR Look: as soon as Godot gets here we'll say hi, and
then I promise I'll take you to Baskin-Robbins. Deal?

ESTRAGON You're on, sister.

Roz Chast





*"Our little girl is growing up—this very morning
she told me she hates me."*



*"Sotheby's extends its deepest sympathies and wonders
whether the deceased might have owned any early
German Expressionist pieces."*





Leo Cullum (5/22/2000)

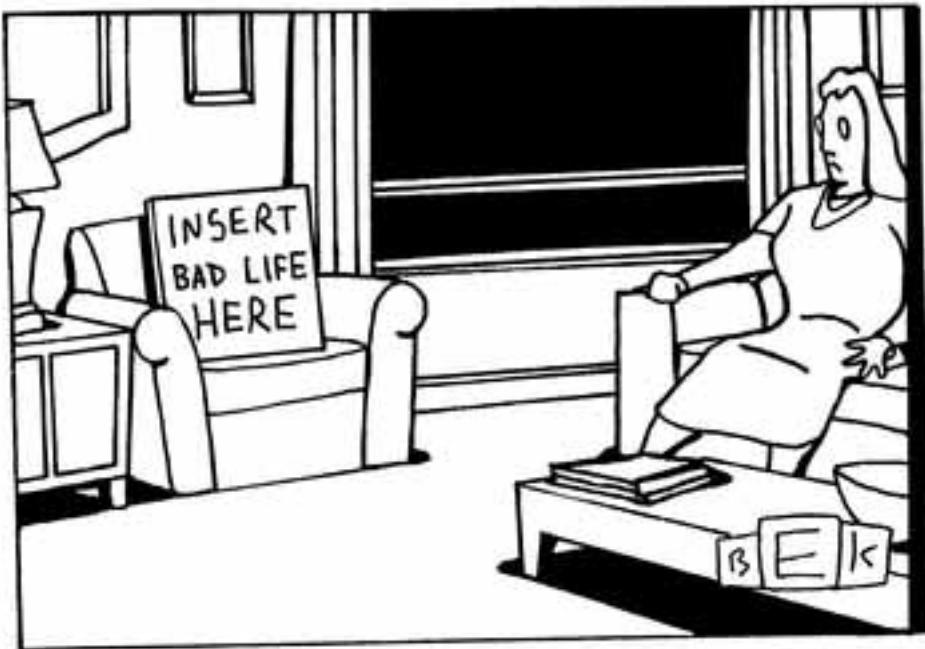
[Return to Main Menu ▶](#)



"Let's do snack."



*"That was a brilliant observation, but it was
poorly phrased."*



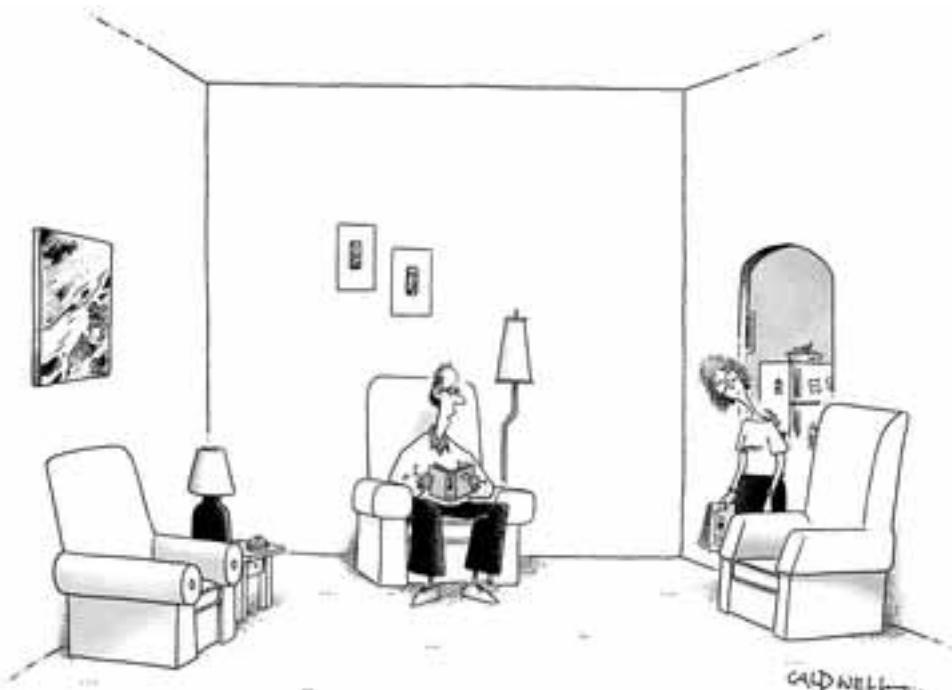




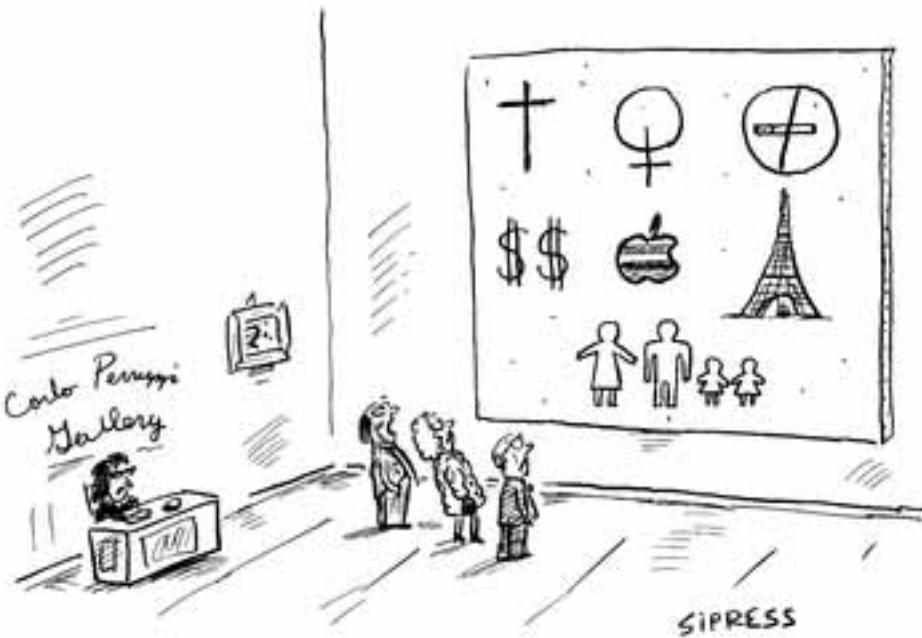
"Don't you think the saucepans are overkill?"



"That's not how we make friends, Howard."



"Over here, Phyllis. I've moved to the center."



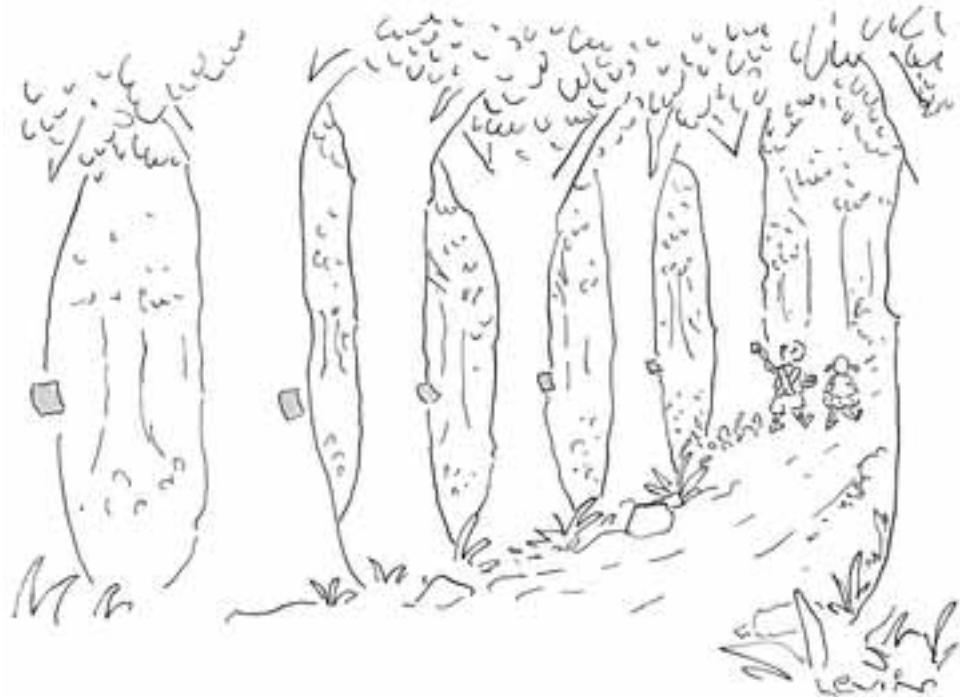
"This artist is a deeply religious feminist and anti-smoking advocate, who made a lot of money in the computer industry before going off to paint in Paris, where she now lives with her husband and two little girls."



*"Snap out of it, Demos! You think you're the
only one who's ever had waiter's block?"*



*"I used to hate my body. Now, instead, I hate the forces
that conspire to make me hate my body."*

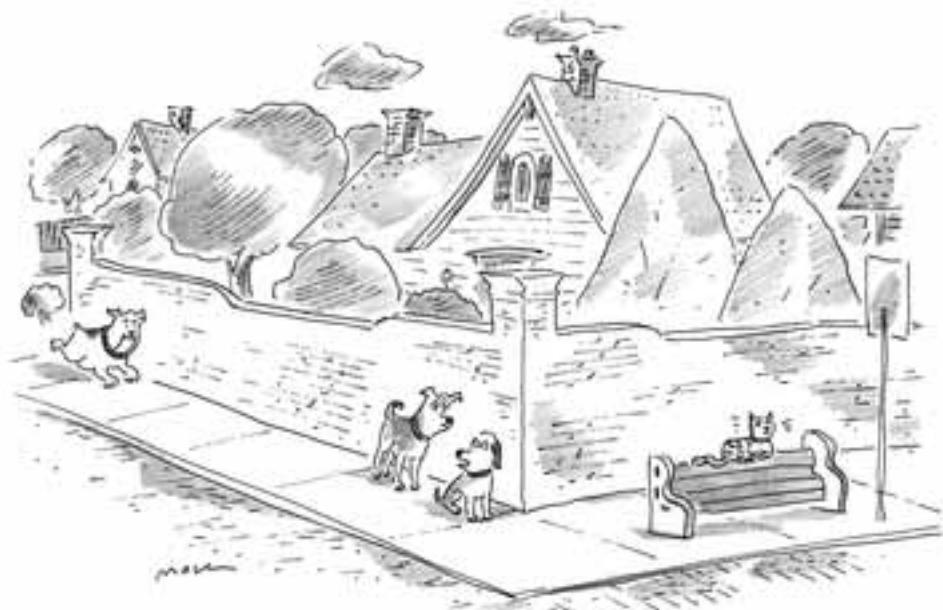




*"I'd have been here sooner if it hadn't been
for early detection."*



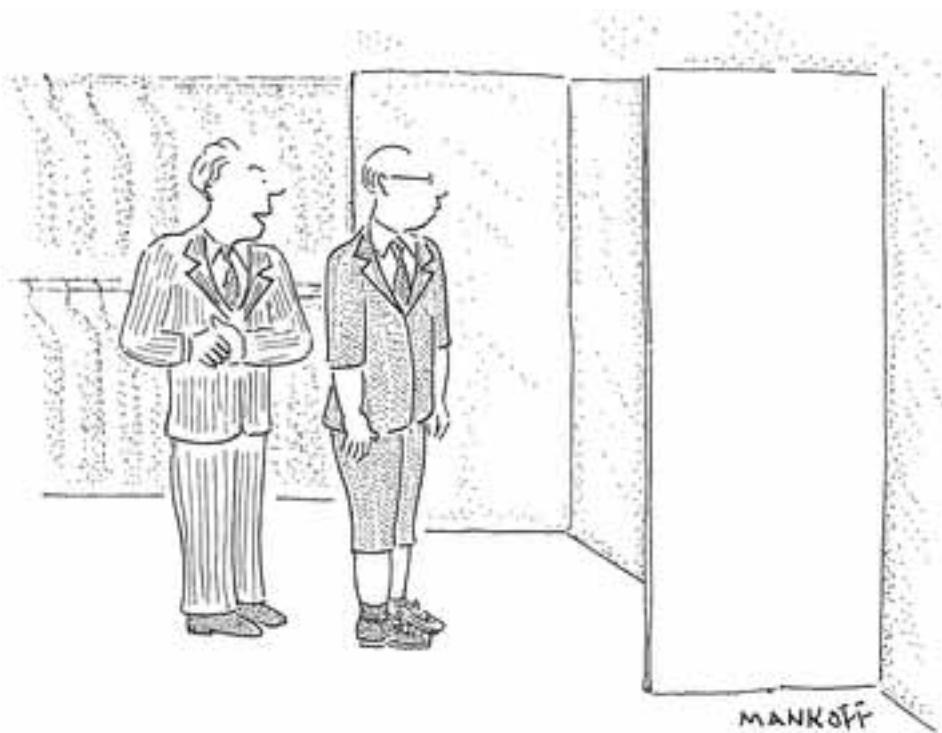
"Rodin? Oh, yeah, great buns."



"Let's just sit tight until we get some backup."



"User name and password?"



"Capri pants, capri jacket—the ideal summer suit."



"It's her first bench-clearing brawl."



“Would it be too much to ask to get a DSL in here?”





"I've forgotten what I want to be remembered for."



"Meritocracy worked for my grandfather, it worked for my father, and it's working for me."

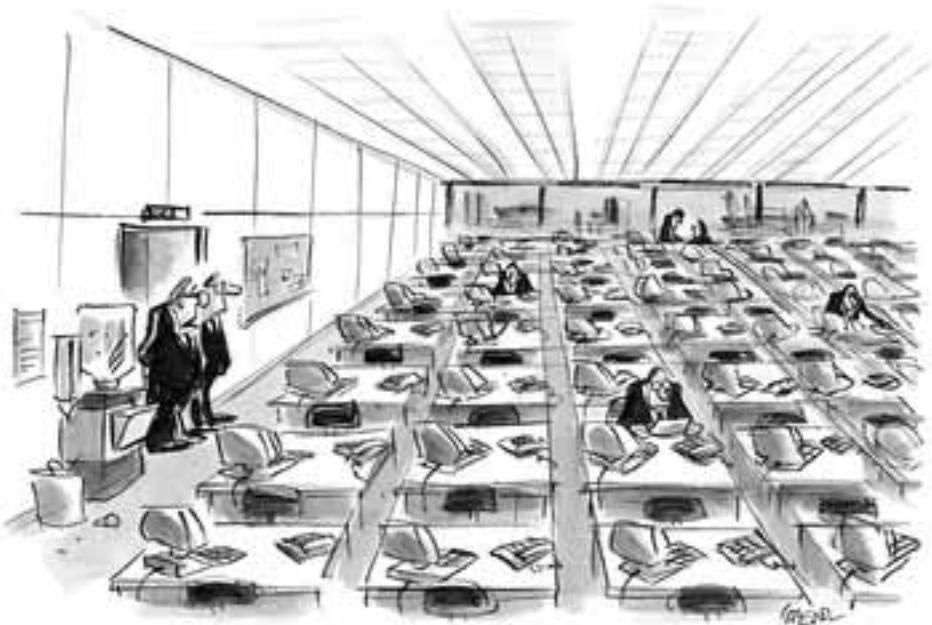


*"Whose level do you want to stoop to
tonight, mine or yours?"*

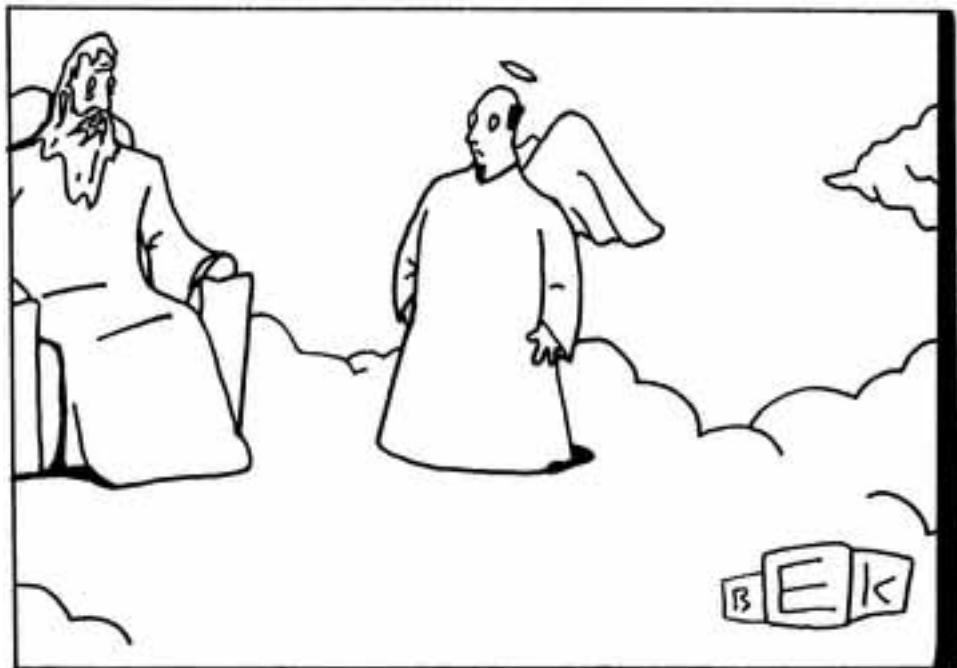




"Good news—a four-letter word for 'earthen pot' is 'olla.' "



“Maybe zero tolerance is setting the bar too high.”



*"This is a little embarrassing to admit, but everything
that happens happens for no real reason."*



*"This judge is known as tough but fair, with
a great sense of humor."*





"I medicate first and ask questions later."



"Little Joey invented the one-click rubout."



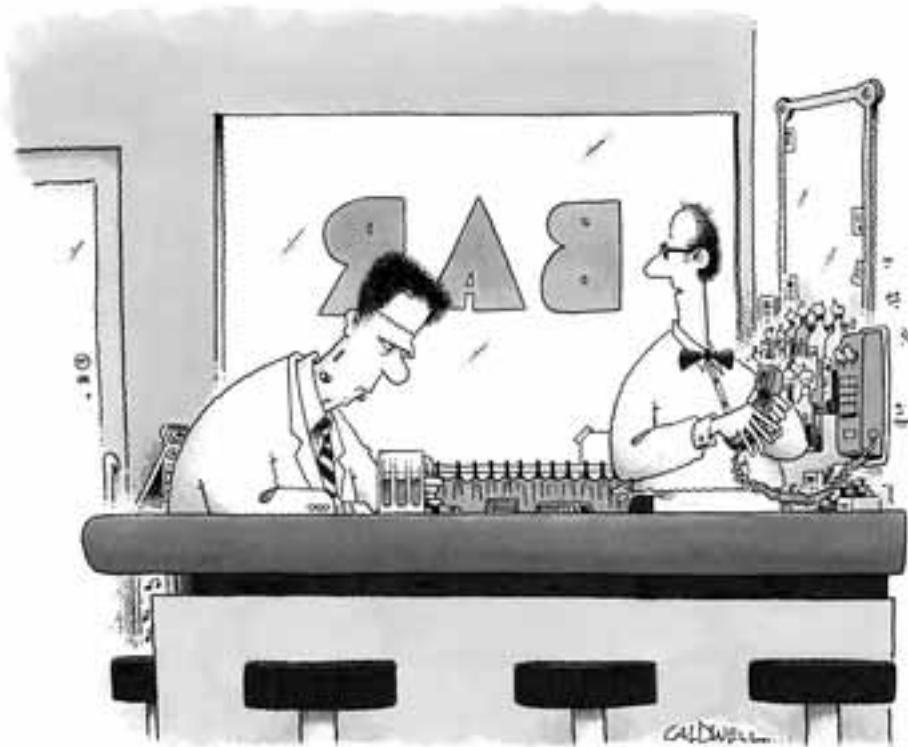
"Oh, I'm so-o-o-o-o-o impressed."



"And just exactly what is that expression intended to convey?"



"I spy with my little eye—something on fire."



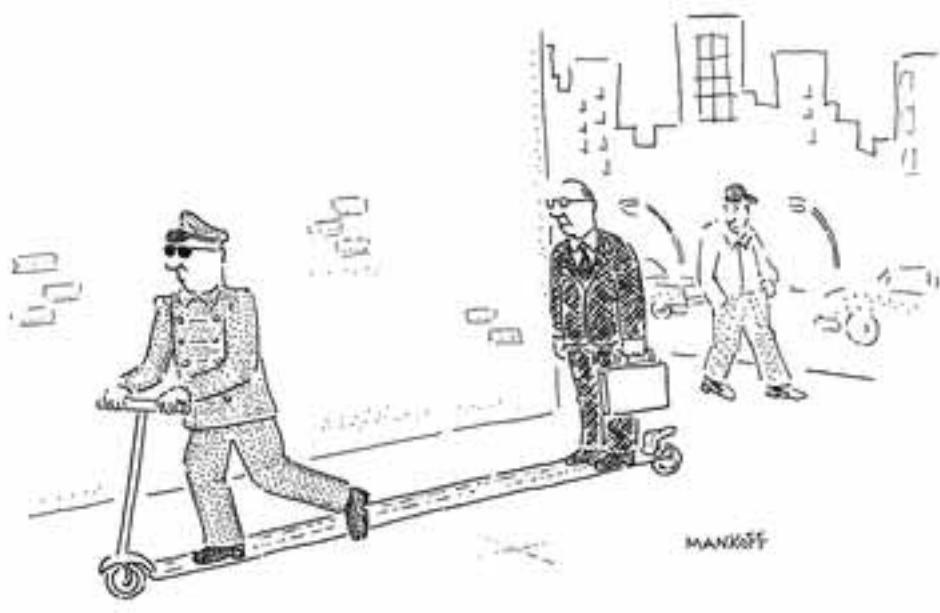
"It's the Bride—are you here?"



"I just don't think a giant flaming blob of alien ectoplasm would say that."



"Hold my calls for a while, Wilson."

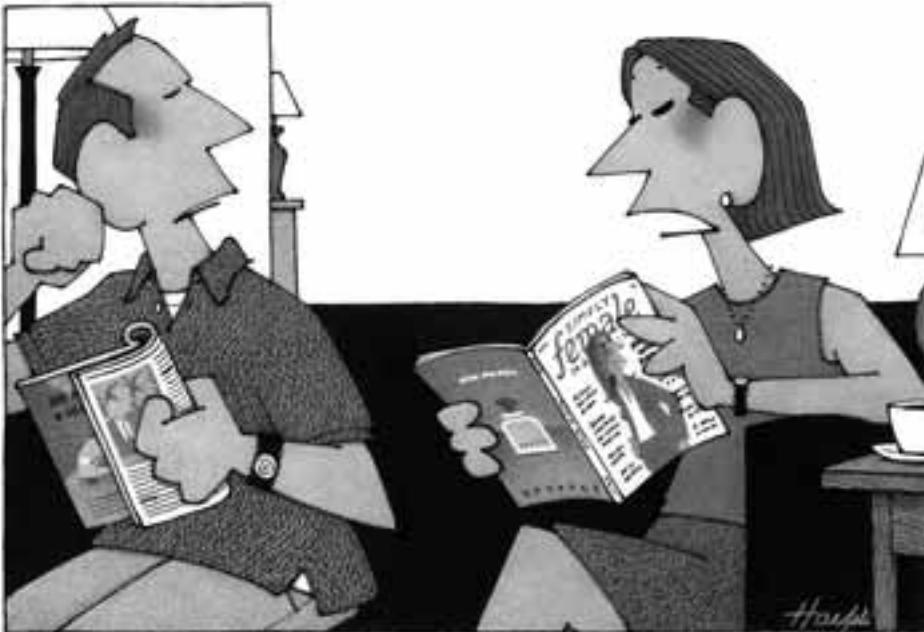




*"Wood-oven-toasted rosemary focaccia
or traditional baguette?"*



*"Your infection may be antibiotic-resistant, but let's see
how it responds to intensive litigation."*



*"There's an article in here that explains why you're
such an idiot."*





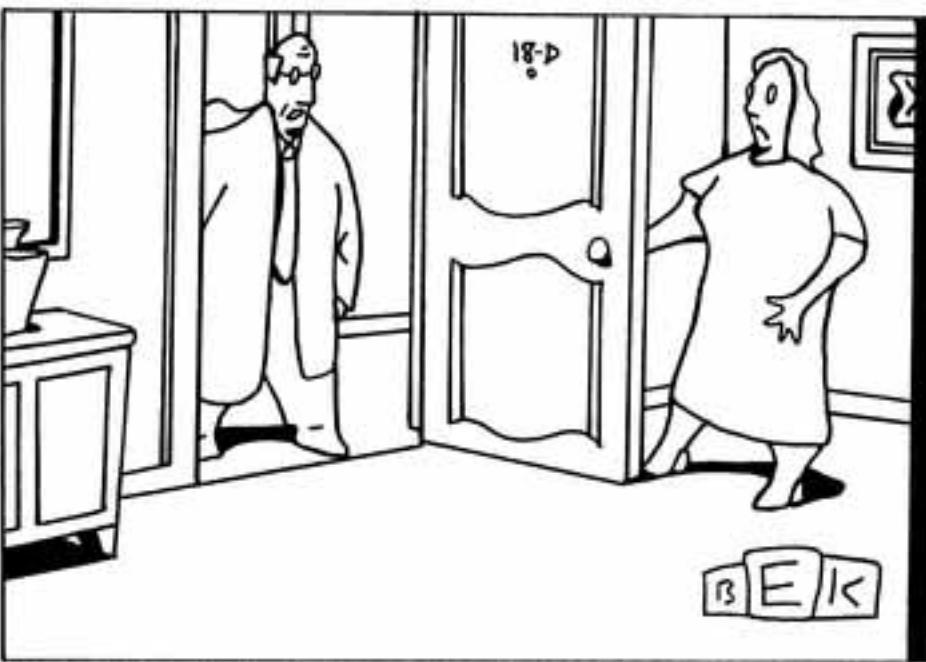
"Good news, honey—seventy is the new fifty."



“But the weather looks great for the rest of the week.”



*"My broker says don't panic, I'm still young
enough to recoup my losses."*



"I'm your most boring nightmare."



"It's getting late, sweetheart. We should probably think about heading back to the Arctic Circle."



"Why don't you go back to your house for dessert and coffee?"

THE THREE GRACES



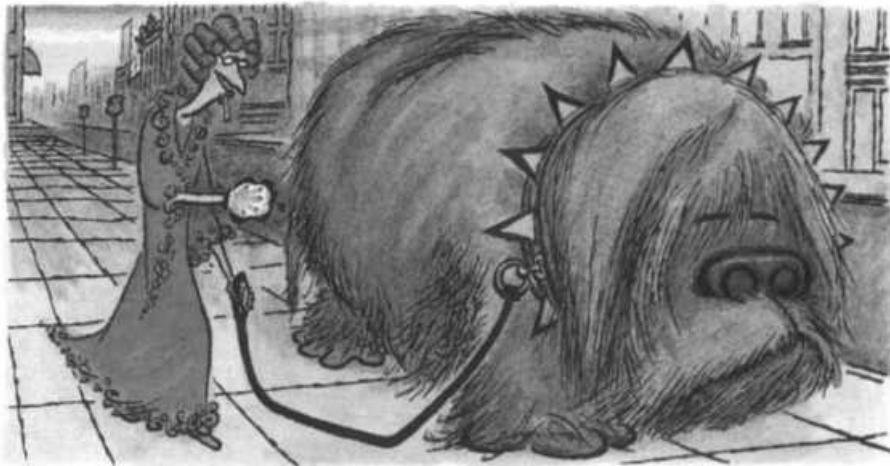


"And I'll have that lightly sedated, please."

ANIMAL CITY (1 OF 5)



ANIMAL CITY (2 OF 5)



ANIMAL CITY (3 OF 5)



ANIMAL CITY (4 OF 5)



ANIMAL CITY (5 OF 5)





"Look, call it denial if you like, but I think what goes on in my personal life is none of my own damn business."





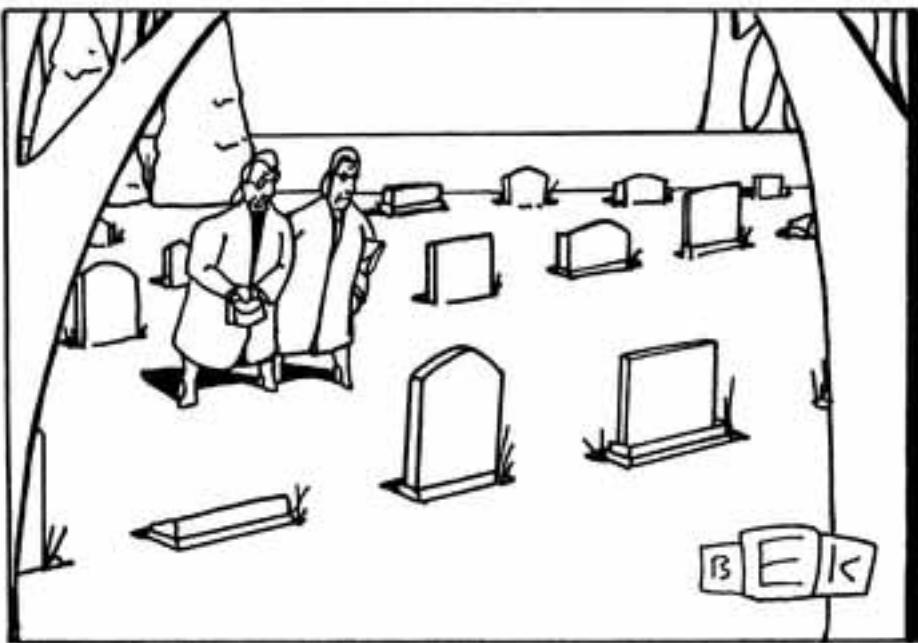
"It's Doris Kearns Goodwin. Is there anything we'd like to know about the Presidency?"



"I use broccoli rabe as a litmus test."



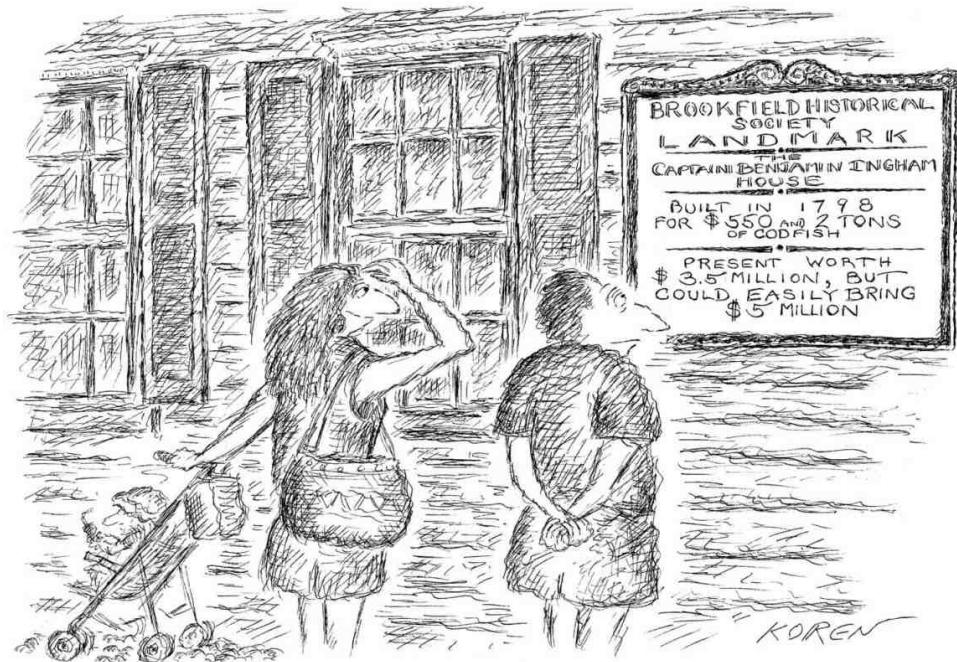
"When I grow up, I want to work with the affluent."



"He did it my way."



"You just self-deprecated yourself right out of a job."





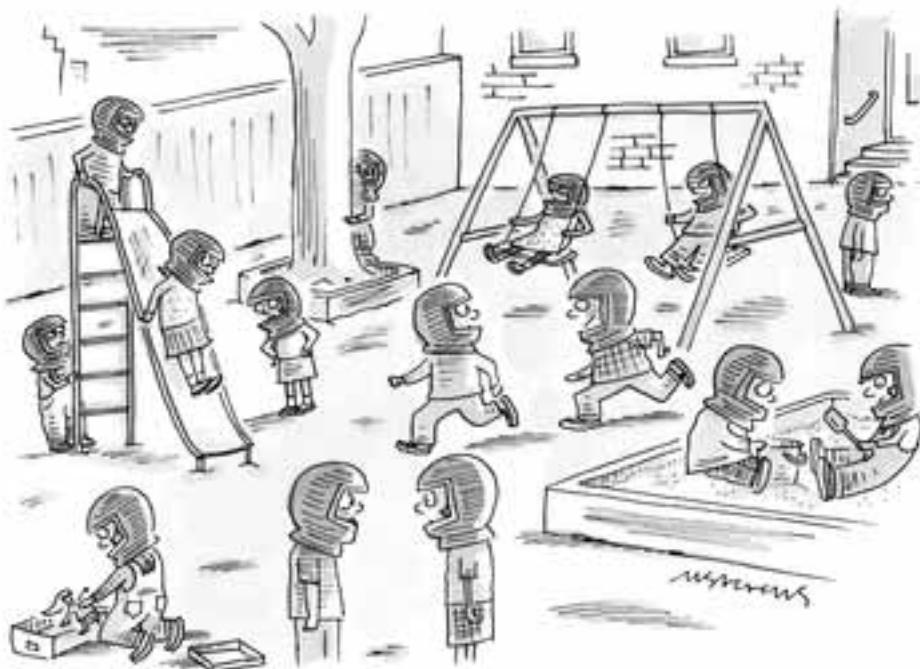
"Sure, we can have dinner. But only if your breasts sign a non-compete clause."



"The only solution I can see is to hold a series of long and costly hearings in order to put off finding a solution."



"He's playing very hard to get—he's got a restraining order."



"I liked recess a lot better before the safety helmets."

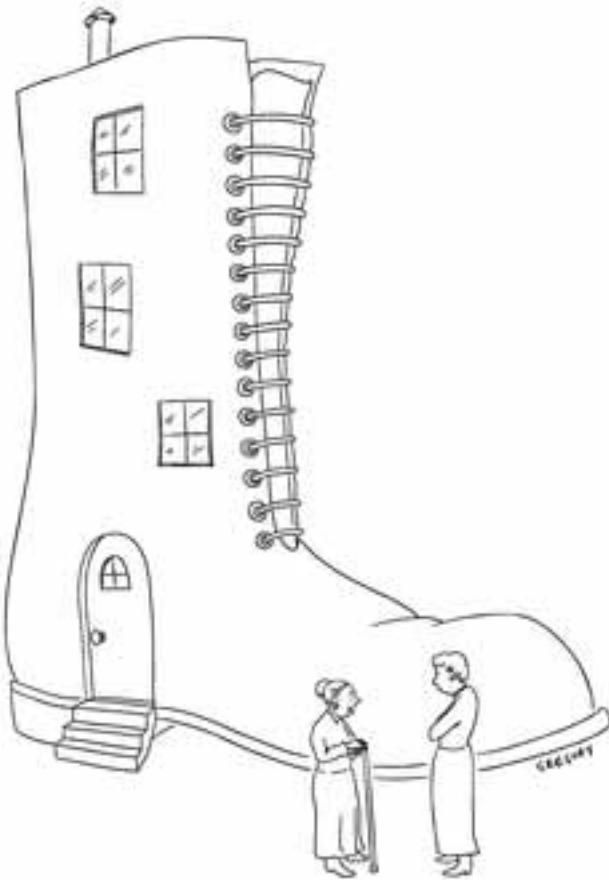




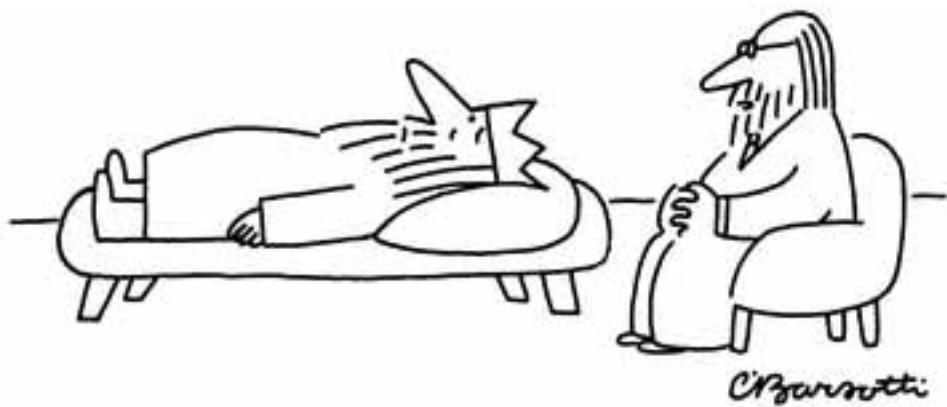
*"Thursdays and Saturdays, it's glassblowing, Mondays
and Wednesdays it's Morris dancing!"*



*"Are we looking more for target shooting,
or, like, closure?"*



"Once, I tried to change the laces, and the Landmarks Commission came down on me like a ton of bricks."



"Enemies, yes, but doesn't your moat also keep out love?"

COMING SOONER THAN YOU THINK



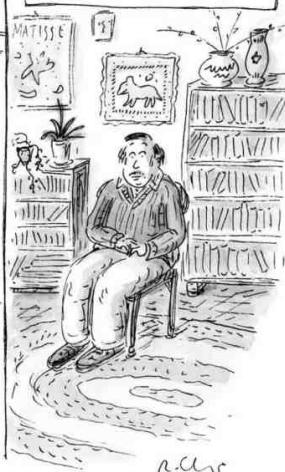
PUBLIC TV'S "REALITY" SHOWS

Modern Dance Bloopers



When Good Mathematicians

Go Bad

Who Wants to Marry a
College Graduate with
a Liberal Arts Degree?

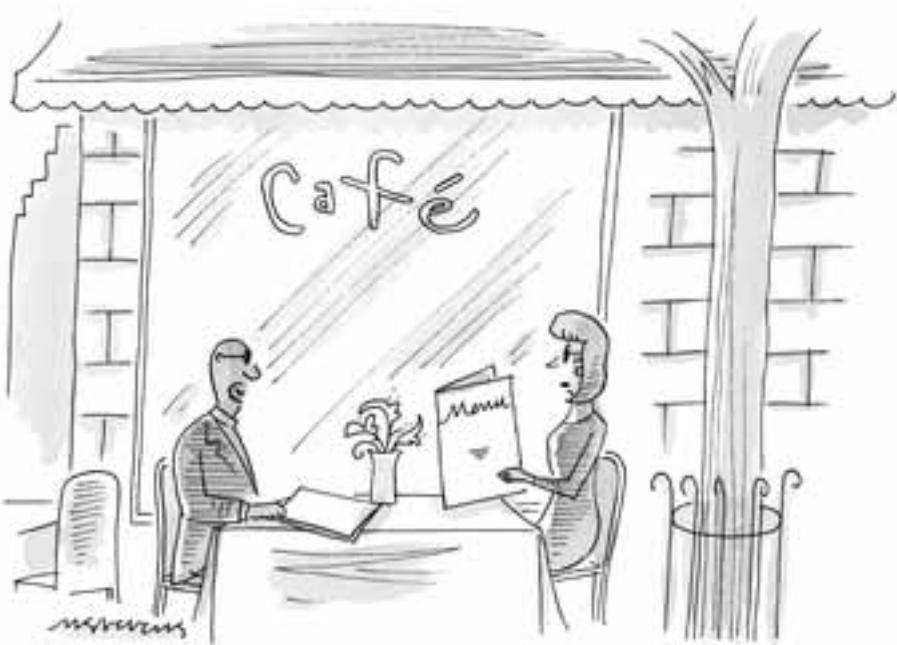
R.C.Chast



"It's just Mayor Giuliani asking us to have a nice day."



"She's got money and he's a 'poet.'"



"Tell me what you think of the menu. I wrote it."



"He's just doing that to get attention."



*"My goal is to die before there's a technology breakthrough
that forces me to live to a hundred and thirty."*



*"I'm confused now. Was Shakespeare somebody else
or was somebody else Shakespeare?"*



*"Mommy, Becky says she's not going to put me
in her memoirs!"*





“Fine, but until you chop off my head you will do what I say.”

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS





*"I never should have tried to take my accounting
to the next level."*

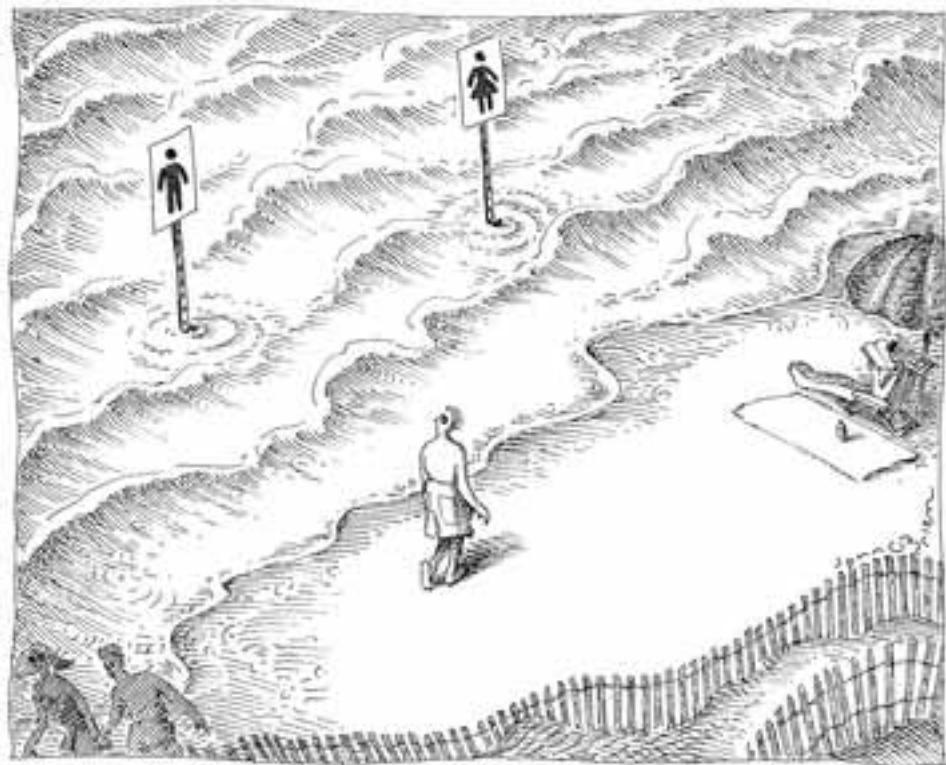




*"I've been hearing nothing but good
things about you."*



"Your book stinks—we want to publish it."





"We're working on reading readiness."



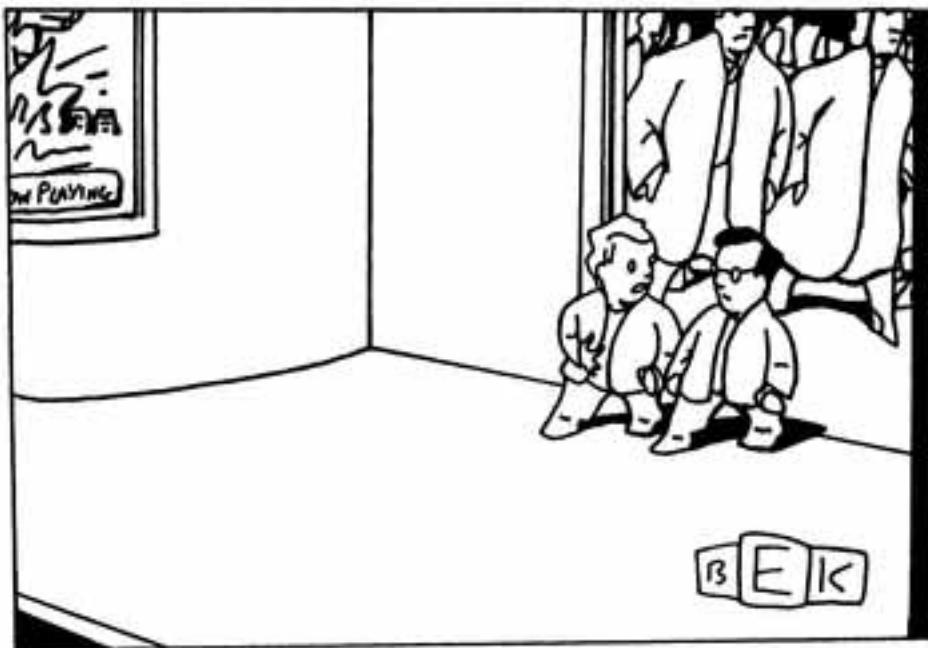
"Copywriting is too 'writing.' "



"You tell him that you find the flag offensive."



*"I want to get married and start a family with you—
although God knows who I'll want to finish it with."*



"I thought it had a lot to say about evil villains who want to take over the world."



*"First, they take my domain, then they take
my domain name."*



*"Lucy tells me you're a writer. I'm no stranger
to self-delusion myself."*

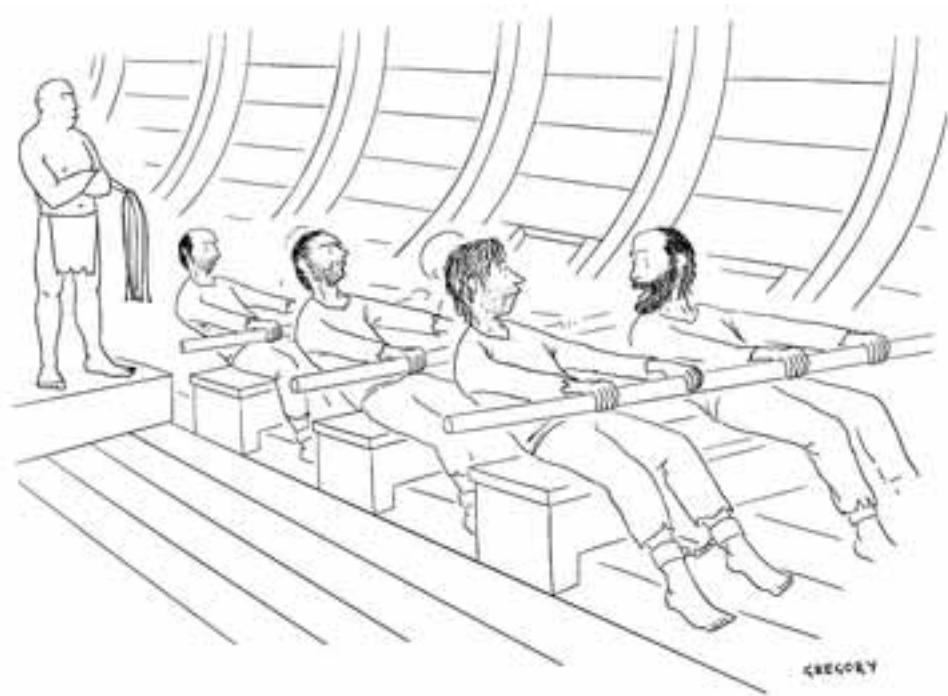


"Oh, goody. More reality-based crap."





"You might want to do a rubber-glove count."



"Gruelling as this is, it's not a total-body workout."



*"Getting U.S.D.A. approval means a lot
to you, doesn't it?"*



"I don't know why. I just suddenly felt like calling."



"Go ahead. Press one for more options."



"What ever will we think about now that the genome project is almost complete?"



"What did people do before they could read about the same handful of famous people over and over again?"

2000
EXTREMELY PRACTICAL JOKES

Joy of Health Buzzer

Ask to shake someone's hand. If the person's cholesterol is too high, the device will buzz. A real lifesaver.



Whoopee Posture Cushion

Think about it: why would you say "WHOOPEE!" if you sat on a pillow that made an embarrassing noise?



Trick Vitamin Gum

Tastes just like ordinary gum ~ but it's packed with vitamins!



Dental X-Ray Specs

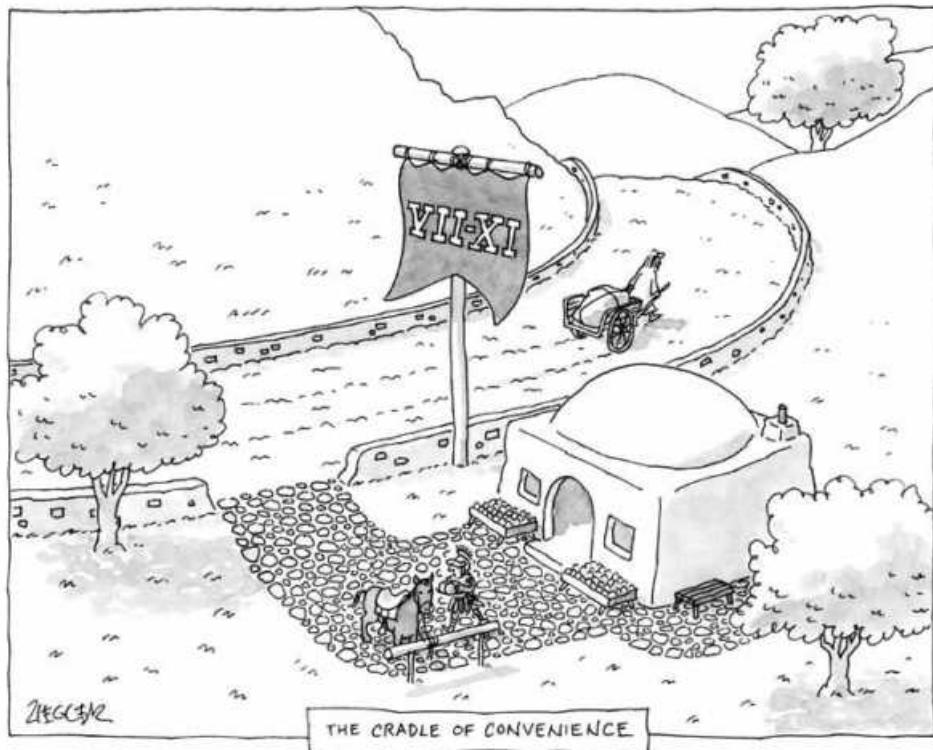
A moment's laughter? Or eternal gratitude? It's your choice.



R. Chast



"Turn over and I'll do your back."





"Here they come: Detox and Botox."



*"My doctor says you should be drawing more fruits
and vegetables."*



"I understand the Everest climb used to be quite a chore."



"Yes, sir, fat free—straight from the gym."





"We think it has something to do with your genome."



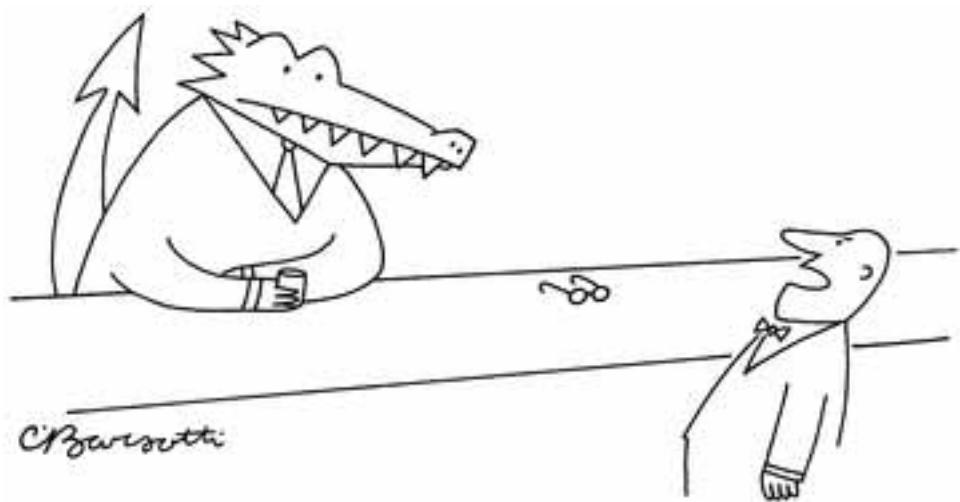
*"Just tell him, in the words of Mike Tyson, I want his heart,
I want to eat his children. He'll take the call."*



*"All right, so I missed your soccer game. But didn't my
assistant send you a lovely fruit basket?"*



"I hardly think you'll warrant an invitation-only funeral."



“Damn it, he was a regular.”



"Know what I think?"

"Of course."



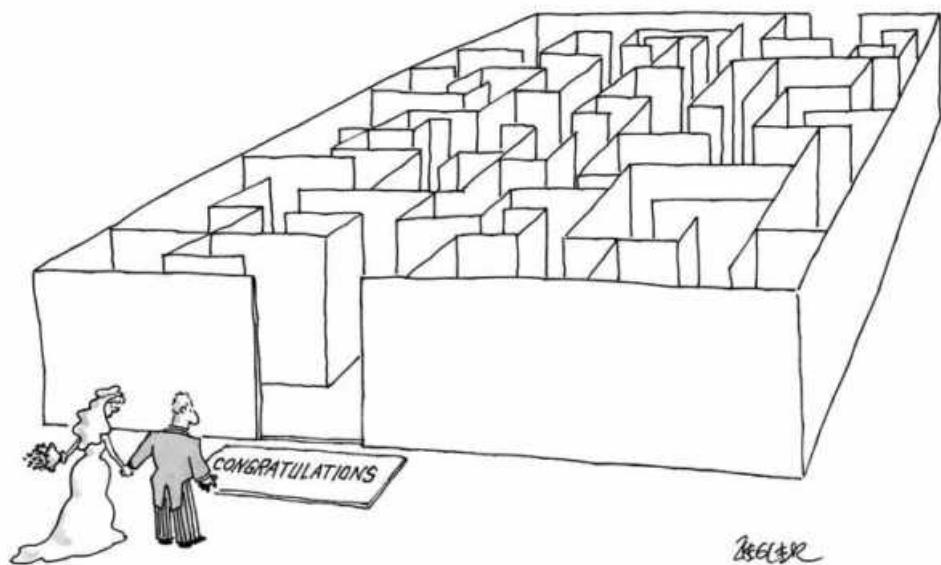
*"Hey, Johnny—am I nuts, or does this have
a hint of oak?"*

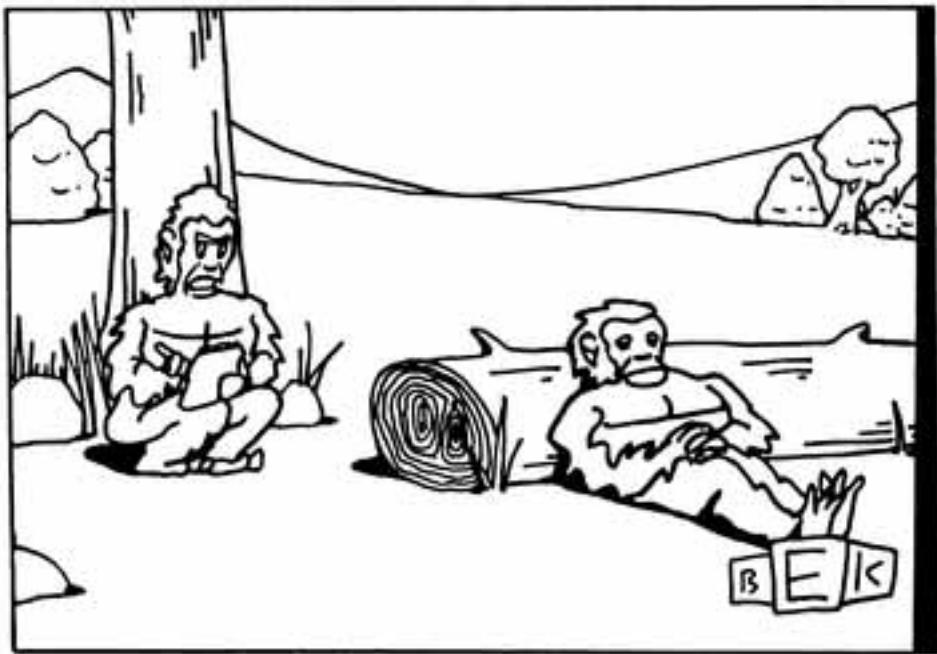


"You will run away from the circus and join a dot-com."



"Yes, he does speak, but only on condition of anonymity."





"Monkey see, monkey overanalyze."





"Stroll down it alone—I'll wait here."



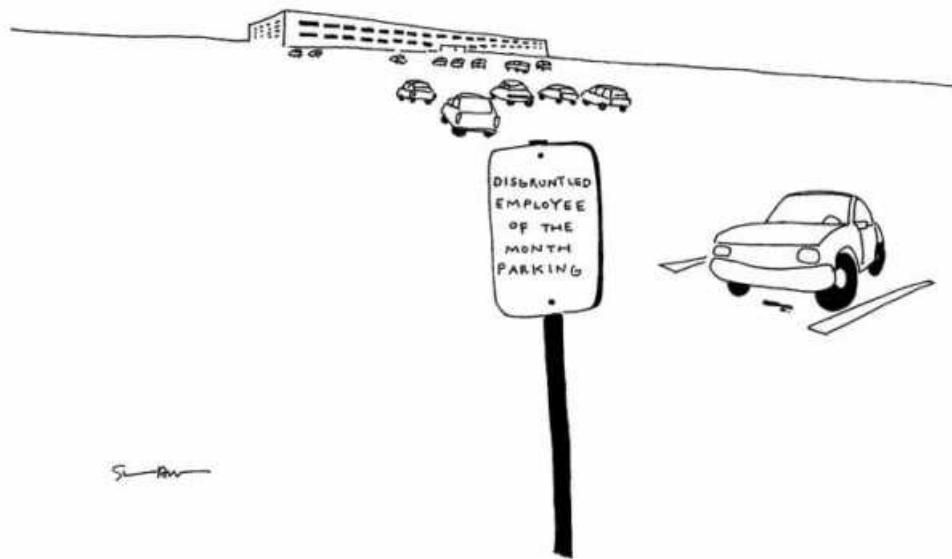
"I can't help feeling a little suspicious. One half is to be run by Bill Gates, and the other half by someone called Gil Bates."



"And if things don't work out in the big city, Cindy, you can always come back home to me and Mom and our nightmare descent into booze and pills."



*"No, we're not getting any younger, but why, pray tell,
is that such a revelation to us?"*



Michael Shaw



"You're the perfect storm . . . in a teacup."



"I'm cutting you off."



*"If it were my car, I'd disconnect it from the battery recharger,
take it home, and let it die in its own garage."*





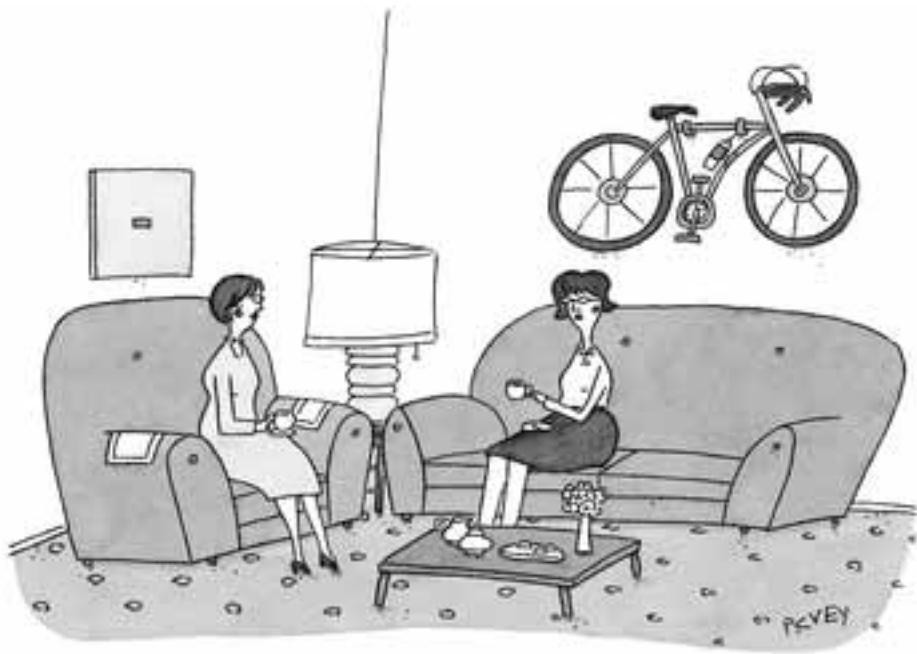
"Totally naked except for my socks. How 'bout yourself?"



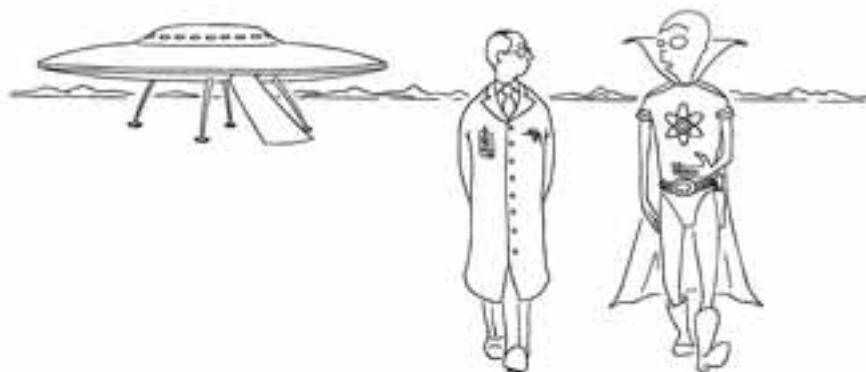
"Oh, how I long for the days when you could flip someone the bird and live to tell about it."



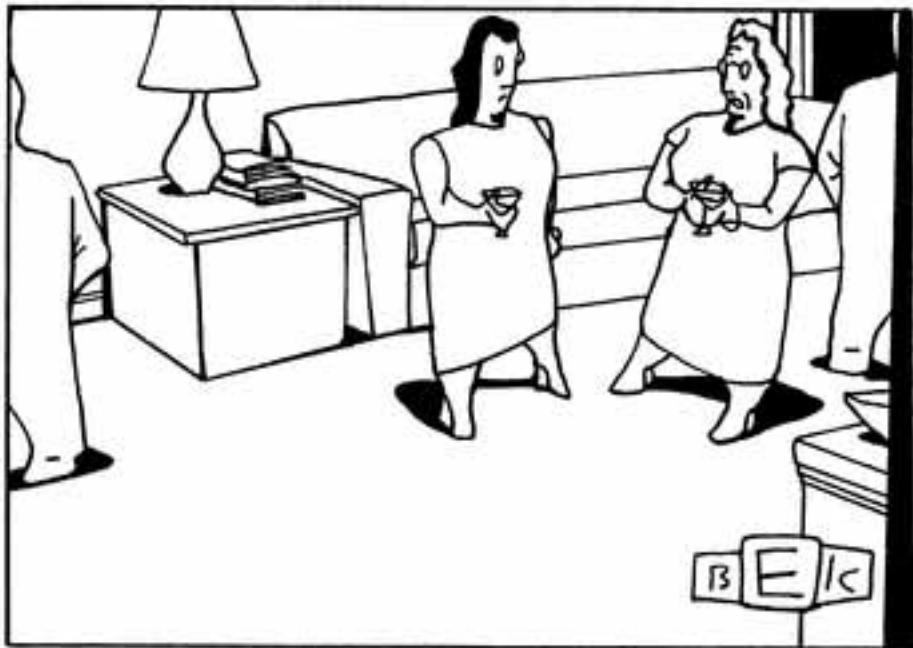
"It's part of His new diversity program."



"Howard's gone on the Tour de France without his bicycle again."



"Our civilization is thousands of years more advanced than yours, yet still sort of kitschy."



*"I like his earlier work better, particularly the ones I said
I didn't like at the time."*



"My seven-year-old is a prince, but my forty-seven-year-old is a pain in the ass."





"They tell me you're a nincompoop, Henderson, but you certainly do know how to maintain a crease."



*“Lisa, bring out the Alistair Cheng files and an iced
mochaccino, if you will, please.”*



*"Ask the judge whether we can find the defendant
not guilty and still execute him."*



"Two?"



"But I'm not here to talk about bowling."

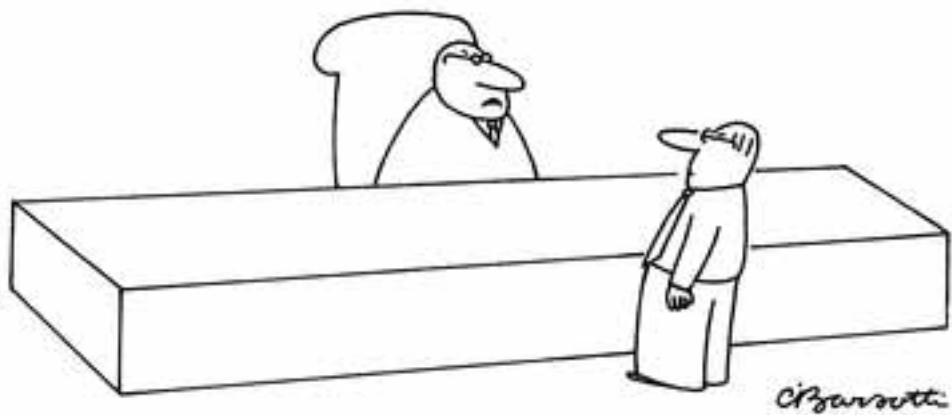


"Mr. Tilson will suffer you gladly now."



*"What would I do differently if you had
my life to live over again?"*





"Life isn't fair, Cosgrove. Now bring me your wife."



"The editor who turned down the first Harry Potter book, say hello to the publisher who took a pass on Stephen King."



"And me without my bear spray!"



"I was reading somewhere that people are stupid."



"This is the perfect choice for whatever you're perpetrating."



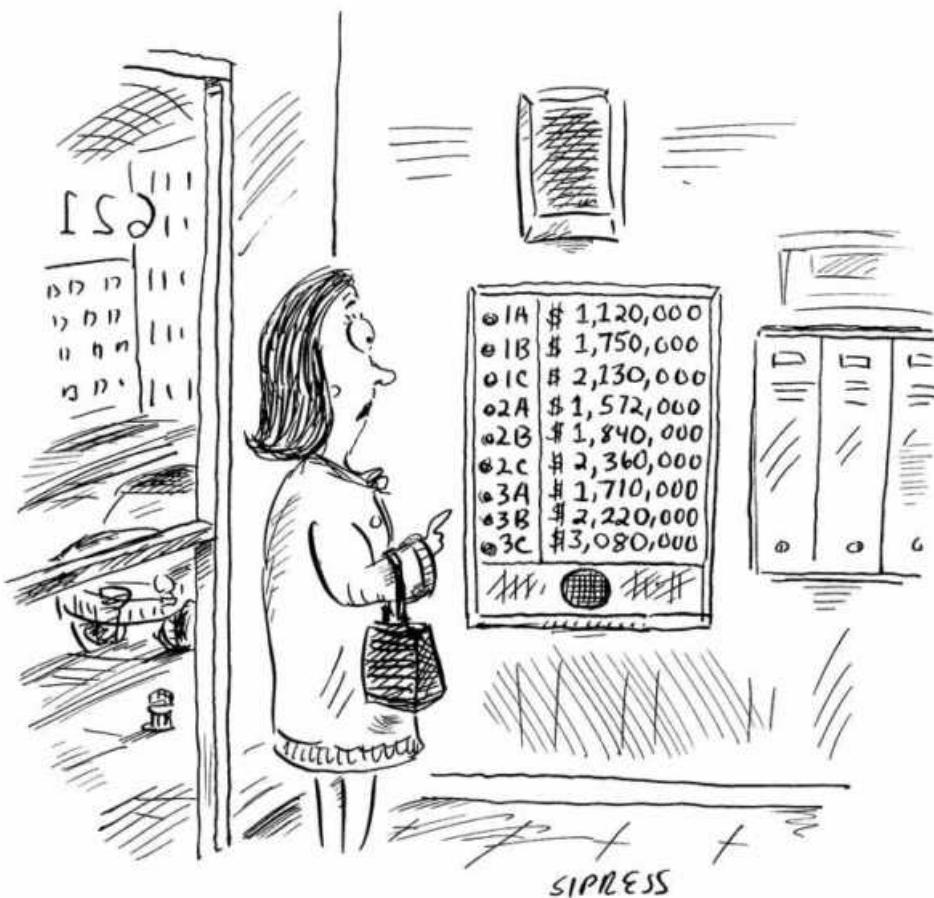
*"It's very important that you try very, very hard to
remember where you electronically transferred
Mommy and Daddy's assets."*



"I couldn't agree more—but, then again, I hate even non-lethal injections."



"Frank! Frank, honey, wake up! Your lamp—it's humongous!"





“Mrs. Jennings, can Billy come out and smoke?”



*"I don't bug you about your catnip. Don't bug
me about my Martinis."*



*"He didn't want to end it, so I told him
I wanted to get married."*



*"I say it's genetically altered, and I
say the hell with it."*



*"One of us has to draw the line somewhere, and
I draw the line at mall sushi."*



"If only legginess were based on circumference."



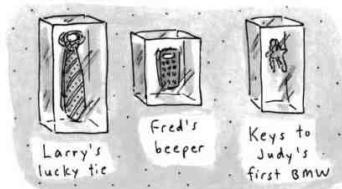
"I think it was an election year."

= INTRODUCING =
THE BUSINESS CAFÉ

THE ONLY HIGH-FINANCE THEME RESTAURANT
 STARTED BY THREE TOP MOGULS.



Eat a delicious meal surrounded by memorabilia donated by various business leaders!



Help yourself to any of our motivational tapes or books - so you can eat and maintain your edge!

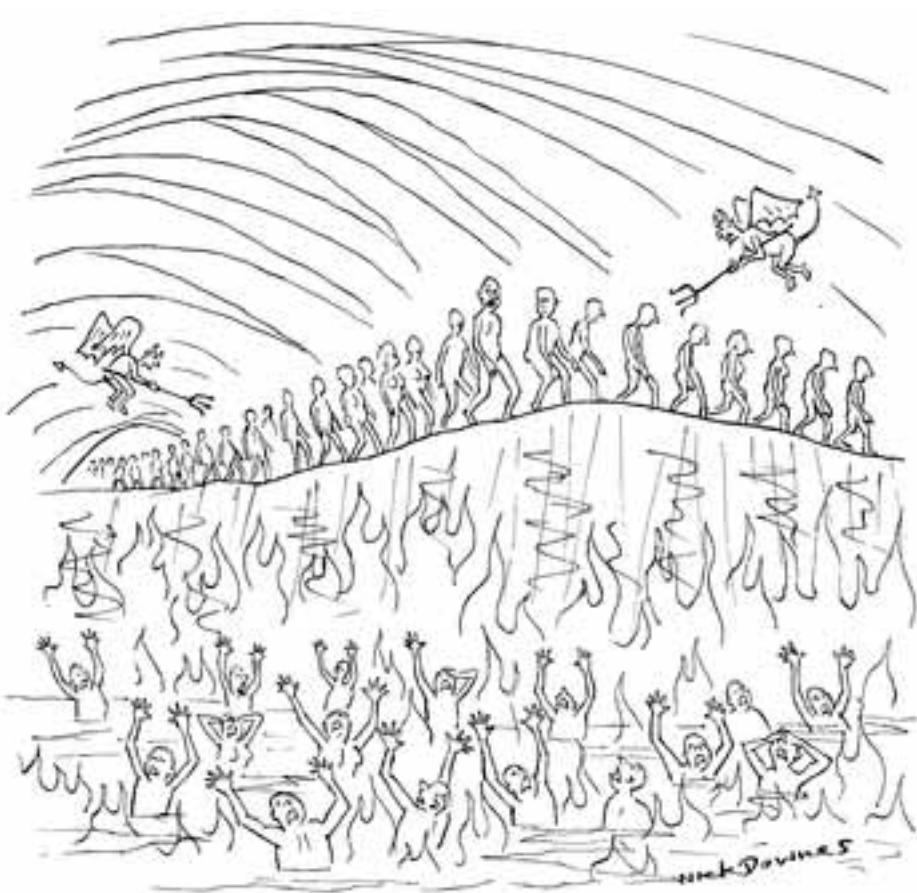


Enjoy the attentions of our specially trained staff - all *summa cum laude* graduates of the nation's top business schools!



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"They're the lucky ones. We're headed for telemarketing."

NEW MASTER PAINTING (1 OF 6)



"The Oaths of the Venture Capitalists"

NEW MASTER PAINTING (2 OF 6)



"Madonno and Child"

NEW MASTER PAINTING (3 OF 6)



"Annunciation"

NEW MASTER PAINTING (4 OF 6)



*"A P.R. Intern Named Salome with the
Head Shot of John the Client"*

NEW MASTER PAINTING (5 OF 6)



"Portrait of a Lady"

NEW MASTER PAINTING (6 OF 6)



"Susanna Explaining Broadband to the Elders"



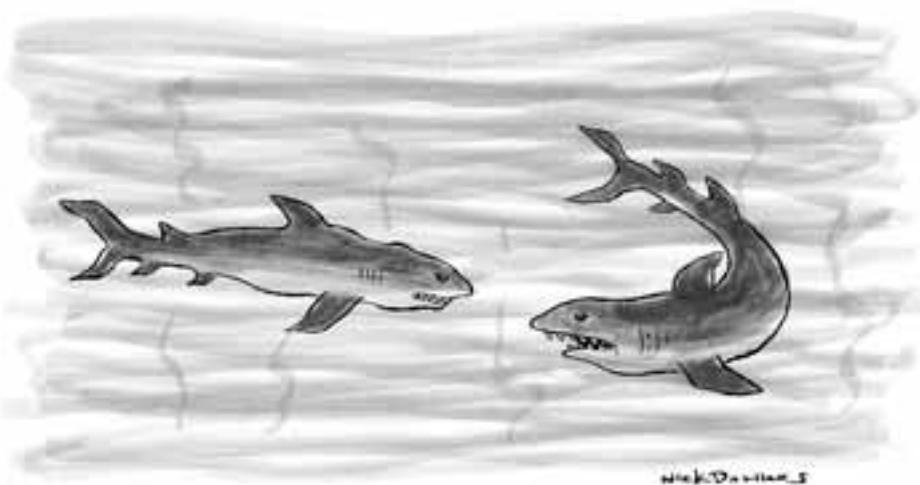
*"And my lawyer says we have a hell of a case
against La-Z-Boy."*



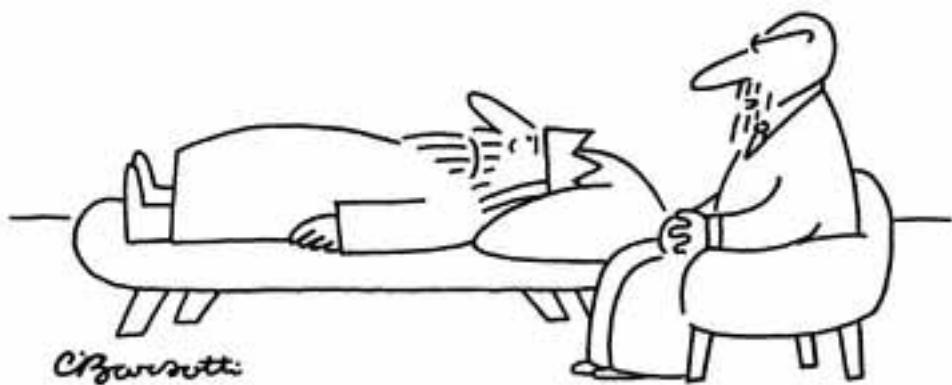
*"Exactly what is this 'nothing' I've been hearing
so much about?"*



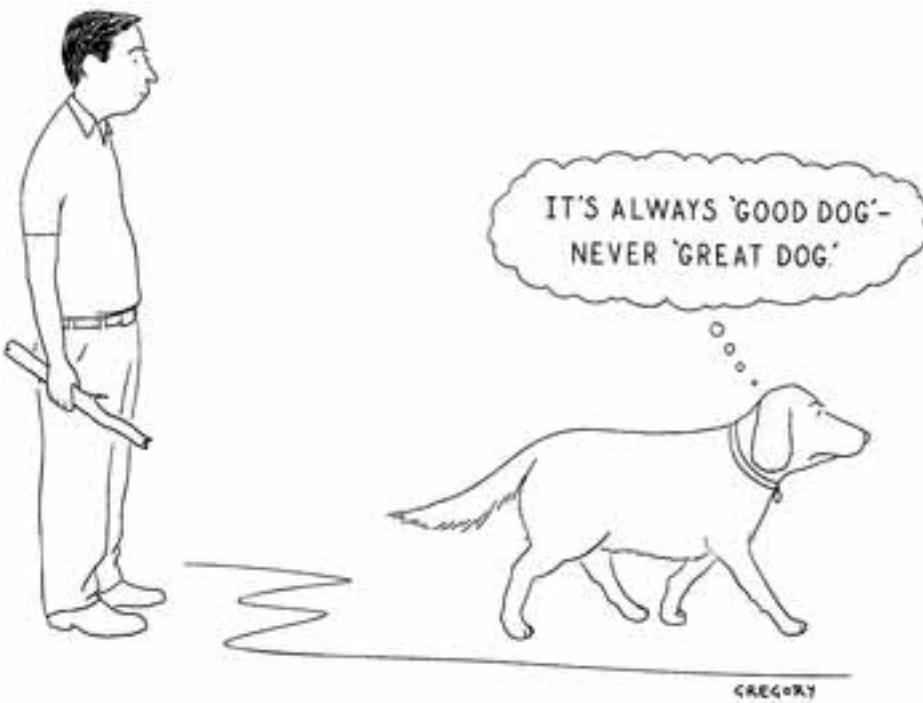
*"How can you feel threatened by someone young enough
to be your sullen, uncommunicative daughter?"*



"You've got a bit of thong caught between your front teeth."



"Today we're going to talk about lowering the drawbridge."





*"Your attitude is sucking all the fulfillment
out of motherhood."*



"Has our apologist been alerted?"



Victoria Roberts

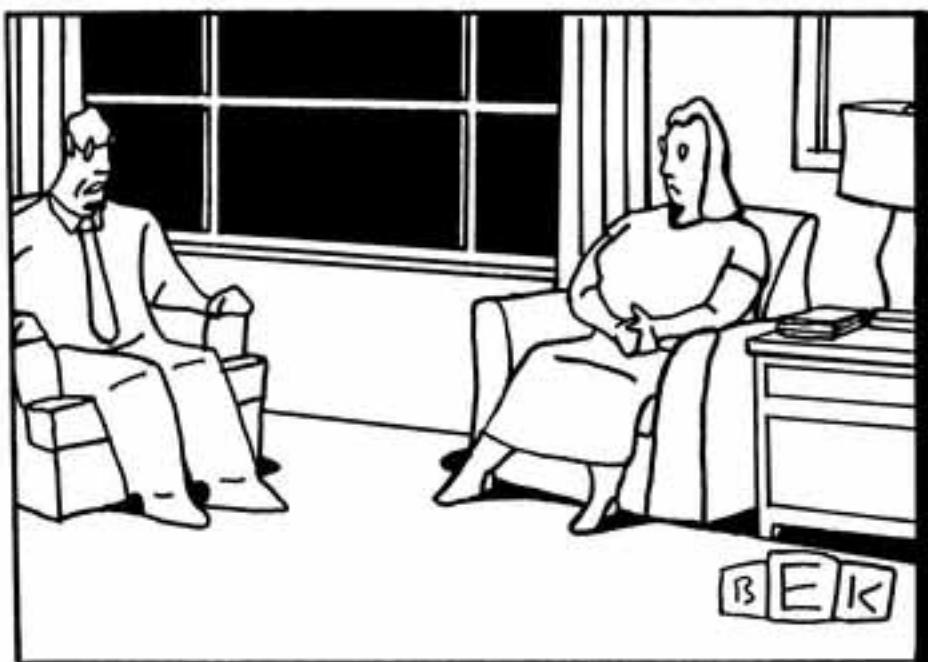
"You know, if I wrote all day, and you brought me meals on a tray, I could pretend I was at one of those writers' colonies all summer."



"How about something nice for his ashes?"



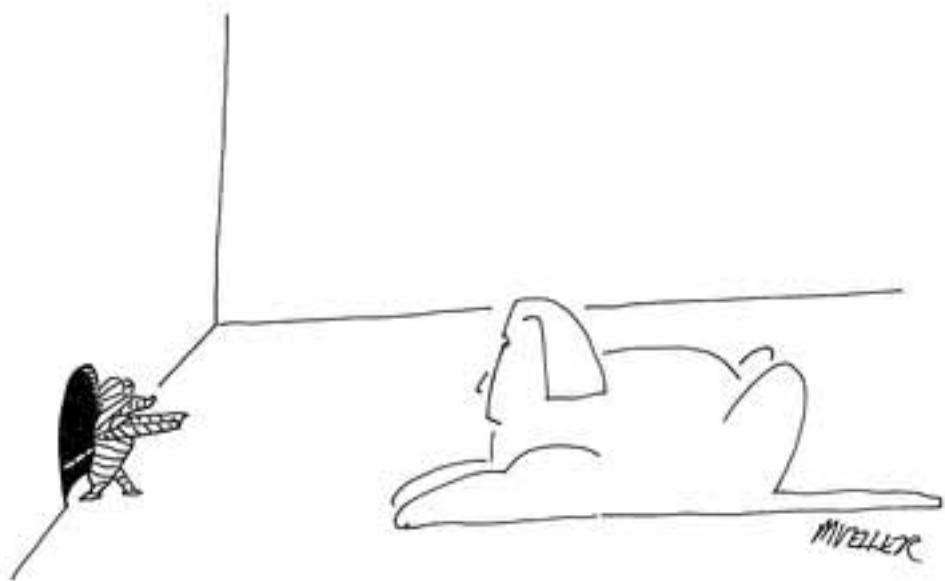
"They're all for staying out of trouble."



"What goes around comes around more annoying."



*"While the cat's away, the mouse will get tanked
every night and also grow a beard."*





"Just got the script from the focus group. Fabulous!"



*"Would you care to see our gasoline list, or do you
know what you want?"*



"Do you mind telling me where you're going with this?"



"You're a very complex carbohydrate."



"Hey, Dinwiddie twins! Remember me?
Druilla Settle from fourth-period geometry!"



"Funny. I never thought of you as having legs."



"For one million dollars, what have I been talking about for the past ten minutes: the upcoming election, my mother, my job, or an article in the Home section about kitchen makeovers?"



"Bad news, Dad—you're brain-dead!"



*"Our hobby is finding old, run-down Victorian houses
and levelling them."*



"Working at home has been a mixed blessing."





"I love that your politics stink."



"This is where things started getting really weird."





*"Would you like to have a drink with me after
the genocide panel?"*



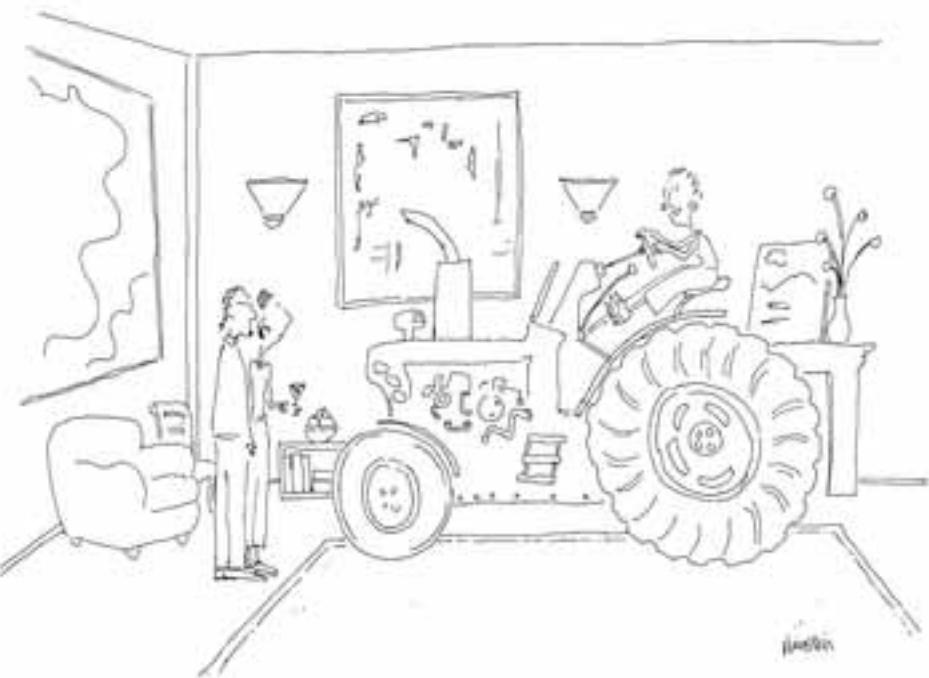
*"When we agreed that you would move in,
Mr. Goodrich, you didn't mention Rex."*



*"I'd give you the moon and stars, Felicia, but I don't
know where you'd put them."*



*"A pleasure, Hargrove. Finally, a C.E.O. who
looks like a C.E.O."*



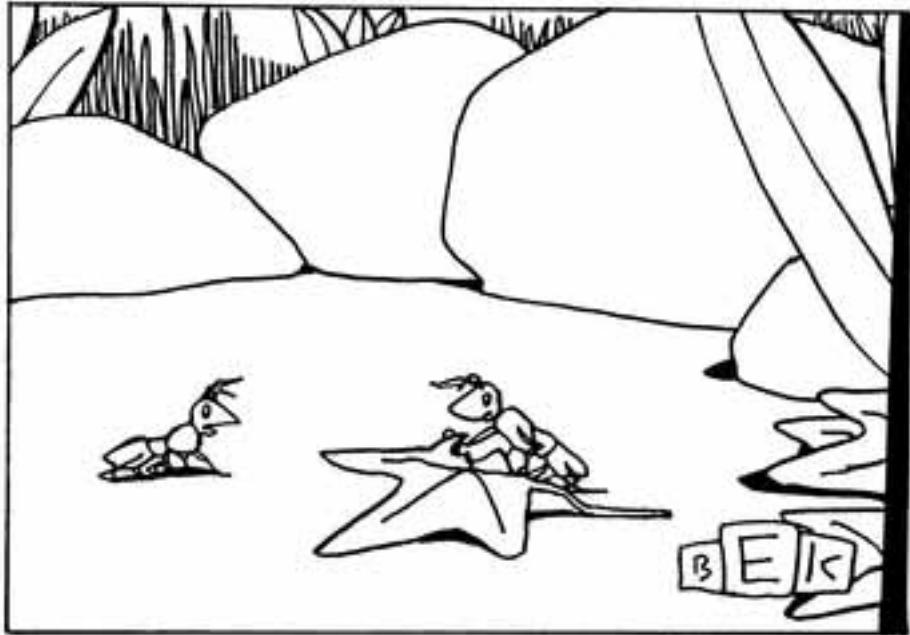
"I got it from eBay."



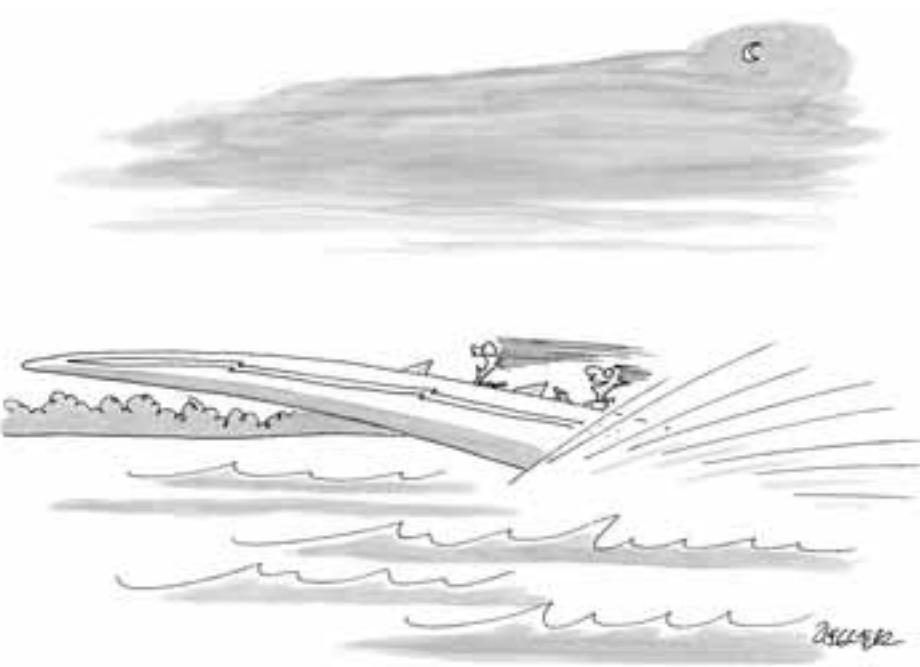
*"Oh, just picking up the pieces of my life after
a really traumatic haircut."*



"This place is one of New York's best-kept secrets."



"Oh, by the way, your three-o'clock got squashed."



"How's this for a romantic moonlit interlude?"



"That's not white noise. That's the ocean."



"And God bless Mr. Chu's Szechuan Palace."

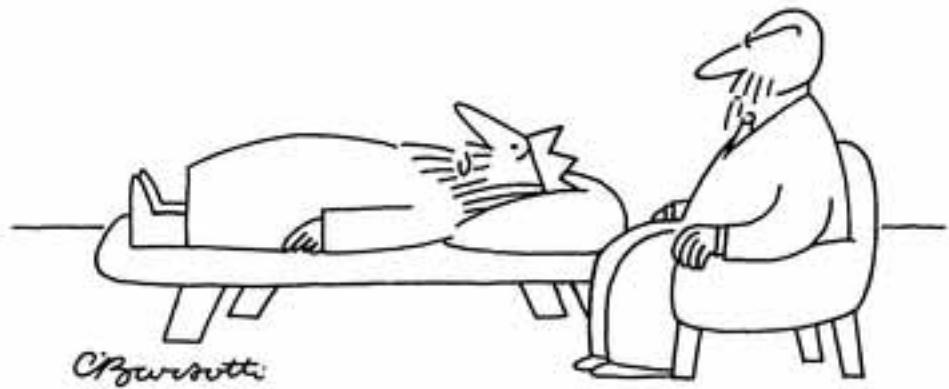


*"It's a very rare disease—it doesn't have a cure.
It doesn't even have a spokesperson."*





"In the interest of fairness to the Democrats, I'm not going to waste my time on their convention either."



*“Sure I’m Alfred the Great now, but in high school
I couldn’t get a date.”*



*"I adore the beauty and tranquillity of these
raw-sewage days."*



"Come. Sit. Speak."



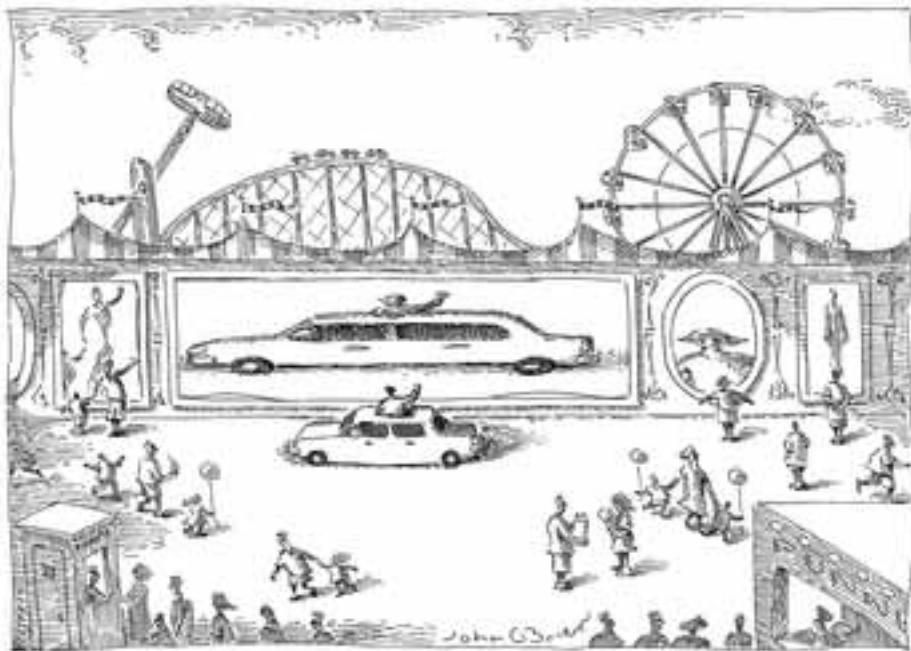
"This family is way too functional."



"You'll need to find another attorney. I'm going to prison."



"What's her working title?"





R. Chast



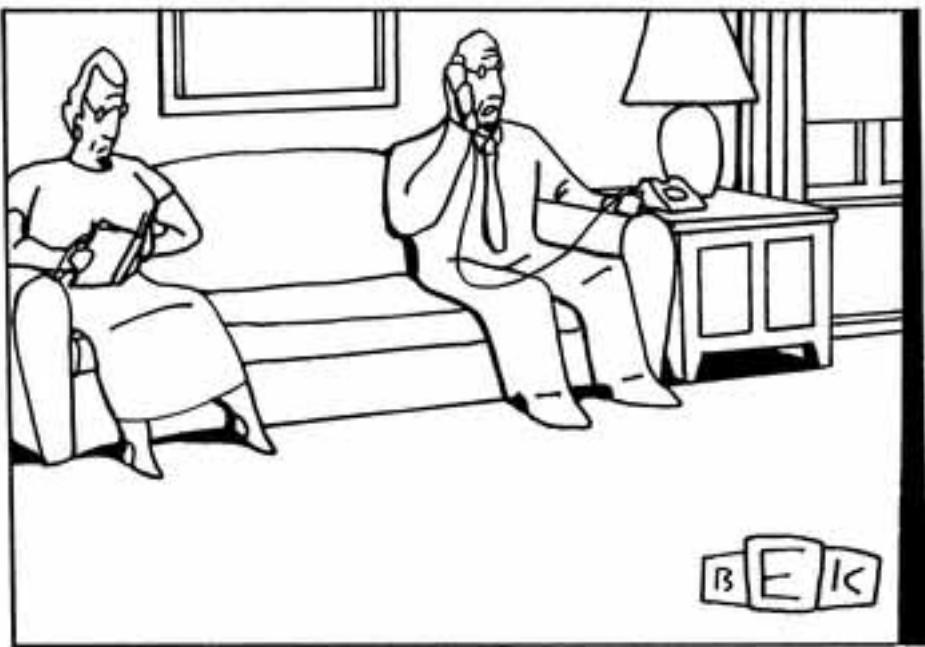
"Forget that! We've just been hired to reinvent Al Gore."



"I still manage to find the time to drink eight glasses of water a day."



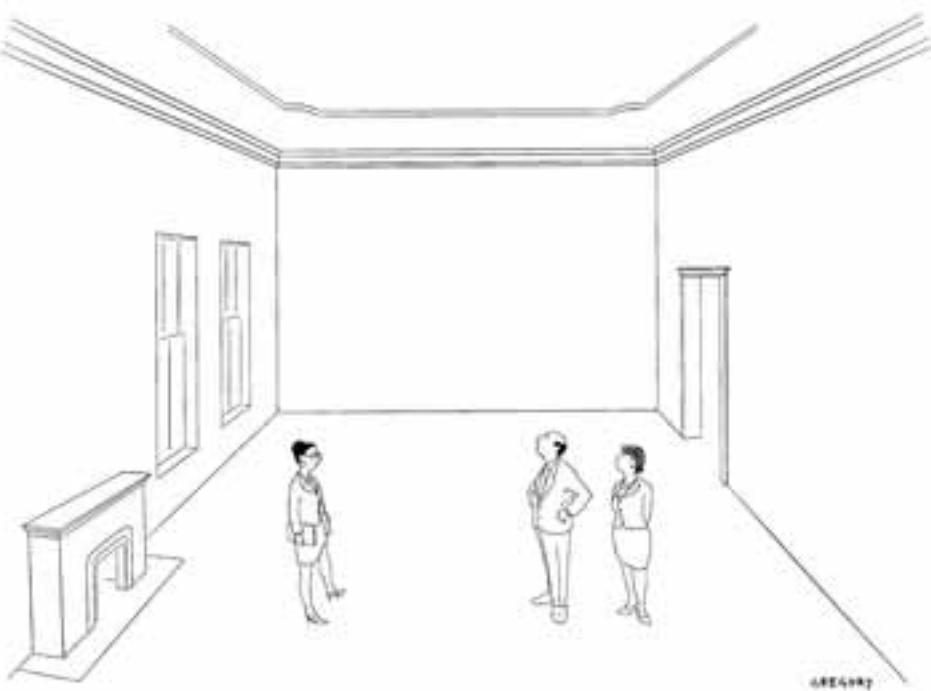
*"How am I this morning? Frankly, Mister Never-Around,
I'm as horny as the middle-school band."*



"Not at all. We're just breeding contempt."



"We've voted you off the island."



*"Wow . . . We could really fill this room with
uncomfortable silences."*



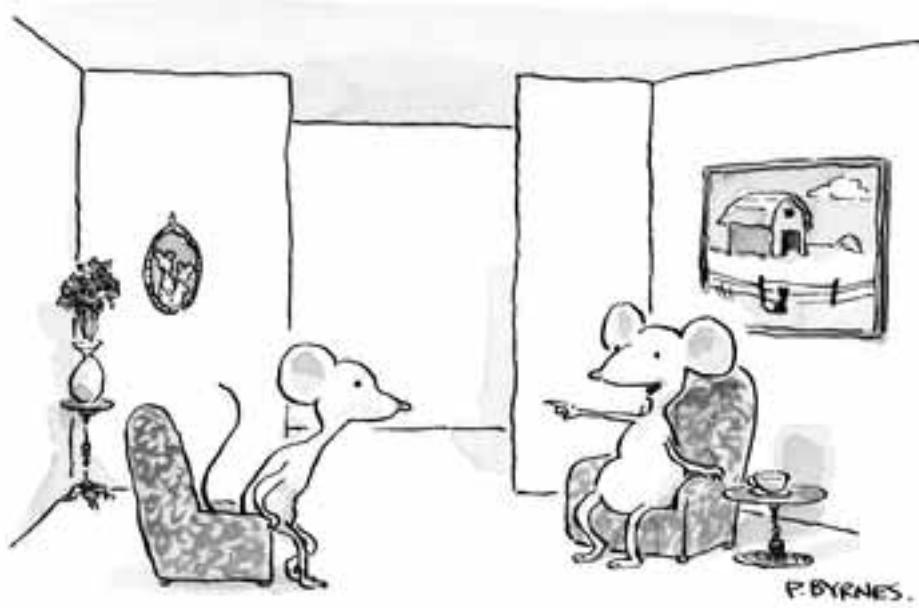
*"I'm as surprised as you are. I had no idea
that the sweetheart deal would include an
actual sweetheart."*



*"If it's not safe to go in the water and it's not safe
to go in the sun, why did you bring me here?"*



"Thanks, Super Rich Man."



"Bathroom? Sure, it's just down the hall to the left, jog right, left, another left, straight past two more lefts, then right, and it's at the end of the third corridor on your right."

of the DOG DAYS



RAINOUT



BROWNOUT



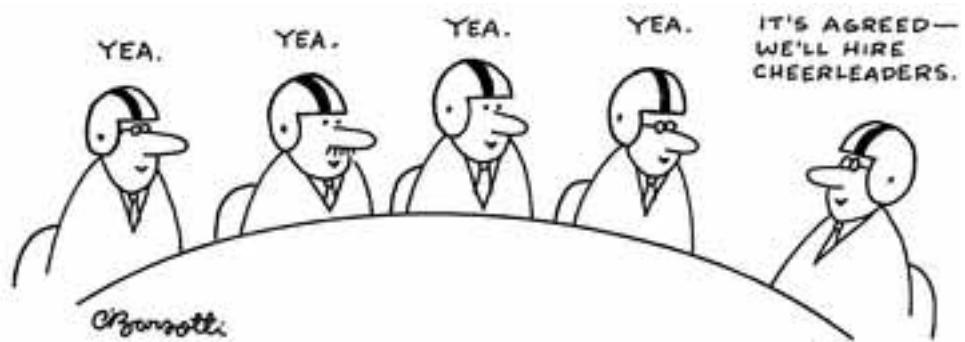
PRESIDENT IN TOWN



MOSQUITO SPRAYING
BEGINS



SHRINKS' AUGUST VACATION
(PAIXL SPRAYING BEGINS)



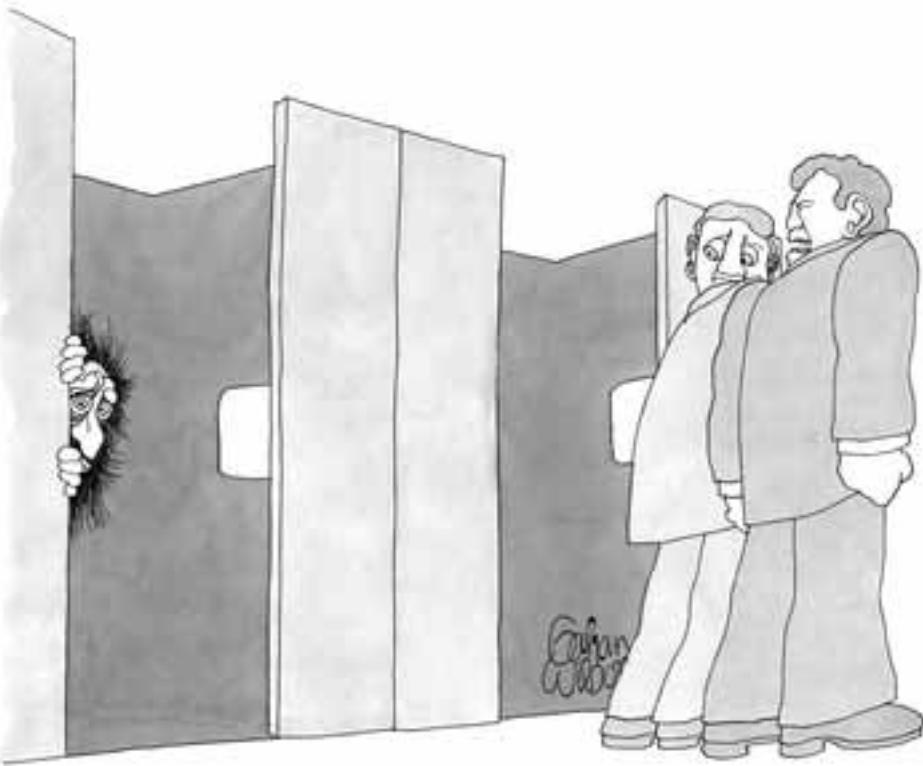


"Mets or Yankees?"

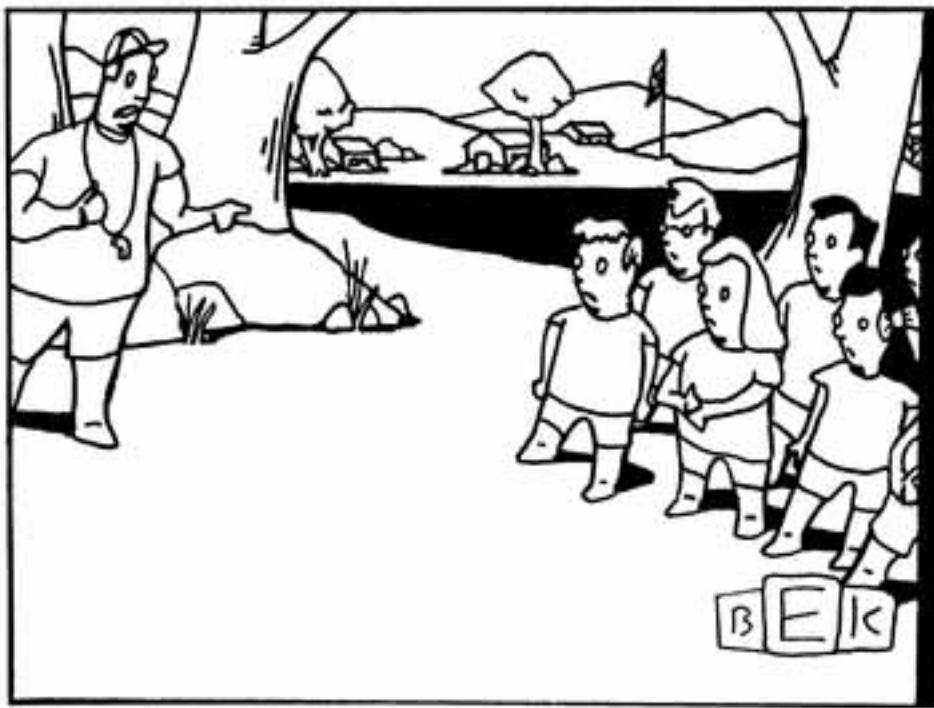


*"Wait a minute—I know there's something we've
forgotten to worry about."*



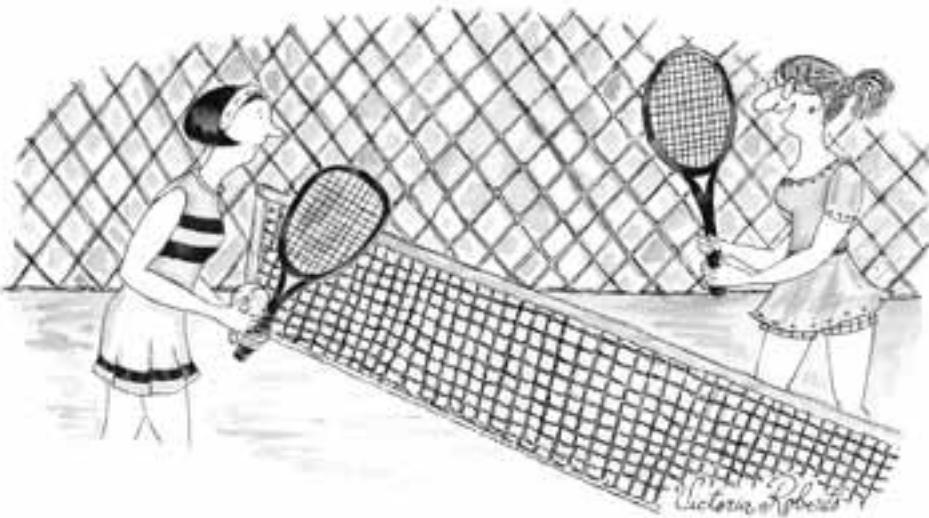


*“Some of the poor wretches eventually become unable
to leave the safety of their cubicles.”*



"And I don't want to hear any of this 'There are no cameras following us so what's the point?' stuff."

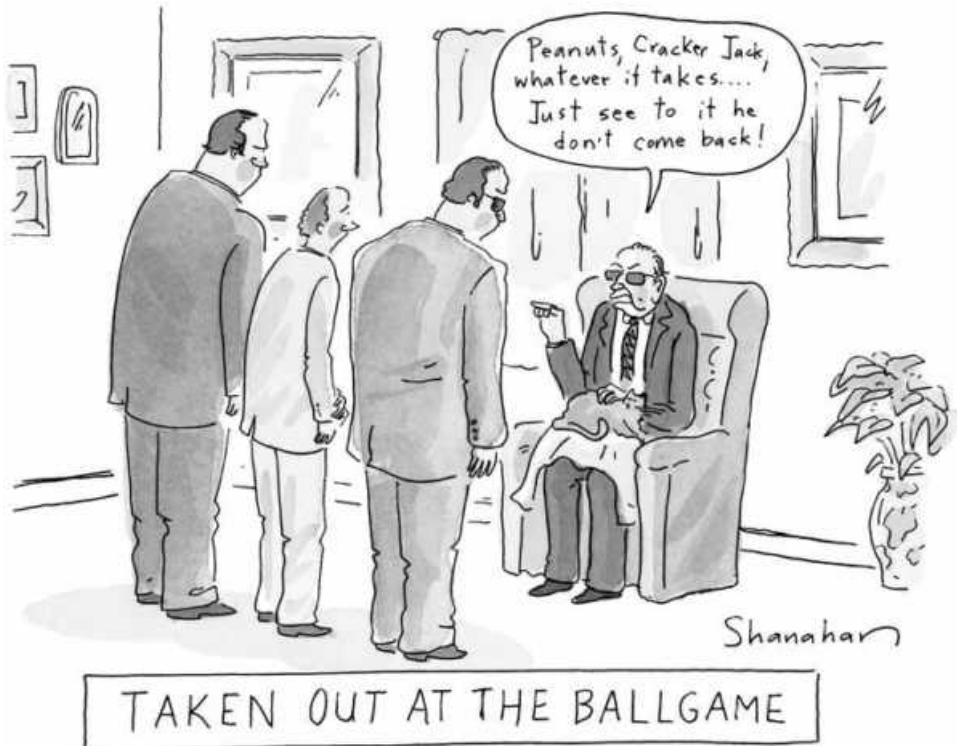


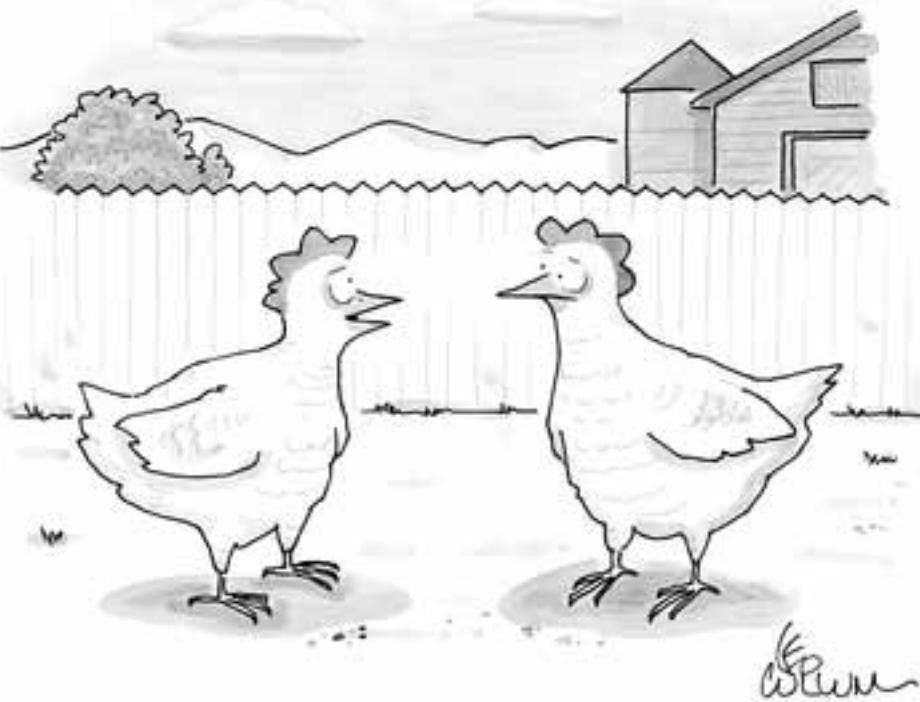


"I'll be the headlights, you be the deer."



*"Is that an inflatable sea horse, or are you
just glad to see me?"*





"The body is eighty-two-per-cent broth."

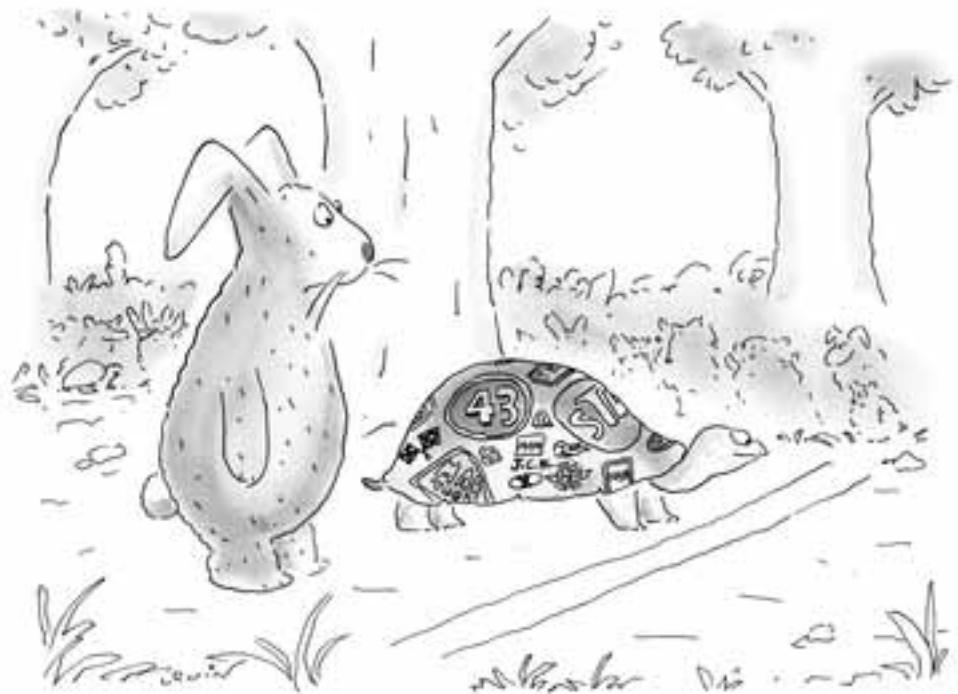




"Honey, I still think you're the greatest."

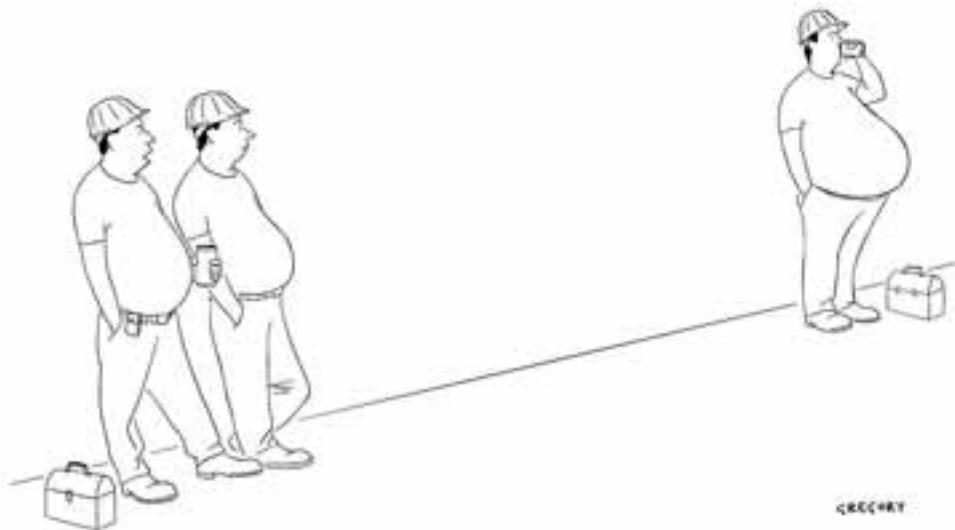


"Kellanay seems to be making real progress with his split-fingered fastball."





"He looks very promising—but let's see how he does on the written test."



"Gotta be an implant."



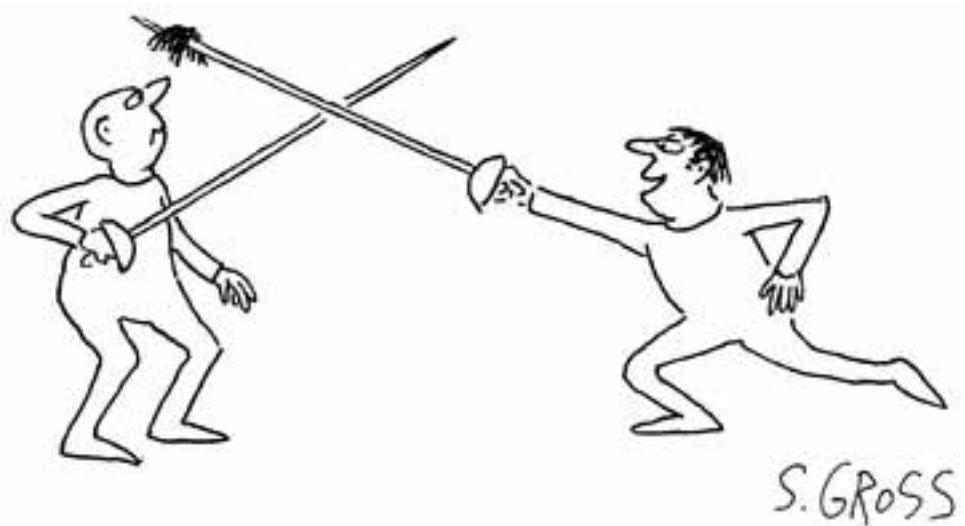
"Hey, kids! Grandpa's on TV."

SOMEDAY, MY RON PERELMAN WILL COME.

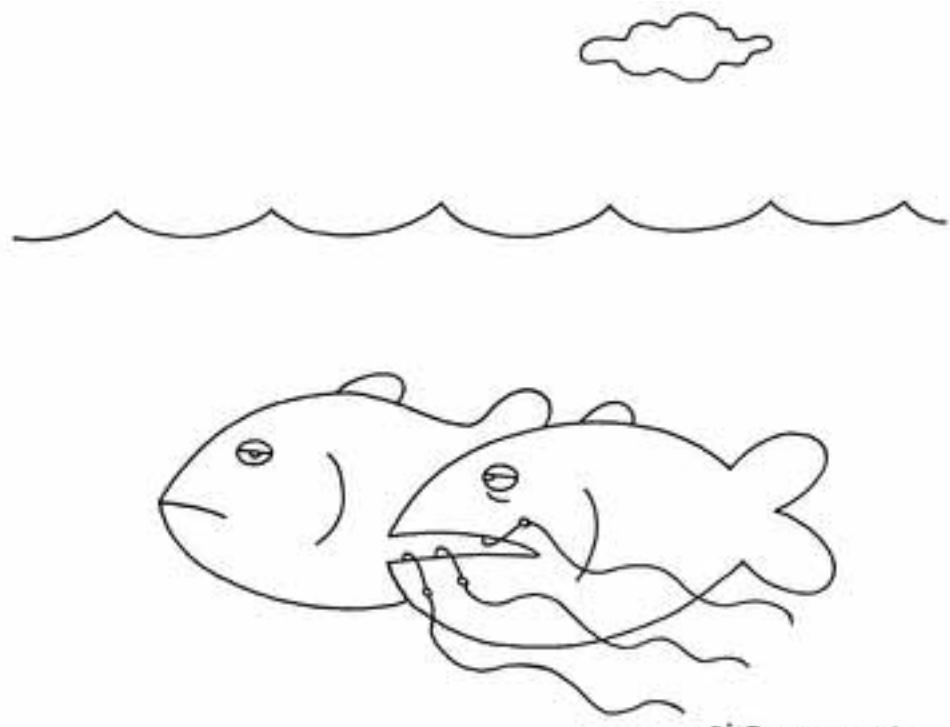




"Innocence is no excuse."



"Toupee!"



"Am I boring you, kid?"

2000 THE CONCRETE CAFÉ







"It's a very senior moment—he's dead."



*"Perhaps, given time, but not too much time,
you could learn to love me."*

VIVE LA RÉSISTANCE



R.Chast





"We're not year-round people, weekend people, or summer people. We're last-ten-days-in-August people."



*"It's not really serious, but I am seeing
another anchor."*

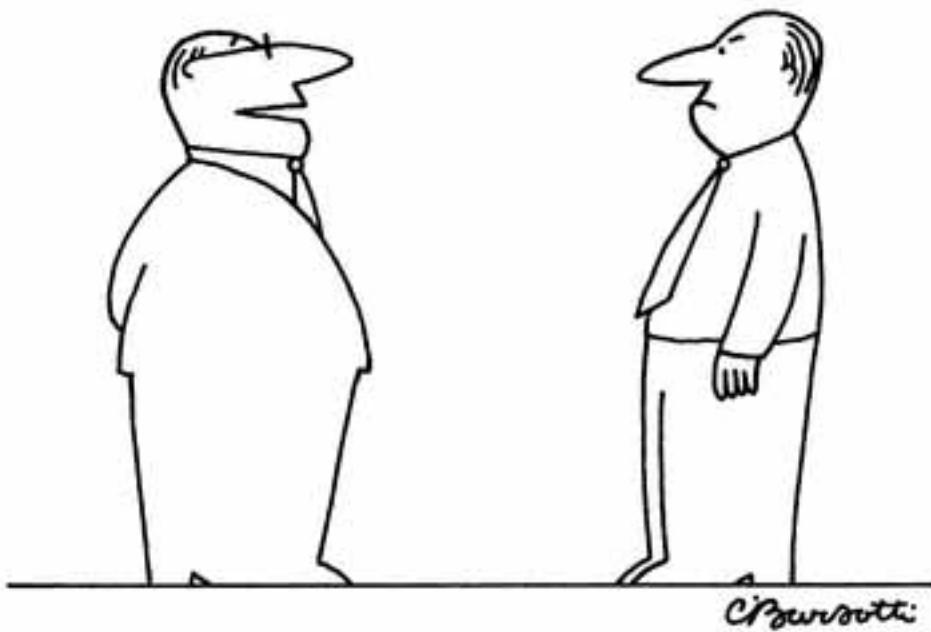




"I recommend an aggressive form of throwing money at me."



"Let the healing begin!"



"No, no, your job's not going out of the country to some foreign bastard. We're just firing you."



"Really? I never heard of a Cheshire dog."



"Would you like to come up for a margarita?"



*"Please talk about Bush and Gore—I want to
see your eyebrows dance."*



*"You're making more at this firm than anyone else
whose brain is the size of a walnut."*



"I got rid of all the excess in my life."



"Some of it is soft and some of it is hard, but the main thing is that all of it is money."



"Why did you become a crusader? You don't even go to church."



*"You've reached 911, and there's someone here
who wants to say hello."*



AS YOU BIKE IT (1 OF 5)



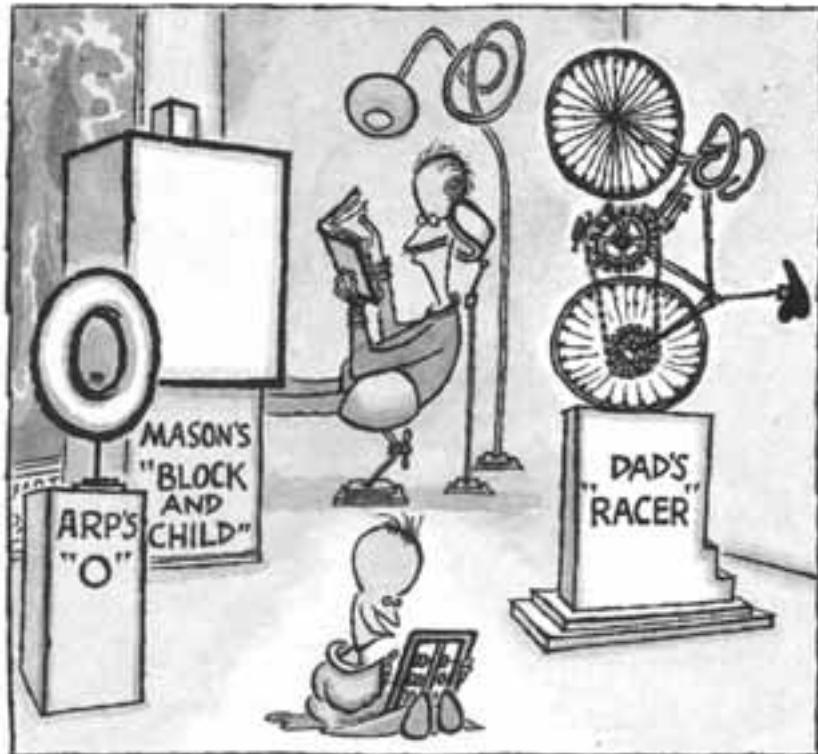
Bicycles can be ridden on the street . . .

AS YOU BIKE IT (2 OF 5)



. . . or on the sidewalk.

AS YOU BIKE IT (3 OF 5)



Bicycles can be parked artistically in any civilized home.

AS YOU BIKE IT (4 OF 5)



When parked on the street, however, they must be secured.

AS YOU BIKE IT (5 OF 5)



Even so . . .



"Before I read about my summer vacation, I'd like to ask that all pagers, beepers, and cell phones be turned off."



*"It might be considered a hate crime, so tell me honestly.
Did you shoot your husband because of his gender?"*



*"So this is the famous environment everyone's
so hyped up about?"*



"What do people write me off as?"





*"Your mother wanted you to have this for
good luck. It's her foot."*



*"A death mask, Ms. Barrow, with copies to
all department heads."*

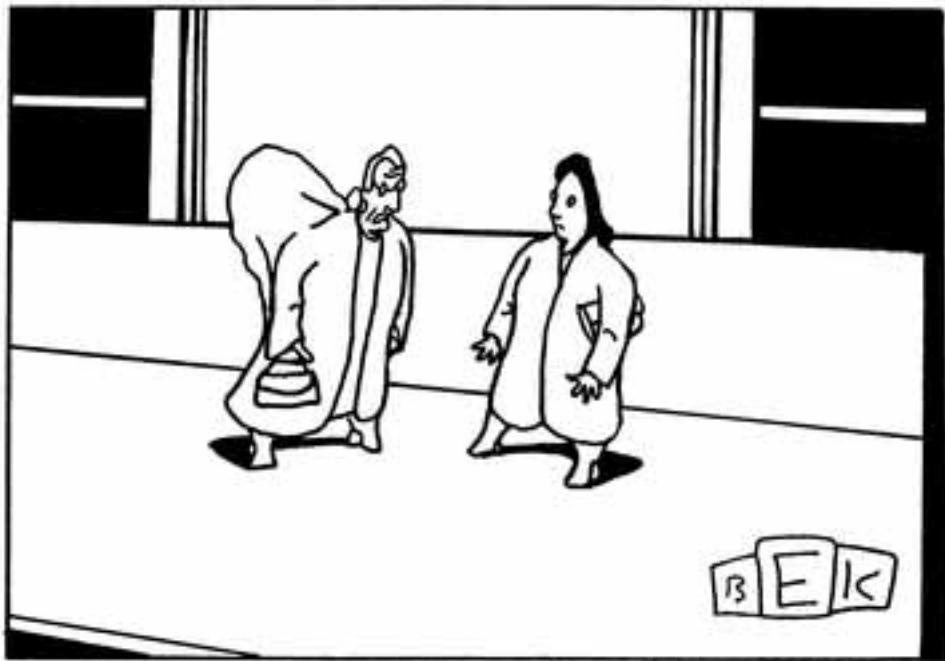


*"Of course your daddy loves you. He's on
Prozac—he loves everybody."*





"The people want more tennis, Your Majesty."



"I'm sure it's nothing."



"Más agua for the gringos?"

2000
THE LAST FAMILY VACATION



*"I contributed a lot to charity when I thought
I was going to die."*



"eBay '99."



*"At this point, it's still not classified as a hurricane—
it's still being called a raindrop."*



*"When you put on the uniform, you surrender
a part of yourself."*



"It's Alan Greenspan—he thinks we're moving too fast."



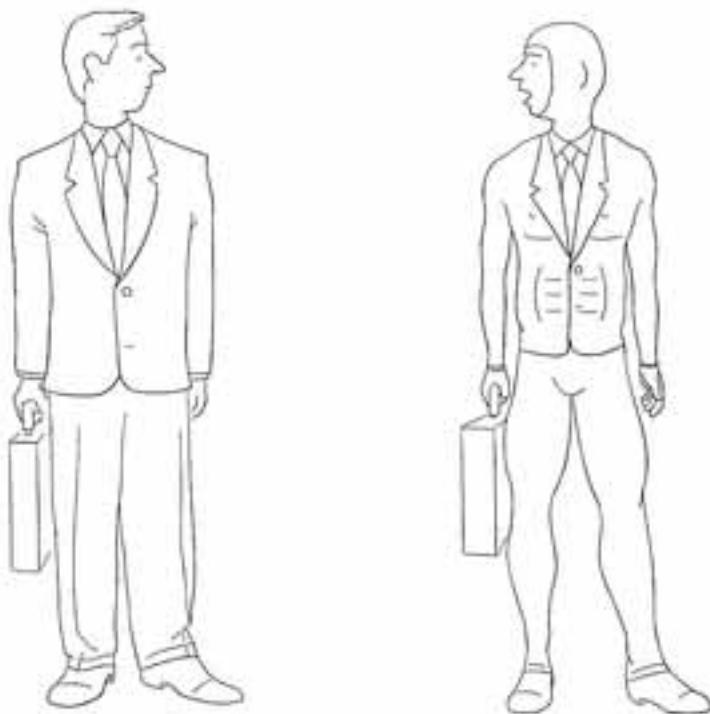


*"O.K., the role you're auditioning for is a struggling actress
who's always boring people with stories of how this one or that
one got the part she deserved because she's younger or prettier.
Think you can handle it?"*





"Myrna, I've always loved you in animal prints."



GREGORY

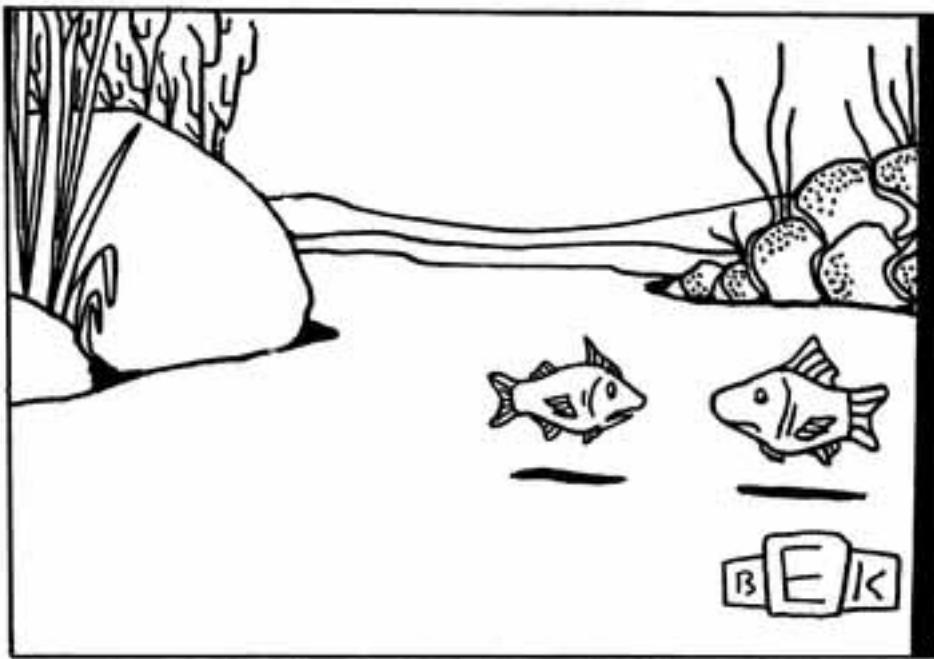
"It cuts air resistance."



"He said it will be hot and muggy early in the week, with a slight chance of showers."



“Sorry, sir, we’re filming a truck commercial up here.”



*"Now they're saying shiny things attached to
hooks are bad for you."*





"Here's the deal. In exchange for a ceasefire, they'll share their technology."



*"I know I'm wrong, but I'm sure you can
make me more wrong."*



"Bobby Linderman—now, there's a doctor."



"Inspected by #16."



"I guess cats just can't appreciate Frank Gehry."



*"Touch that dial, Meatball, and I'll have Paulie pop
ya before we hit the tunnel!"*

2000

A NURSERY RHYME FROM THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY



R. Chast



"No, I don't want to know what my approval rating is."



Charles Barsotti

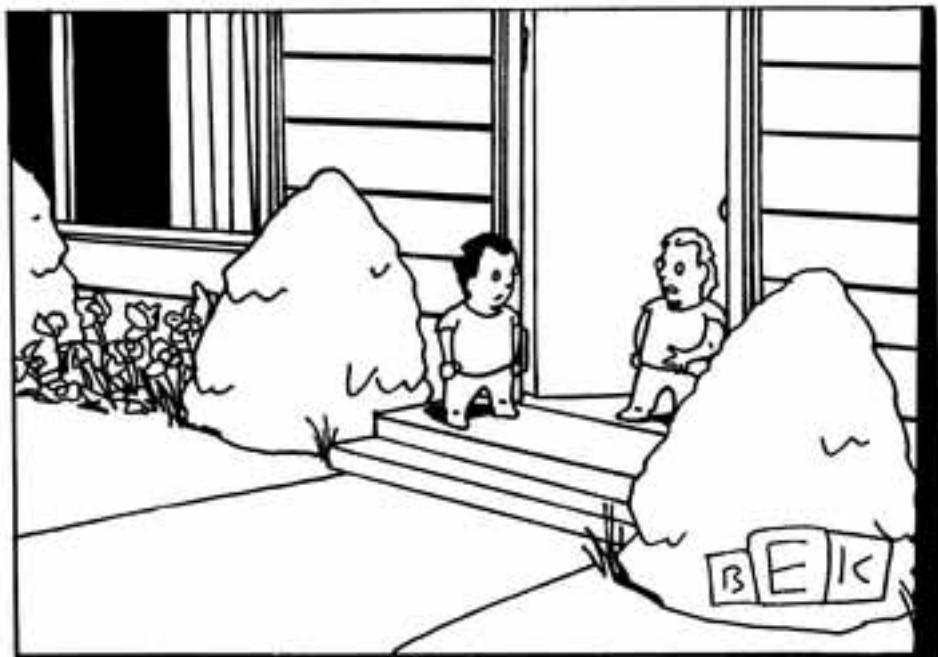
"No, thank you, I already have a moat."



*"This next number goes out to all the little people
I met on my way back down."*

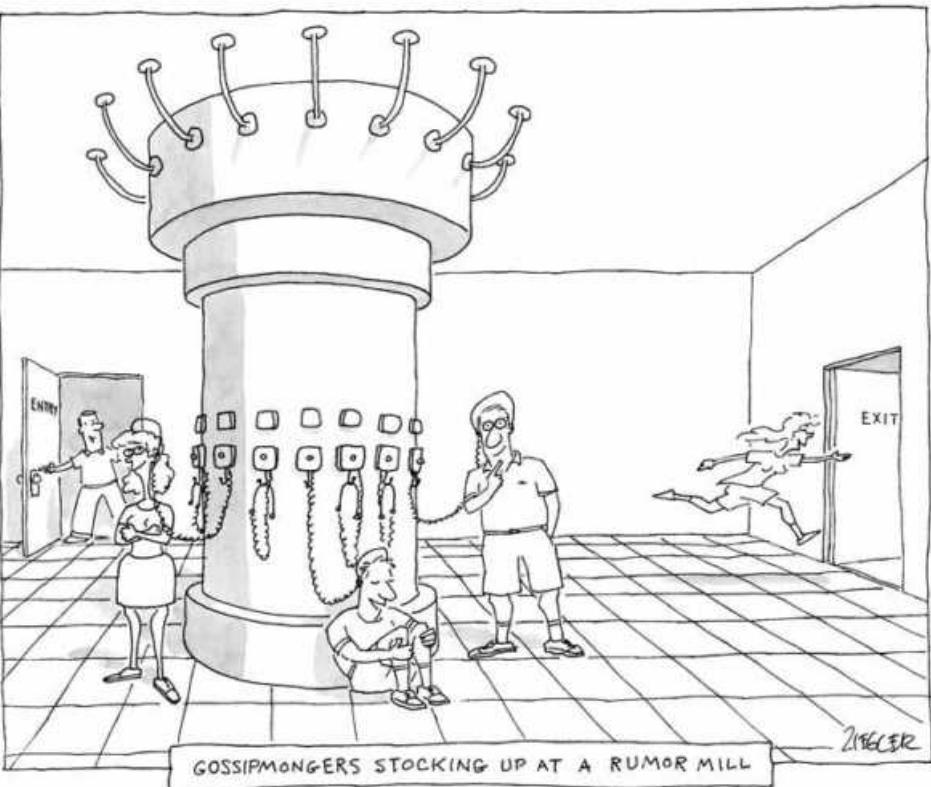


*"As you can see, we've transferred your husband from
intensive to casual care."*



"Your priorities change once you get a new toy."







“Release the hounds! That’s your answer to everything.”

SCHOOL CLOSINGS = OF THE FUTURE =

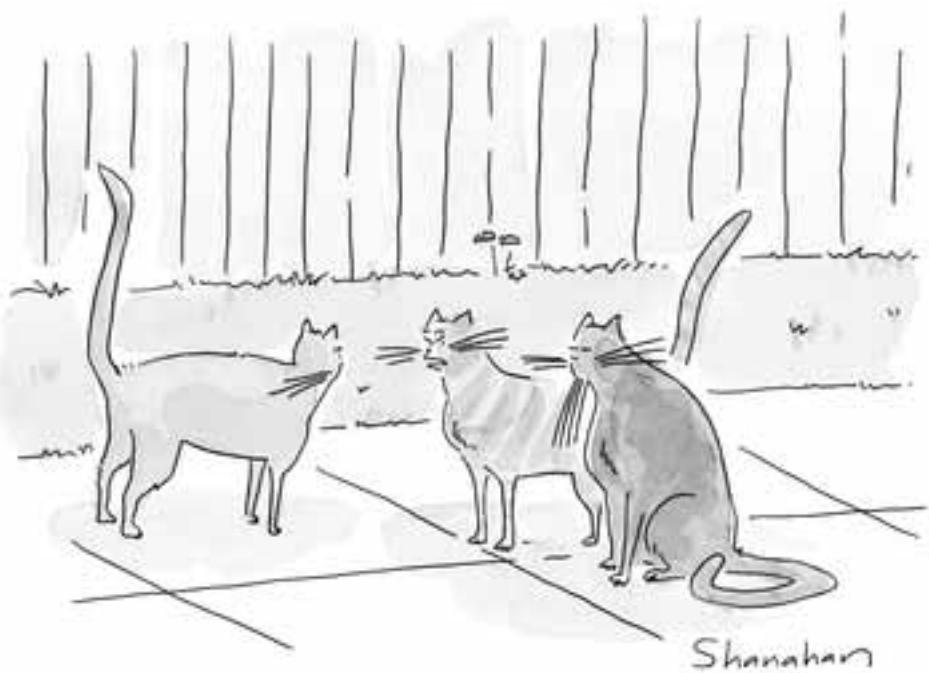


- September 11-20: BACK-TO-SCHOOL BREATHER
- October 11-18: COLUMBUS WEEK
- November 1-20: FALL RECESS
- November 25-30: THANKSGIVING
- December 1-31: CHRISTMAS/HANUKKAH MONTH
- January 7-23: WINTER BREAK
- All of February: PRESIDENTS' MONTH
- March 9-20: PRE-SPRING BREATHER
- April 5-30: EASTER VACATION
- May 11-23: MAY DAYS
- June 2: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

R. Chast



*"If we weren't bare-assed we'd really clean up
on sportswear endorsements."*



"As soon as vacation's over, off it comes."



"So, have you two been doing anything reproductive?"



"The name's Bond. Duane Bond."



"Yes, it will be a clean needle."



"Oh, no! Golf-ball-sized hail!"



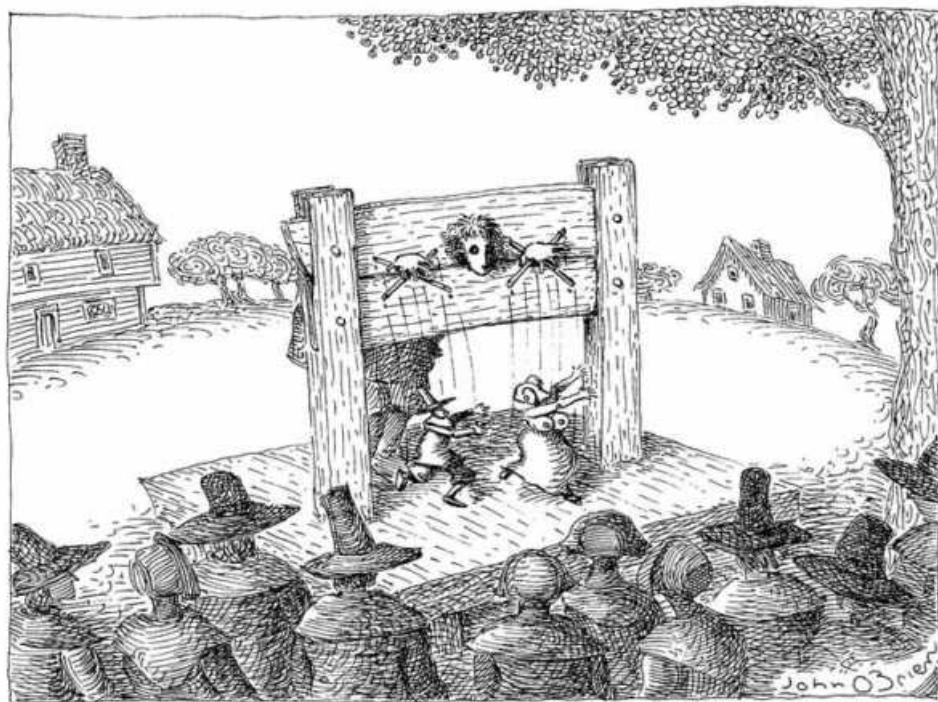
"The entire West Coast division must go. Make it look like an accident."



"God may count the tears of women, but if from that he subtracts the sighs of men we're back to ground zero."



"Welcome to 'All About the Media,' where members of the media discuss the role of the media in media coverage of the media."





"Just sign it 'To the Lucky High Bidder.'"



*"Miss Parker, you have my permission to shoot anyone
who tries to enter my office on a scooter."*



"It's not what it looks like, Margaret."



"The inspiring story of one family's incredible journey from a two-bedroom condo on West Sixty-sixth Street to a three-bedroom co-op on East Eighty-third."



*"And then you'll want to take the No. 2 or 3 train
to right here behind this very accommodating
passive-aggressive woman's head."*



*"Are all Brits bisexual, or just the ones who
publish their diaries?"*



"I was just trying to brush him back."





"Dumbledore smiled, his eyes twinkling."



"The 'Times' called his novel 'downloadable.' "



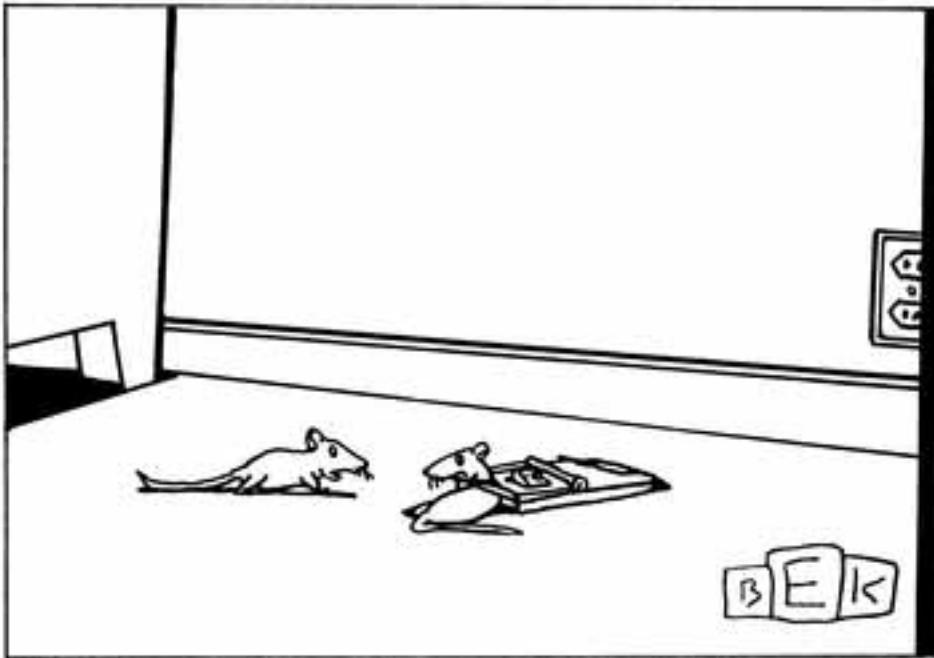


"It keeps him from hitting on women."



*"My God, what's wrong? You look like you
were caught in the headlights."*





*"I'm sorry—here I am going on and on and I haven't
asked you a thing about being caught in a trap."*



"When did men become women?"



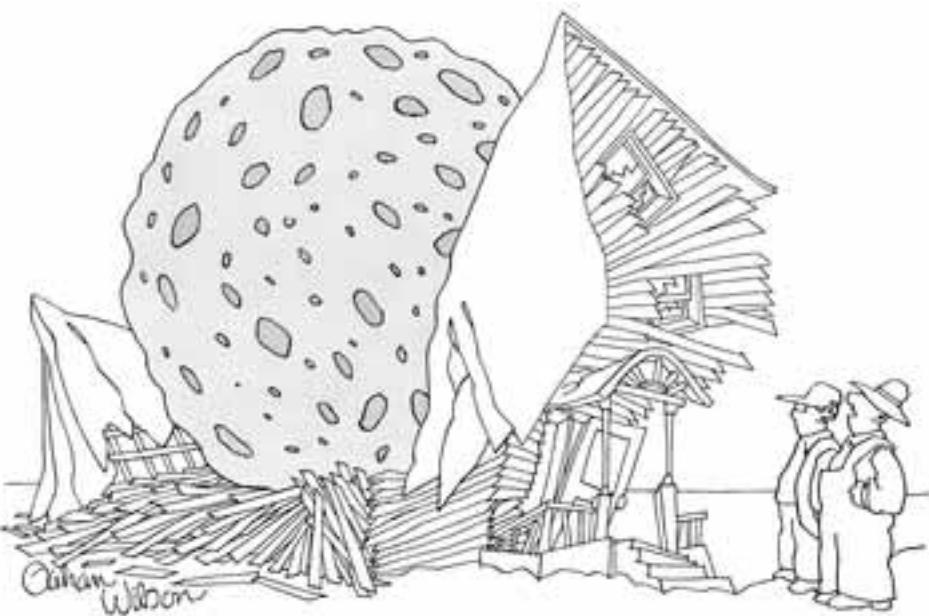
*"The flight time today is five hours in first class
and twelve and a half in coach."*



"Do these shoes taste funny to you?"

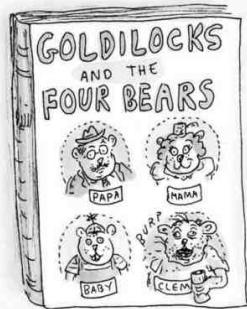


"Hold that thought—I've just got two chapters to go."

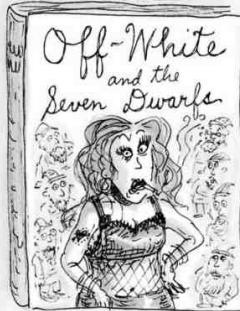


"Hit 'em right after they won the lottery."

SLIGHTLY IRREGULAR BOOKS



After a couple of readings,
you won't even notice him.



Almost identical, at only
half the regular price.



It's even better than the
original. We swear!
R.C.J.



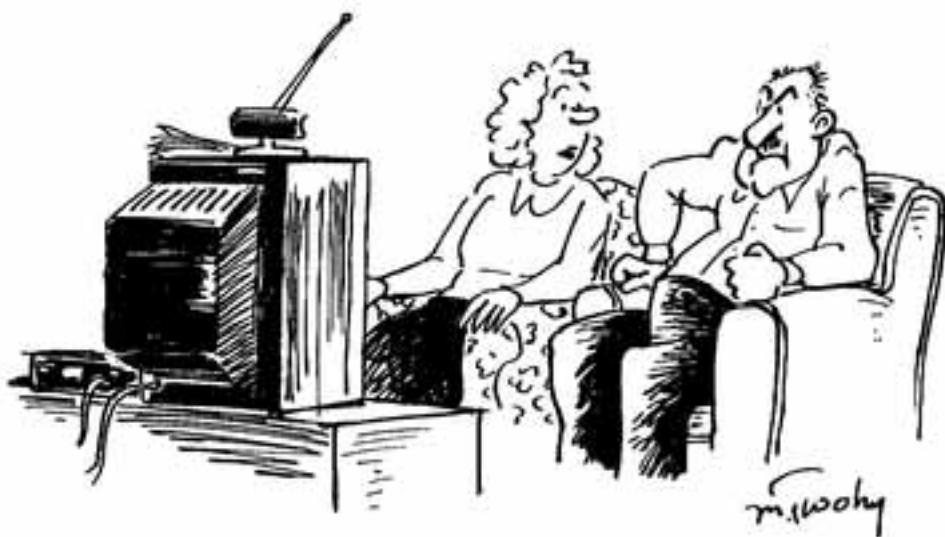
"Please remind your mom and dad that it's a parent-teacher conference, not a parent-teacher-attorney conference."



"There's plenty more books inside."



"Trust me. It's not a God-given right."

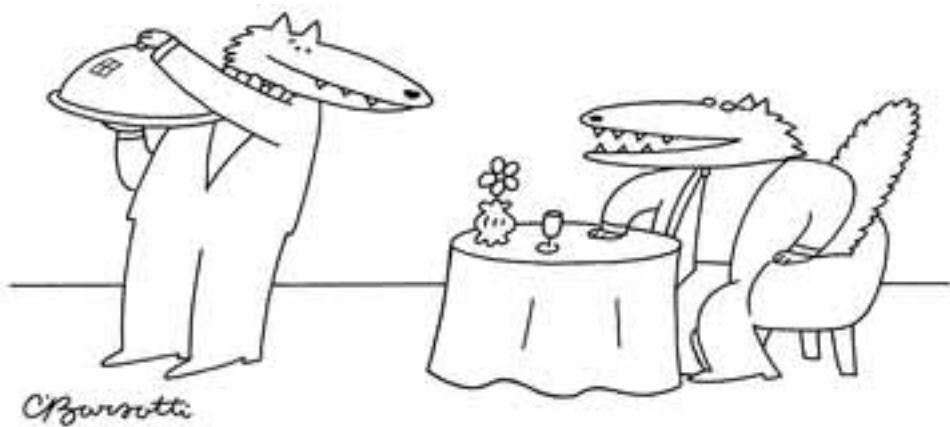


"Lighten up, honey. You use performance-enhancing drugs!"





"Just finishing the roll?"



"O.K., I'm ready. You can let it go."

REBELS WITHOUT A MAGIC MARKER





"I'm not ordering any lunch, Caswell—I'm going to eat yours."





"Top this, smart guy!"



"He passed away last week. Can I give him a message?"



"Hey, who wants to hear a great single-malt story?"



"Mister Jackson! You know how I feel about sampling."



"You're not standing in the designated protest area."



"Well, I guess this is goodbye!"



"What, may I ask, does landscape have to do with gender?"



“Damn! He took the car keys with him.”





"Daddy is fiscally buff."



"I have to hang up now. You just walked through the door."



"This next one is a sad little blues tune about love and pain that I wrote before I started taking Celexa."



*"So what if he paid a classmate to do his homework—
it was his own allowance."*



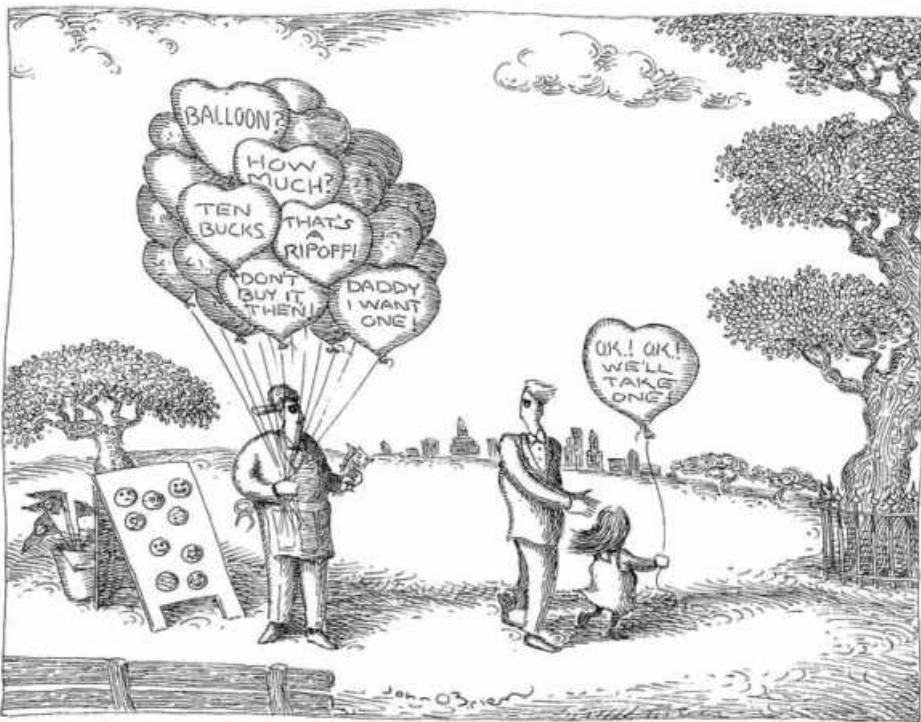
*"What I'd like is different Presidential candidates, but
I guess I'll just have the shrimp in garlic sauce."*



*"Your Honor, I ask you—is this the toupee of
a successful adulterer?"*



*"Hi, hon. Guess who's going to be on national television
apologizing to the American public."*





"Our stock just went up ten points on the rumor that I was replacing you all with burlap sacks stuffed with straw."



"Ask yourself, 'Does it make me a better clown?' "



"Tarzan hate frivolous lawsuits."



"I'll call you back. I'm harvesting rice."



"Three hundred dollars' of regular."

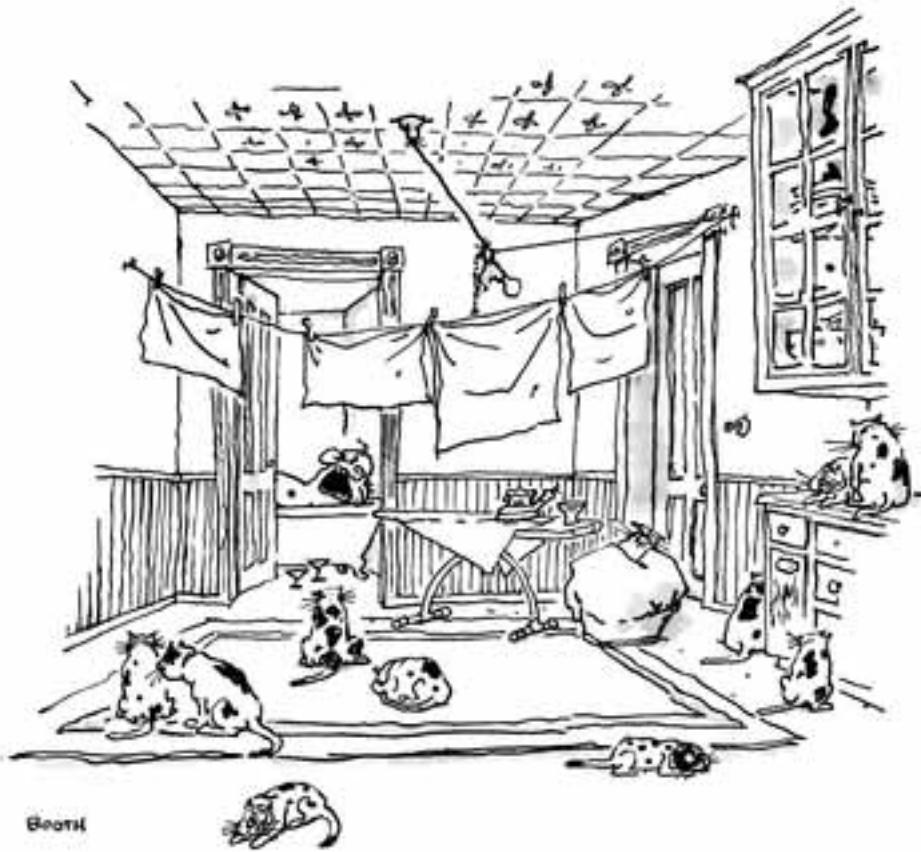


"Edward attracts light."



*"You know where we go to from here because
we already went there."*





"If pressured, I will run!"

HOW THE OLD PENN STATION GOT DEMOLISHED



R. Chast



GREGORY

*"We've got Tom O'Brien on bass, Nick Weber on drums,
and Jonah Petchesky on contracts."*



"And, if elected, I will take the money out of politics and put it into a portfolio of high-yielding instruments."





"These are my conservative credentials."



"First off, you're not a nut. You're a legume."





"That's right, Timmy—once upon a time Grandpa was part of the target audience, just like you."



*"Sorry, the line is busy again. He and Joe Lieberman
are still exchanging pleasantries."*



*"You are absolutely right—World Series is
a misnomer. Now please shut up."*



THE WATER DESK



*"Do you want me to explain to you just why you're
having feelings of inadequacy?"*



"Look, the numbers don't lie."



*"I knew C.P.R. wouldn't save our marriage,
but I had to try."*



*"How do I feel? I feel that your question is trivial, courts sensationalism, and is designed to appeal to appallingly base instincts. Additionally, it demeans my intelligence.
Next question."*



"She's expecting you."



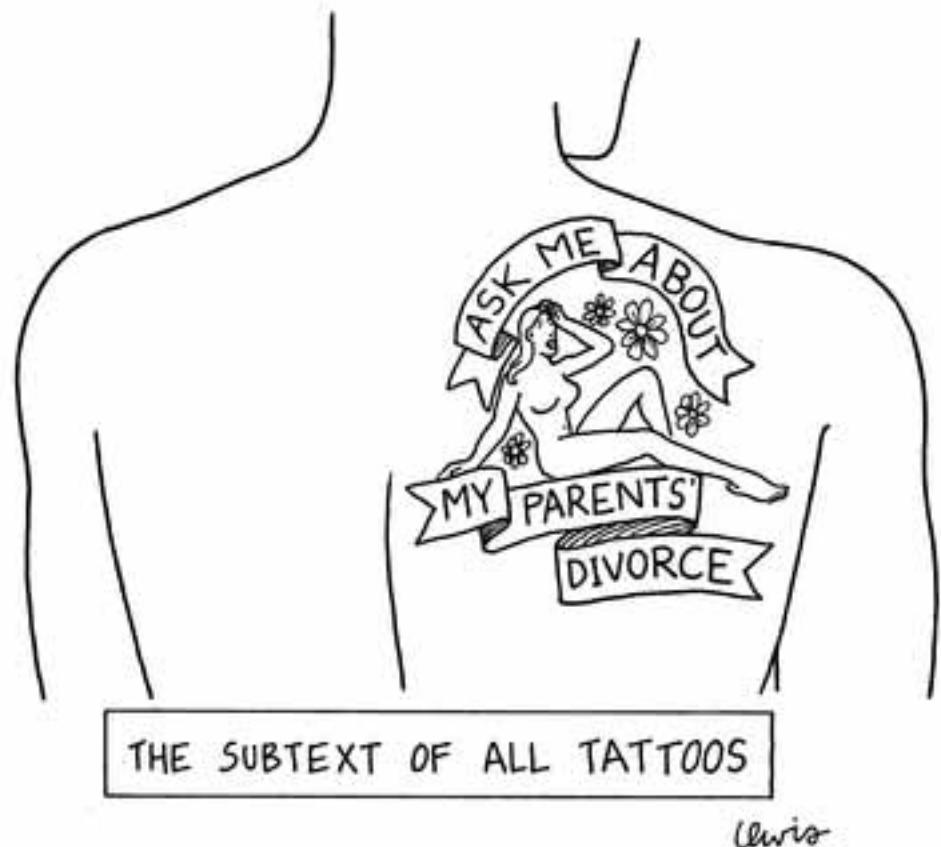
*"He said that he is socially liberal and fiscally conservative,
but what he meant is that he sleeps around and is cheap."*



*"It's a very simple procedure. We slice off the top of your head,
scoop out your innards with a spoon, and carve out your
eyes and mouth."*

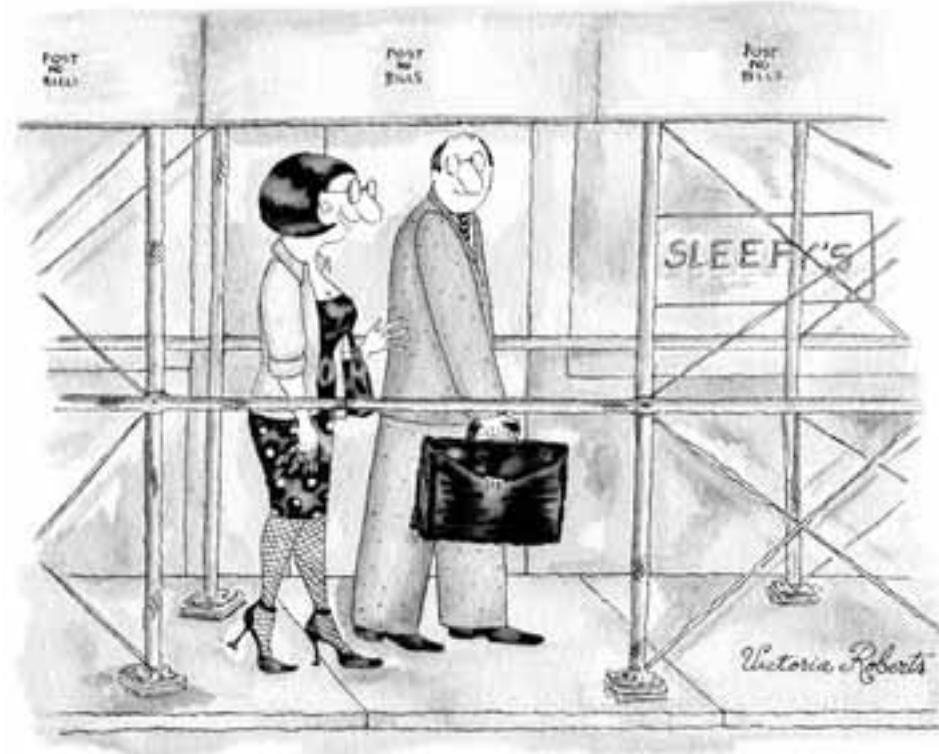


"You have the right to remain silent, you are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars. You have the right to be here. And, whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should."





"I'll have whatever they're having."



"I like Al Gore just fine—if only he weren't such a constant reminder that, for me, vaudeville is dead."



"Don't these fools realize they're violating every principle of feng-shui?"



"It's the porch plants—can they come in?"



"Not voting this year?"



*"Well, if it doesn't matter who's right and who's wrong,
why don't I be right and you be wrong?"*





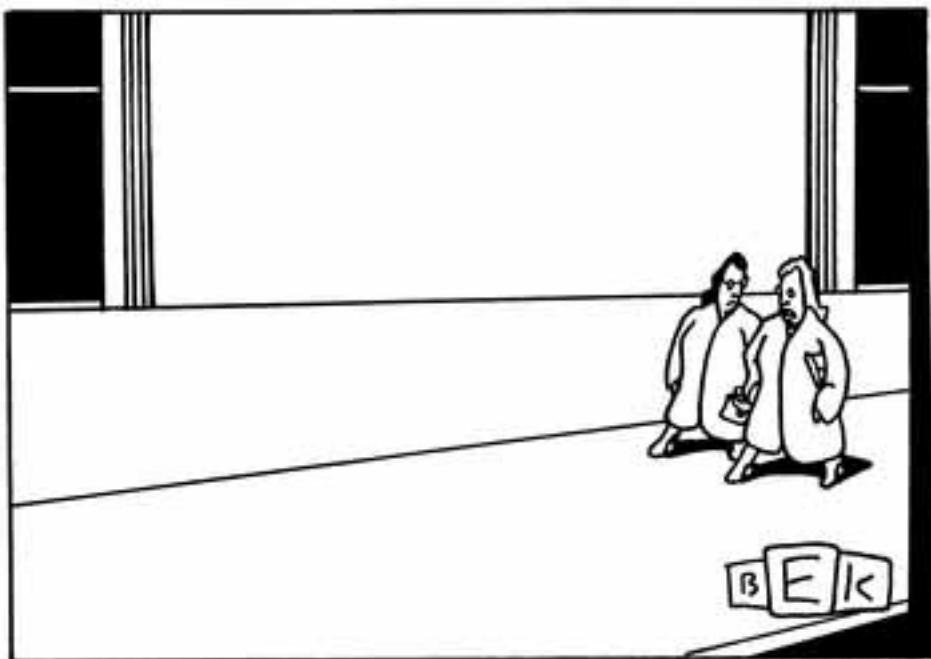


*"Selective breeding has given me an aptitude for the law, but
I still love fetching a dead duck out of freezing water."*



"I have the six figures, the stock options, and the limo, but where are the letters from grateful schoolchildren?"





"We met cute, but we didn't continue cute."



*"Absolutely. When I'm elected, all you'll have
to do is whistle."*



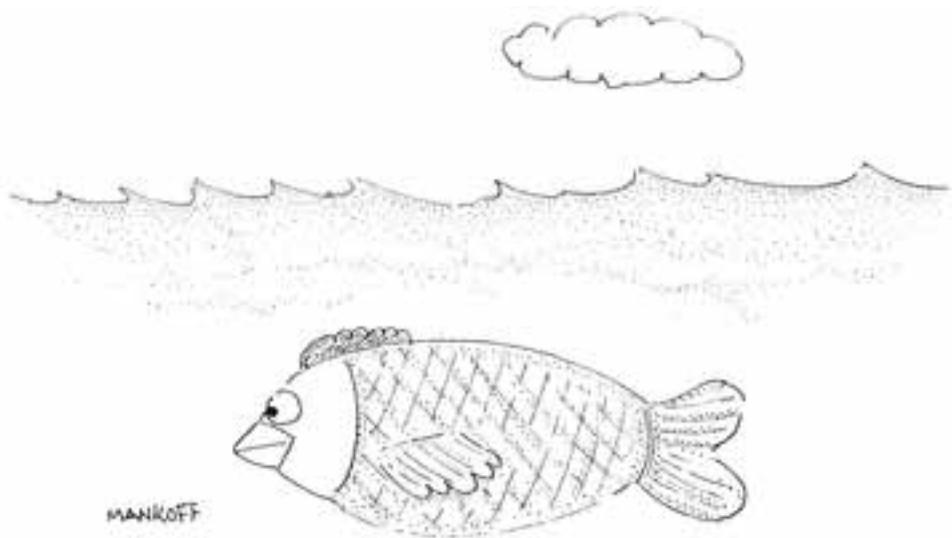
"O.K. What part of 'malignant regression and pathogenic reintrojection as a defense against psychic decompensation' don't you understand?"



"And do you, Barry, take this woman, warts and all, to be your wife?"

POLICE LOG FROM SUBURBIA HEIGHTS IN HAIKU FORM





WAY TOO GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CHICKEN



"This year, Hal, we've decided to concentrate on a few close races, where the undead vote could be decisive."



"Don't make me come over there!"



"Now, this baby can hold up to five hundred magnets."



"I'm on sabbatical from a marriage in Lewiston, Maine."



"For some reason, I'm getting nicer. Where will it end?"



"Oh, stop your frettin'."



"Ewww—Cabernet with tuna fish?"



*"I make decisions as much with my gut as I do
with my brain. Let's eat."*



"I've had to be both mother and father to them."



*"I'm sure you two will discover that you're both plagued
by a lot of the same nonexistent problems."*



"My dad's a recovering role model, too."



"Apparently, it's his severance package."



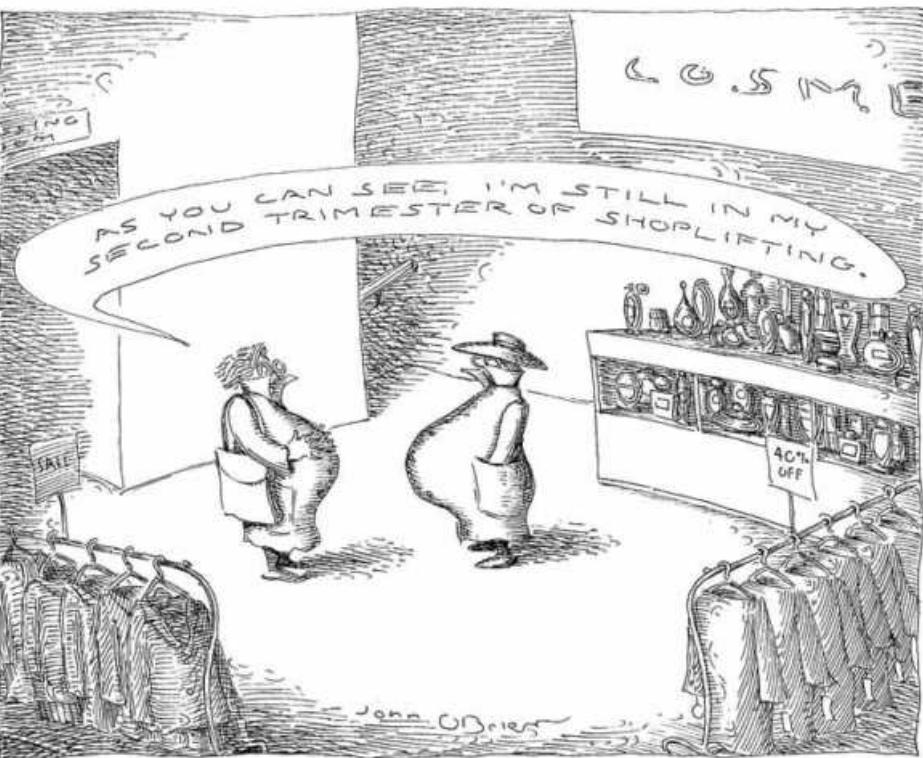
*"I'll start with the knight in shining armor, then
have the maiden rare and radiant."*



"I'm still undecided—I like Leno's foreign policy, but Letterman makes a lot of sense on domestic issues."



"I'll be in, honey, as soon as I rake the leaf."







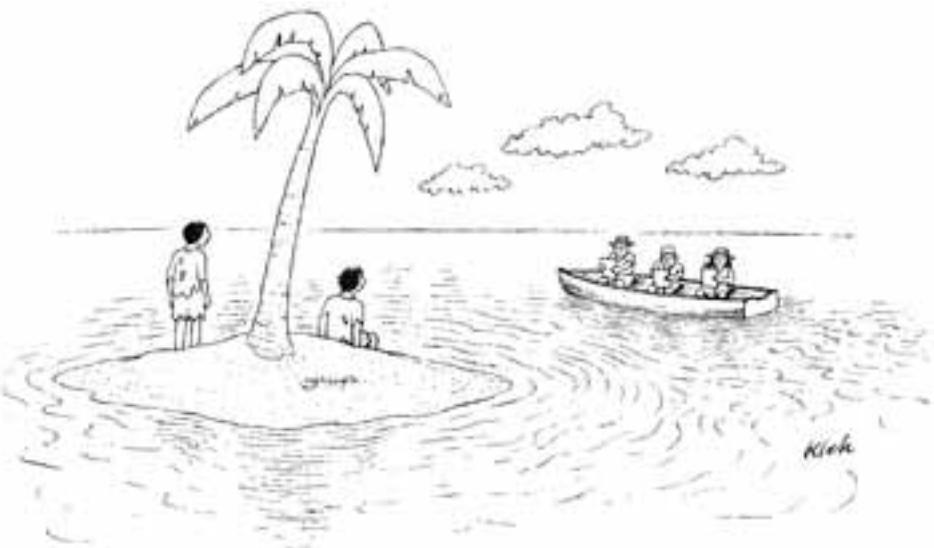
"It's a whole different world over here, isn't it?"



"I won it for being lice-free."



"I was distracted for a moment. Go on."



"Ignore them. They're cartoonists."



"This is getting us nowhere!"





*"It's a dog tradition. Every morning and evening,
we thank God that we're not cats."*





"To you it was fast."



*"I don't want to treat you like dirt, but I don't
want to lose you, either."*



*"If nothing else, school has prepared me for
a lifetime of backpacking."*

THE FUNNIES (1 OF 15)



"Bond. James Bond."

"Hell. Go to hell."

THE FUNNIES (2 OF 15)



"This is your captain speaking."

THE FUNNIES (3 OF 15)



"My mom says that in twenty years we'll look back on our mode of dress and be amused by these clearly excellent choices. I think not."

THE FUNNIES (4 OF 15)



*"I'm going to get you acquitted, but I want
my fee to be a lesson to you."*

THE FUNNIES (5 OF 15)



"No thanks, I'm fine."

THE FUNNIES (6 OF 15)

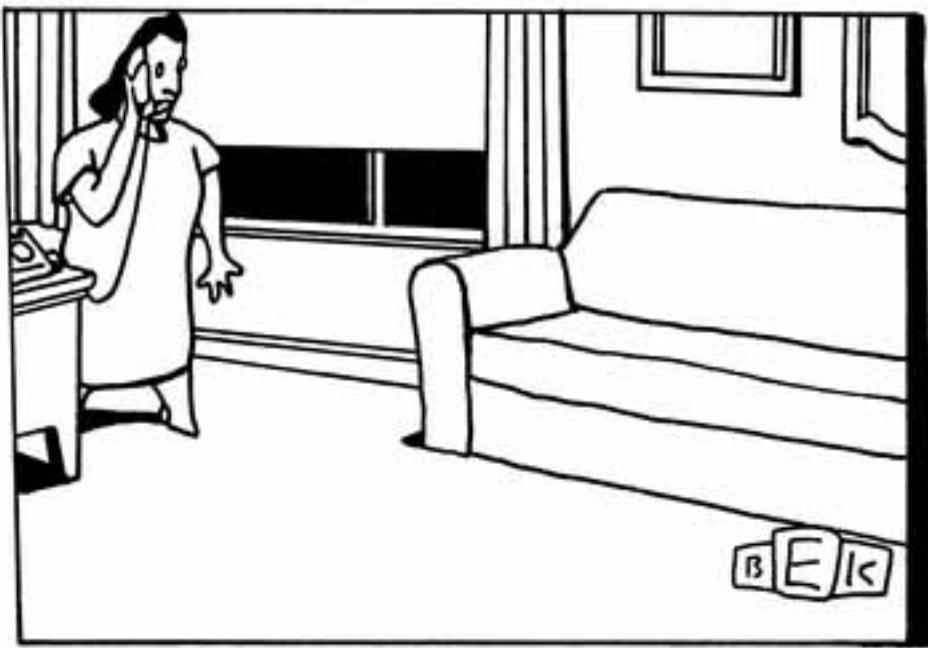


THE FUNNIES (7 OF 15)



"What the hell did you expect?"

THE FUNNIES (8 OF 15)



*"I'm warning you—I'm going to call the police if
you don't stop touching base with me."*

THE FUNNIES (9 OF 15)



"Run this up Legal's ass."

THE FUNNIES (10 OF 15)



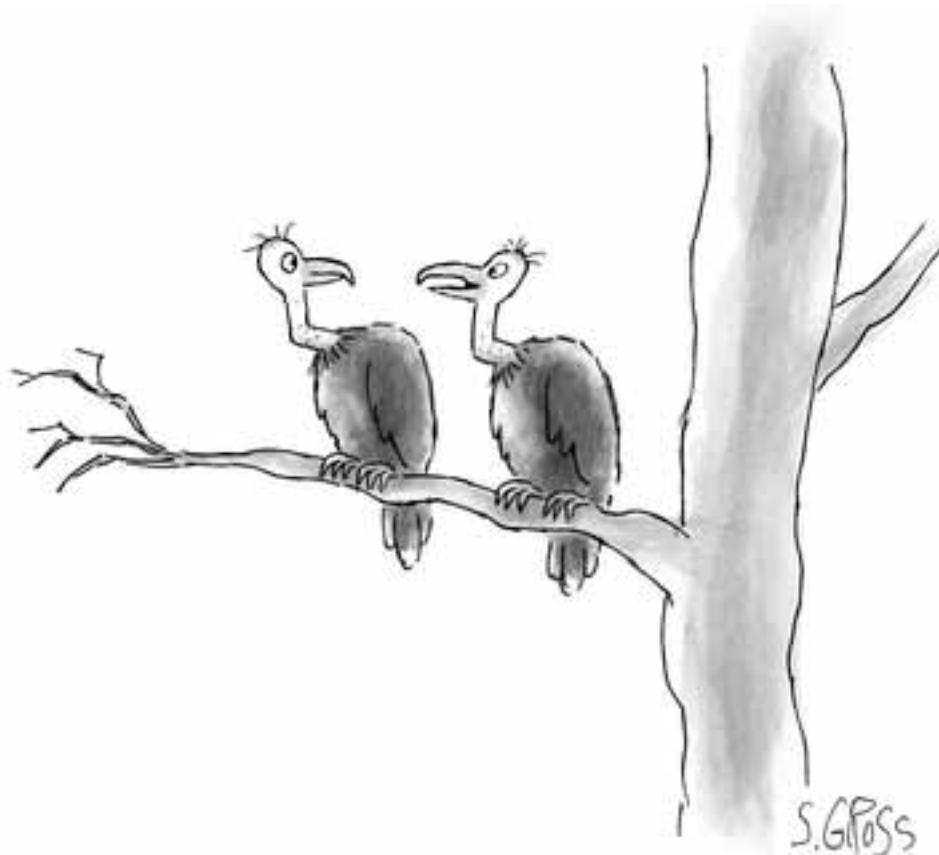
"If anyone cares, I'll be E-mailing Amnesty International."

THE FUNNIES (II OF 15)



"What day of the week did we decide it was?"

THE FUNNIES (12 OF 15)



"Only two things are certain—death and food."

THE FUNNIES (13 OF 15)



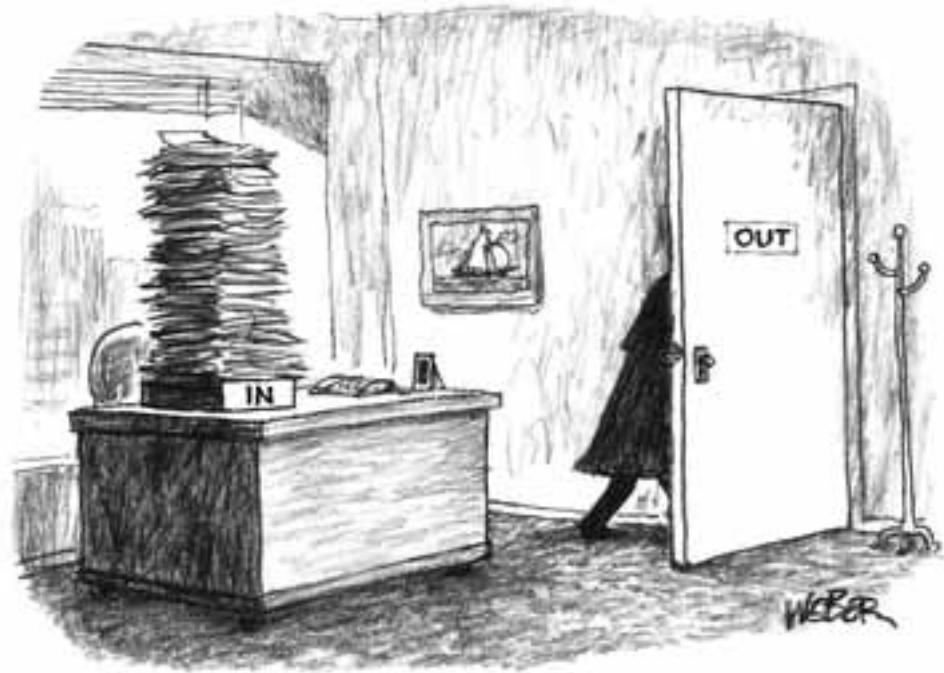
*"O.K., I just found my wife in bed with my best friend
and I go into a rage. What's my motivation?"*

THE FUNNIES (14 OF 15)



*"And so, for the sake of the children, they lived
together forever after."*

THE FUNNIES (15 OF 15)





*"O.K. Fair enough. That's a great price
for mayonnaise."*



*"If I'd known he was going to win, I never
would have voted for him."*



"We, the jury, find our lattes too cinnamony."



"When I heard that 'Charlie's Angels' raked in over forty million in its first weekend, I sensed that there was great confusion in this country."



"He didn't have to get snippy about it!"



*"The guy that knows about the books isn't here today.
I'd be more than happy to suggest a bookmark."*



"Eventually, Howard wants to dump himself in the Atlantic and serve as an artificial reef for fish."



"Yes, I realize that we are free agents, but I have to take on the additional risk of pregnancy and am more susceptible to certain sexually transmitted diseases, so I think you should pay for the movie."



"The kick is up, and it's, it's, it's too close to call!"



"Again? I read you your Miranda rights last night."



"No, I don't want to change you, Darryl. But sure, it would be great if you were completely different."



"We slipped in the tub."



THAT ELUSIVE PECORINO!



*"Nice job, Reverend, but I think I'll stick
to worshipping my body."*



*"You were kept after school to review multiplication
and division. This is not a date."*



"Have you ever thought about becoming a duck?"



*"Now that our last is off to college, could you tell me
who the hell you are?"*



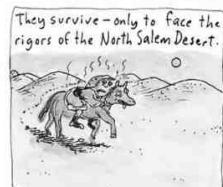
"Too Jewish?"



"I bark, I get fed. That works for me."

The Incredible Journey

WHY YOUR LETTER TOOK TWO WEEKS TO REACH CONNECTICUT



R. Chast



"Today in school we learned how to recount to ten."



"Good Lord! It's another vote for Al Gore!"



*"You have to admit that your chip looks
a lot like their chip."*

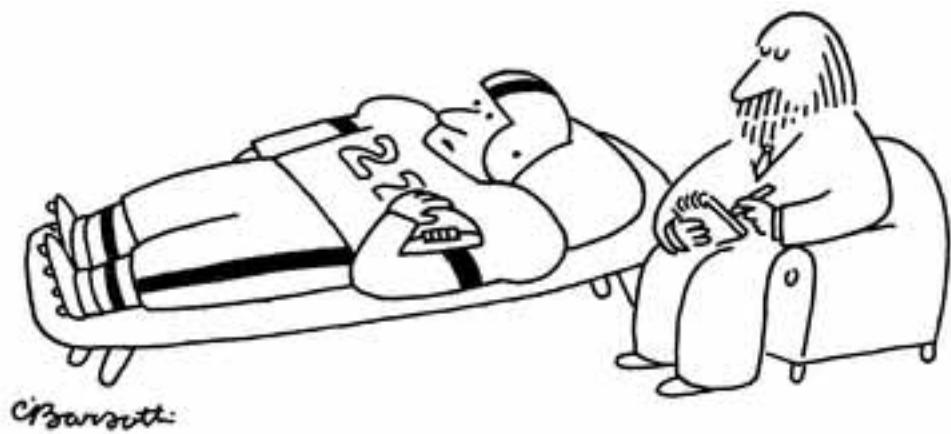


"Please turn off any electronic devices and refrain from using your cell phone as we pass through the darkness and into the light."



"Whose idea was this damn middle class?"





*"Then I wake up, the cheering has stopped, I have
three kids, and I work in a cubicle."*



"The nurses and technicians did all they could—I just wasn't into it."



*"See, that's your problem right there—the roof
is mostly sugar."*



*"They're not worth the uranium it would take
to blow them to hell."*



"The Taklaks have a huge fire."



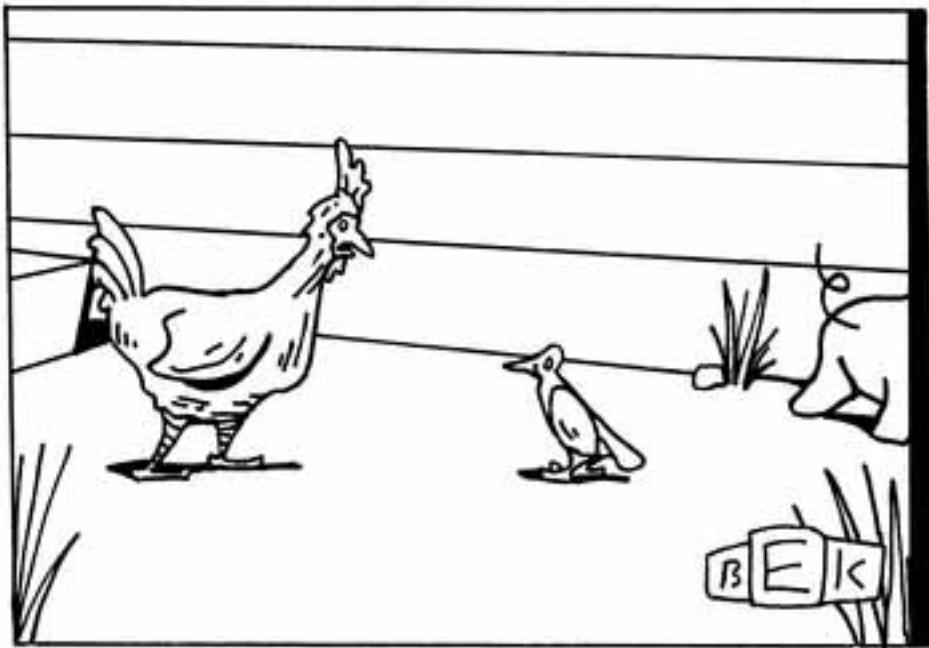
"I know I'm perjuring myself, but I'm trying to make a point!"



*"Do you realize we've been together through
three versions of Windows?"*



"Well, Henri—what's robust today?"



*“Sometimes I get so bored with myself I can
barely make it to ‘doodle-do.’”*



*"And another thing. I don't want you
visiting my Web site."*



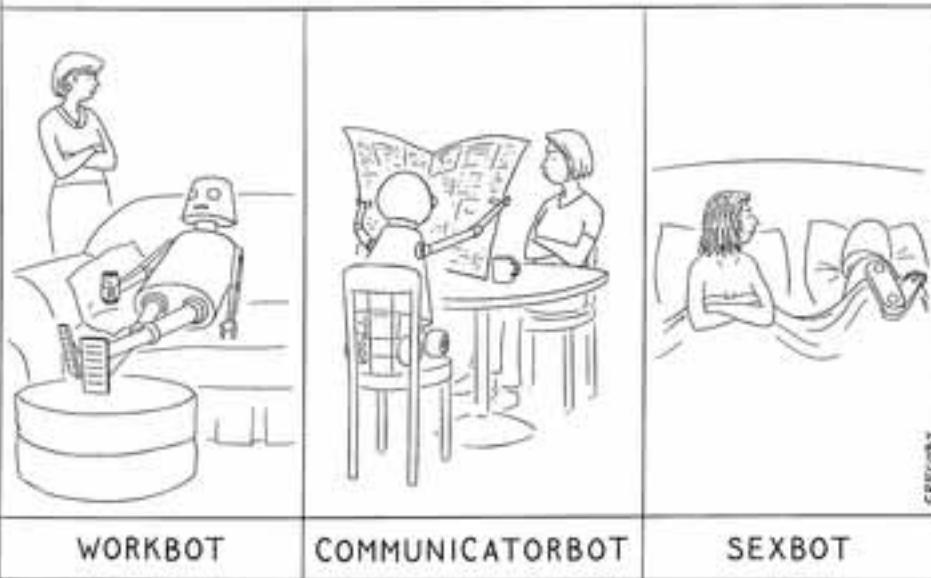
*"If she wasn't such a bitch, she wouldn't have
anything going for her."*





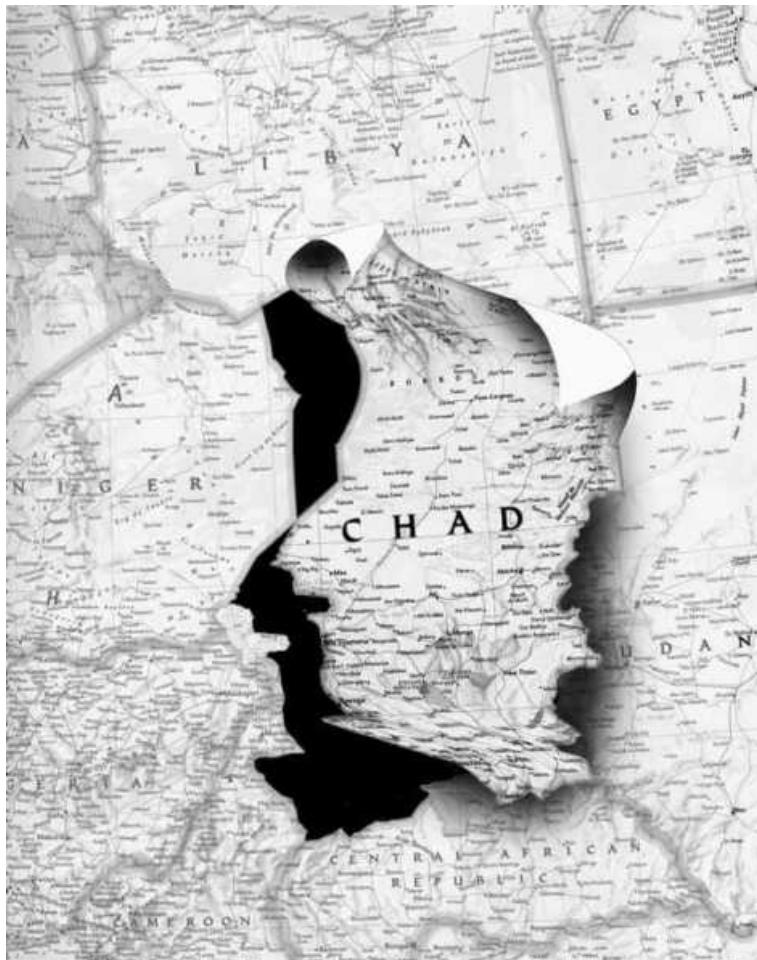
"I'd love to join you in saying horrible things about men, but I used to be one myself."

WILL ROBOTS EVER REPLACE MAN?

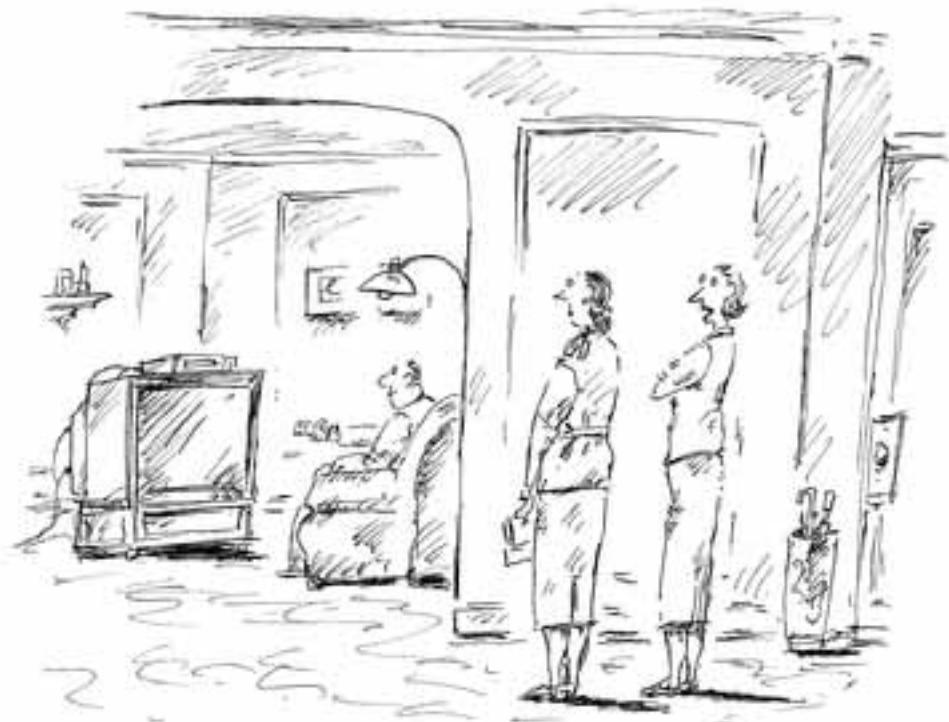




"It's going to be my first protest song, as soon as I can figure out some words that rhyme with 'Napster,' 'Bertelsmann,' and 'service charge.' "







*"Every few years, Gordon and the TV get
a couple of inches wider."*





"Why can't you just learn to floss like other men?"



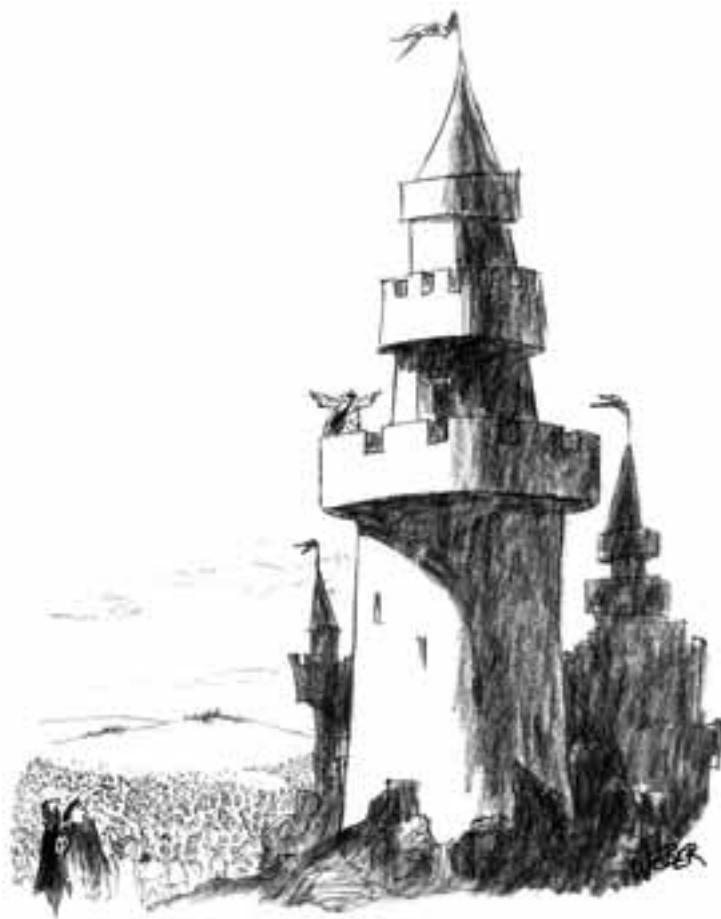
"He turns out not to be Italian—just Italianate."



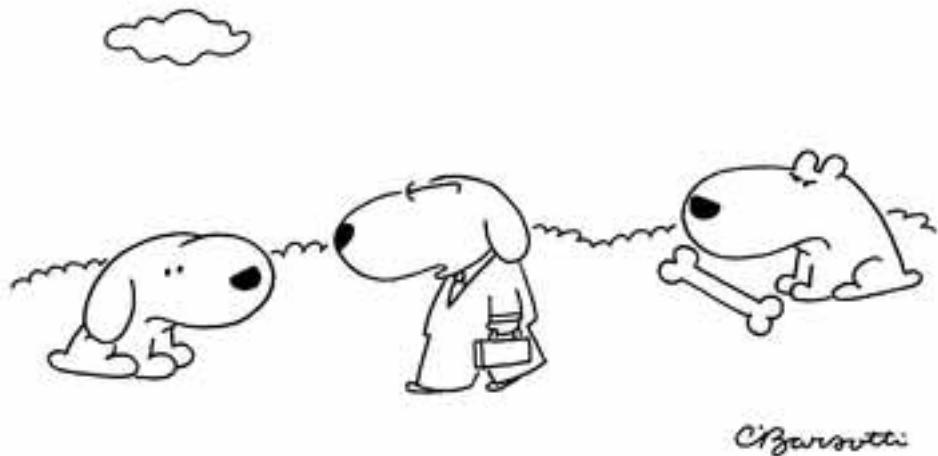
"Let me get this, but keep in mind that you'll pay for it in other, more subtle ways later on."



*"I always lived vicariously. Why can't
I die vicariously?"*



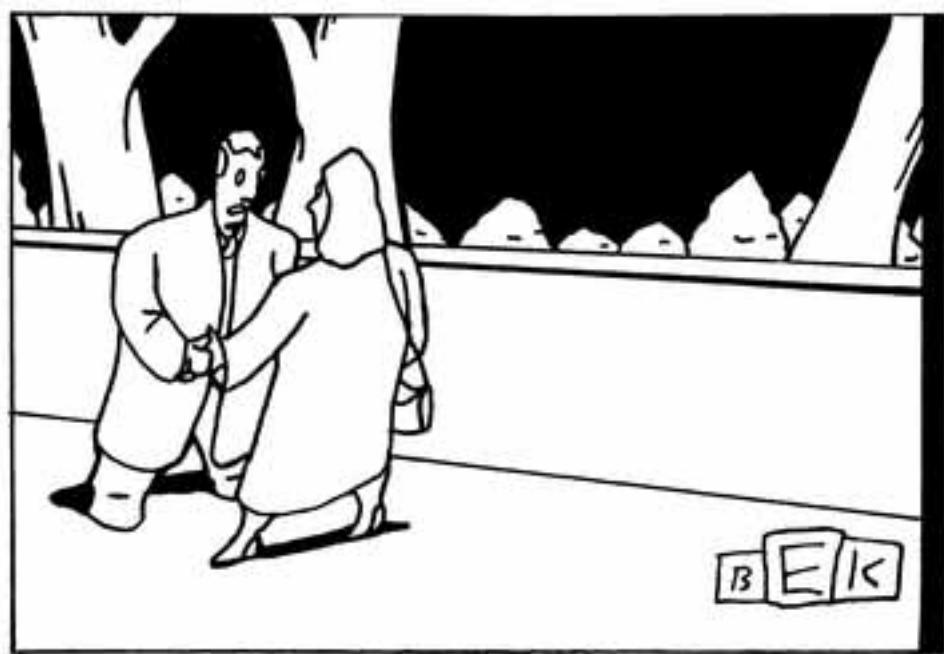
"And to think he started in accounting."



"It's non-negotiable."



"Use a hockey stick—make it look like a game."



"If you'll have me, I'd like to be your blind spot."





WEYANT





GREGORY

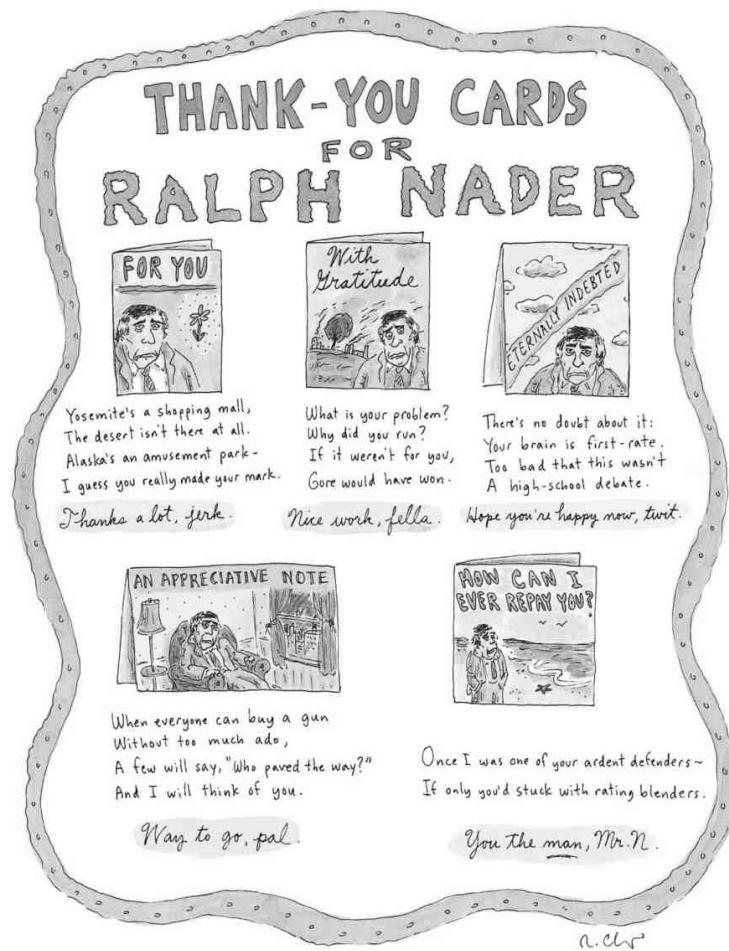
"This is so unexpected—I didn't even prepare a speech."

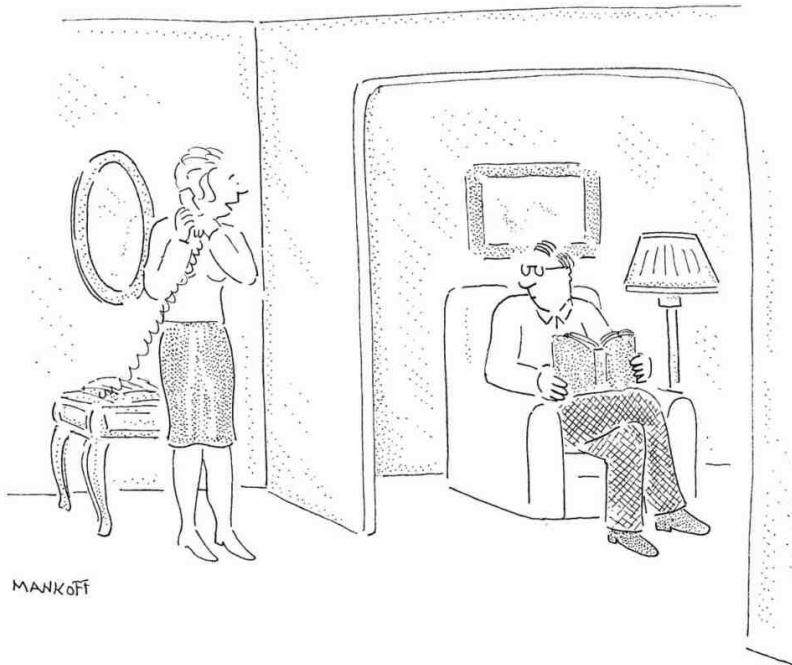


"Hi! I'm Todd, your waiter, and I'd like to think our friendship is more than contextual."



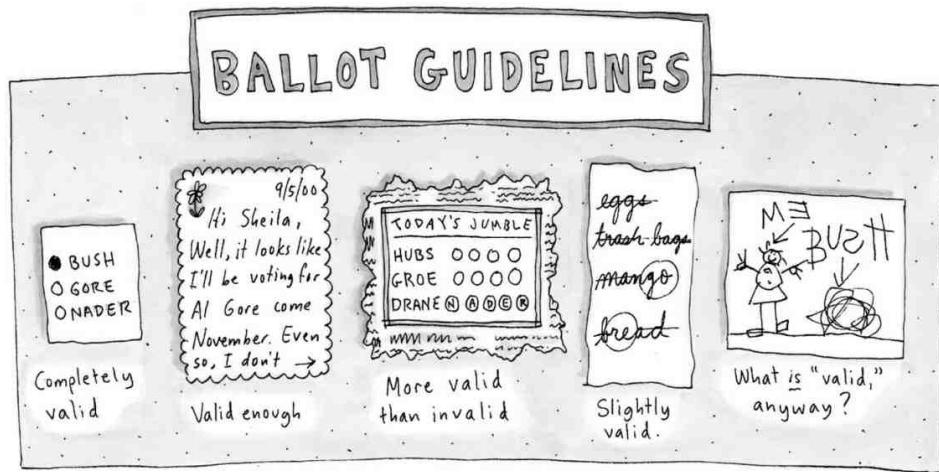
"You've changed, Howie."





MANKOFF

"Are we interested in a meticulously detailed, genuine silver coin, issued and authenticated by the Franklin Mint, honoring whichever schmuck wins?"



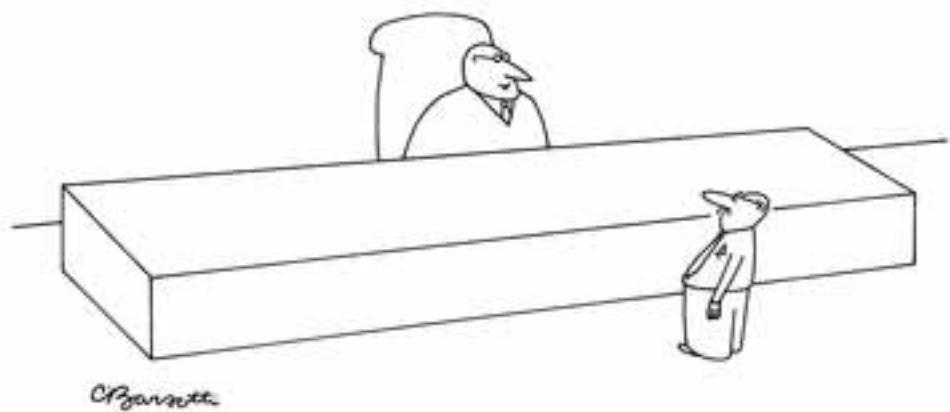
R. Chast



*“Things were done very differently on the farm when
I was your age, Kenny.”*



"Now you're getting the hang of it!"



"Life isn't fair, Milford, and that's what makes it fun."



"They're bred for their facial characteristics."



"Even my childhood dreams were of tax cuts."



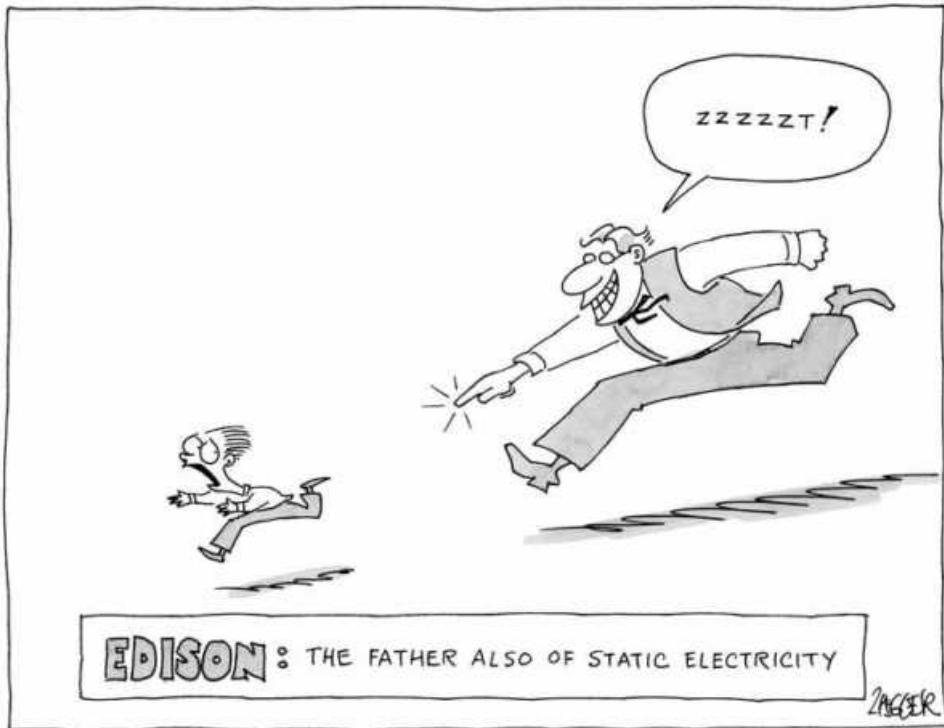
"You can always put it in your closet and leave it there."



"Rufus, here, is the center of our life!"



*"If I knew the meaning of life, would I be
sitting in a cave in my underpants?"*





*"For Pete's sake, Lucille, lighten
up—it's only a sleepover."*

IN THE EMBARRASSMENT CEMETERY



R. CHAST



*"Your father loves me very much, in his own way, and
I love your father very much, in my own way, and
that's why we're getting a divorce."*



"What if it turns out you're not even a late bloomer?"



*"I see that you work for one of those
faith-based organizations."*



"I love this town!"



"Kid, we're up to here in bildungsromans."



"Miss Ross, get me a motivational speaker."



"Why do you always get to be the gay icon?"



*"No, leave it long in the back so I can look
like a nincompoop."*





*"I hardly think a transition team is necessary, Ed,
in order to switch from beer to Scotch."*



"Sometimes I don't read my mail."



*"You should go and talk to Santa, dear, even though
you feel he screwed you last year."*



"Let's face it: you and this organization have never been a good fit."



*"Isn't it about time we tell the trophy wife
about the trophy concubine?"*



"We were into things, but now we're into experiences."



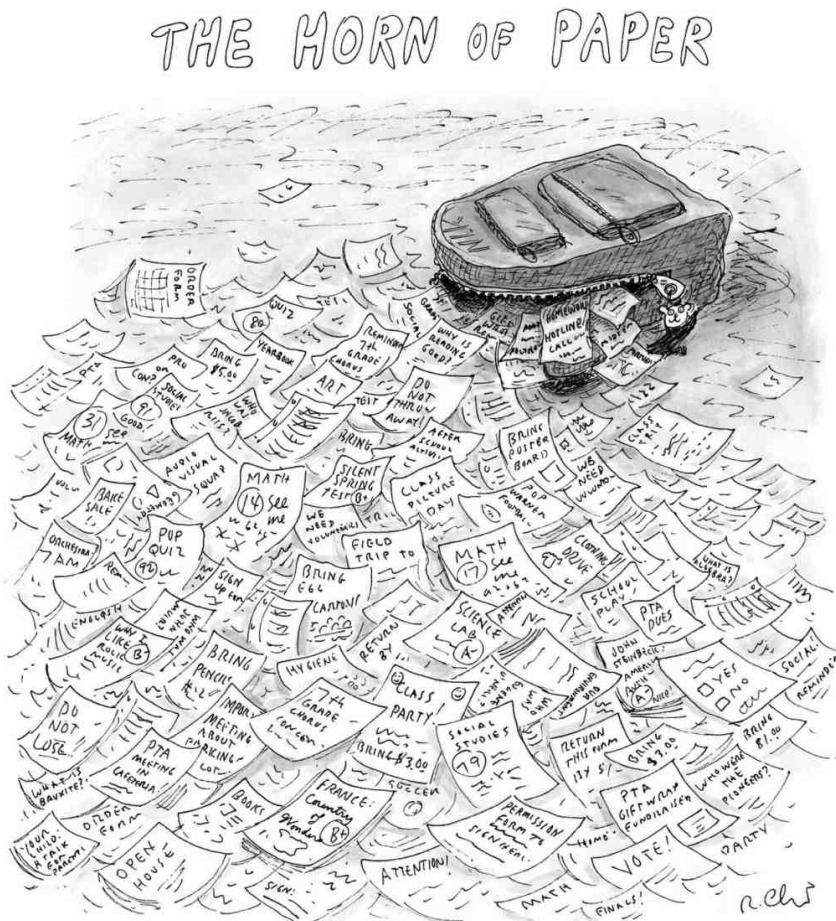
"You're a partner now, Cosgrove. Partners don't do self-deprecation."

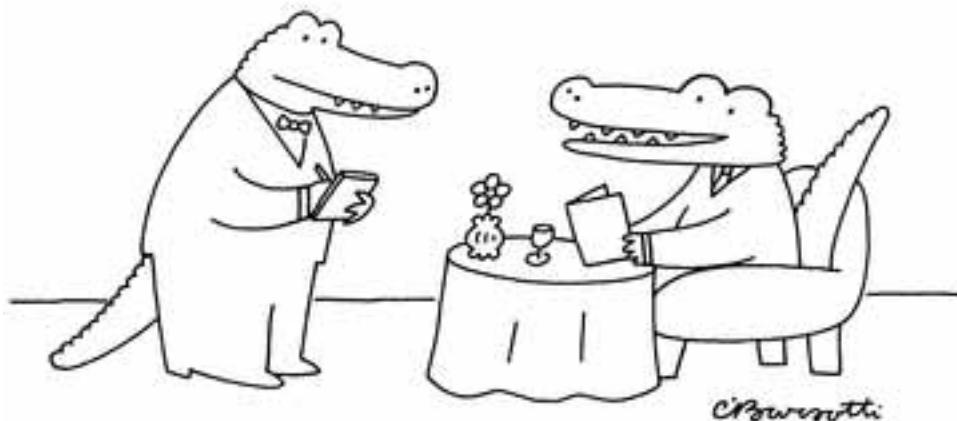


"They make me look hippy, right?"



*"We really need to talk about our relationship, so
I've booked us on a TV show."*





"Poodle to be followed by hysterical blue-haired widow? Sounds good."



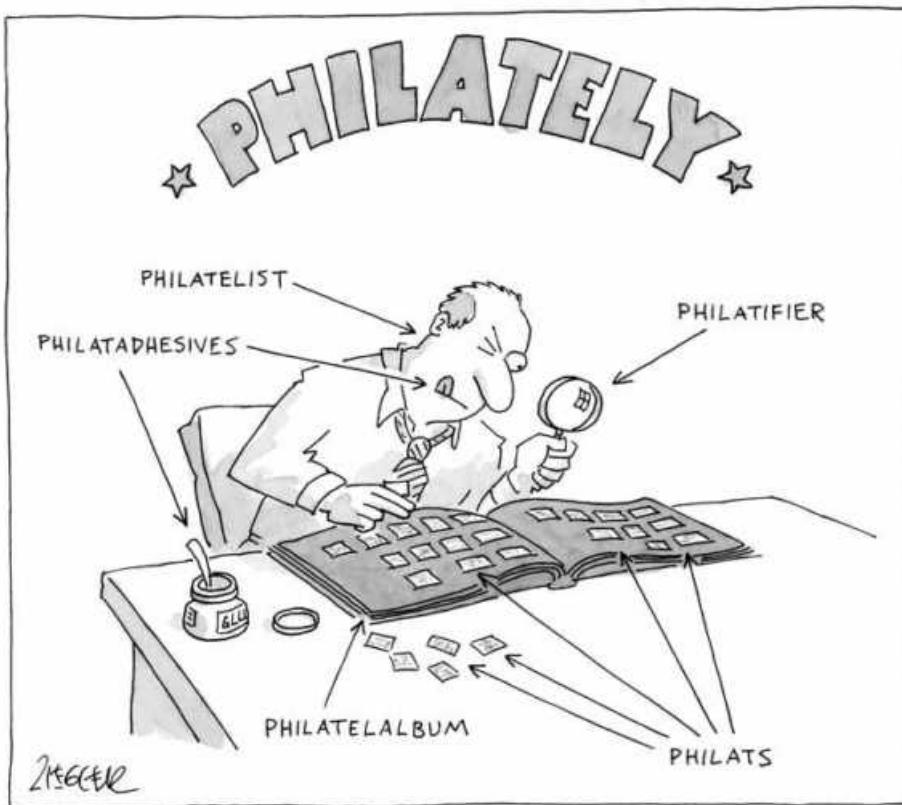
"Hey! Get back here!"



"I'm here to fix the lasagna."



"Sit down, Brad—I've got some character-building news for you."





"Just what goes in these hot dogs, anyway?"



"01101001, 00111011, 00011010, hut, hut!"



"I suffer as much as you. I just don't let it interfere with my ability to make others suffer."



"I don't know about you, but my confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the rule of law wasn't that high even before the Supreme Court ruling."



"I need more time to study your decision."



"His volumes speak silences."



"Last time he came out to play with you he went bankrupt."



"I was going to chuck it all, burn my bridges, and go off to Paris to write my novel, but I didn't have enough frequent-flier miles."



"I'm not wearing any underwear."



"It makes you stop and think, There, but for the grace of God, goes somebody I fired."

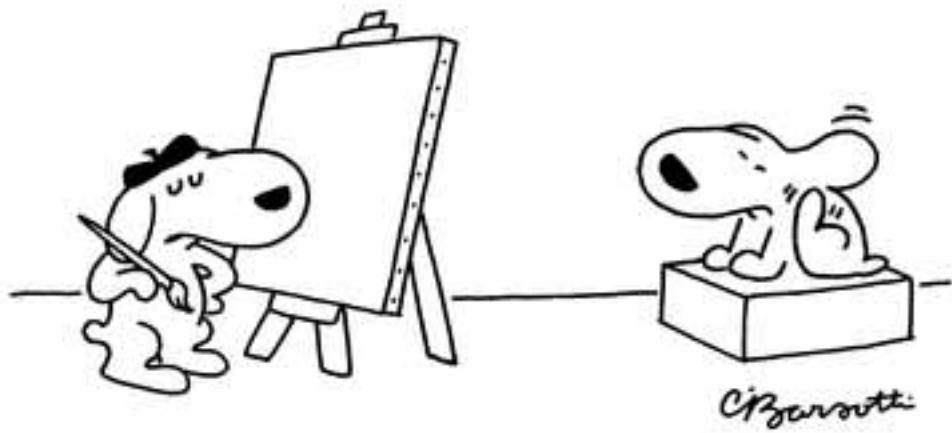


"Yes, as far as I know, songbirds write their own material."



"The Internet startup had only enough cash for one more day. But, miraculously, the money lasted for eight days, until more venture capital could be raised."





"Whenever you're ready."



"An excellent question, Sylvia, and I thank you for the opportunity to use 'whilst' in my response."



"One thing's for sure. We'll have to mend our evil ways when Hillary shows up."



"Now close your eyes and go to sleep or Daddy will read you more of his novel."



*"Night before Christmas or no night before
Christmas, I feel like stirring."*

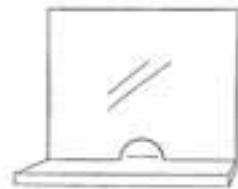


"At what do you toil?"

2000

Graceland TOURS

IRONIC



NON-IRONIC

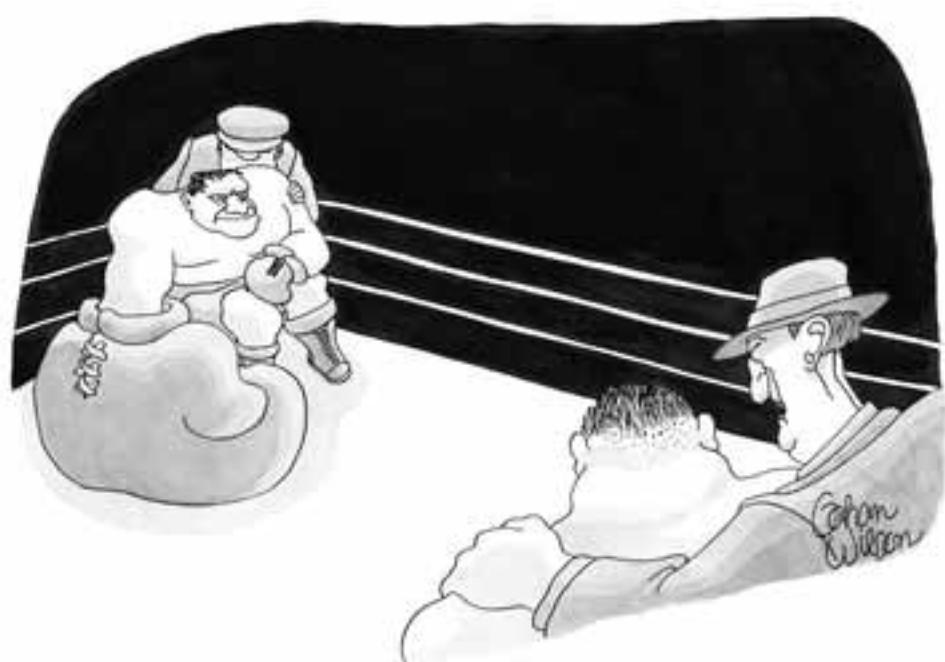


GREGORY





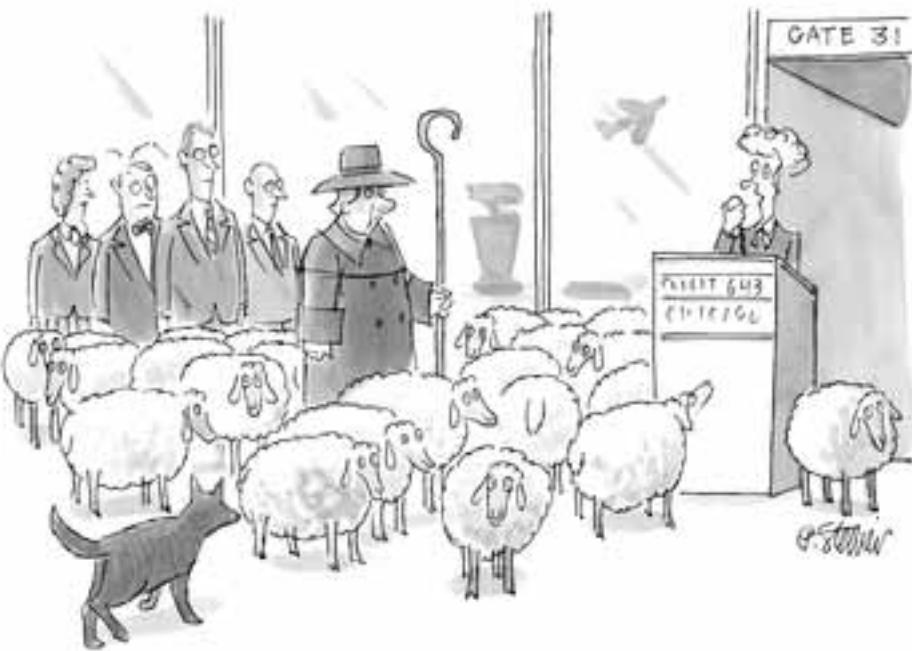
*"There are many questions, of course, that won't
be answered till the autopsy."*



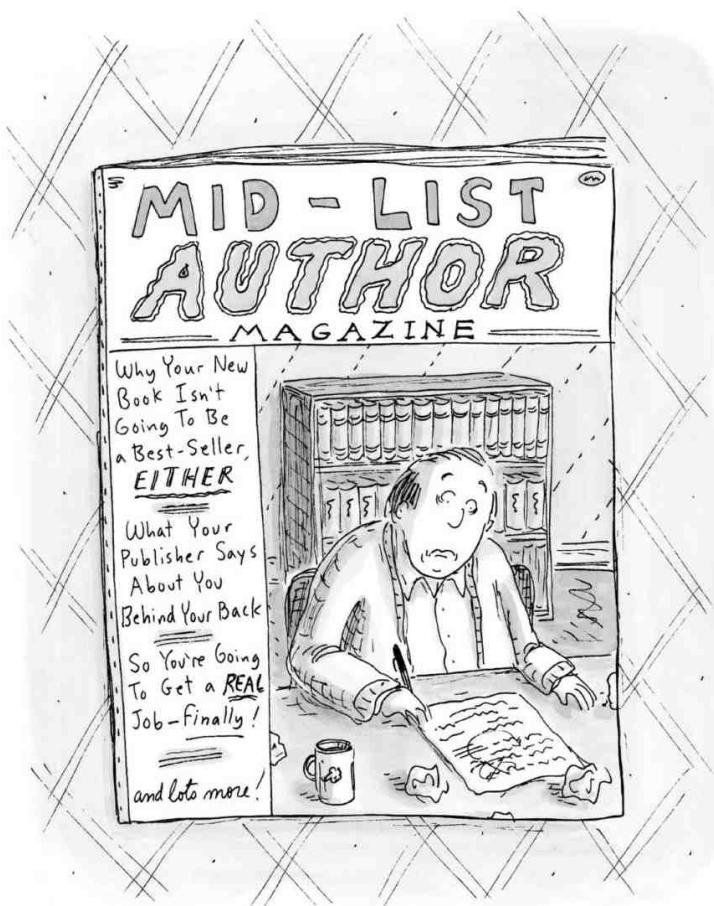
"Watch out for his right, kid!"



"What do I think is an appropriate punishment? I think an appropriate punishment would be to make me live with my guilt."



"If you are travelling with small children or if you just need a little extra time, we invite you to board the aircraft at this time."



R. Chast



"I say 'fiesta,' you say 'siesta.' "



"So your testimony is that by the time you found Mr. Peanut he was already shelled. Is that correct?"

