GO ADD VALUE SOMEPLACE ELSE

SCOTT ADAMS

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INTRODUCTION

Thanks to my rare combination of public accessibility and incompetence I get more unsolicited advice than anyone in the galaxy. Apparently if you spend five minutes reading anything I've written you start thinking, this guy needs my help.

I've noticed that when I offer my advice to others I am adding value. But when other people offer advice to me, it comes off as meddling, griping, and missing the point. This supports my hypothesis that other people are the leading cause of bad advice.

The only reliable advice I get is from my dog, Snickers. Three times a day she finds me in my home office and rolls on her back to look irresistible. This is how she advises me that it is time to take a break and rub her belly. I always comply. And not once has that advice turned out to be suboptimal. I feel good every time I pet her and I'm not aware of any projects that were ruined by my dog-rubbing ways.

Compare Snickers' track record to the advice you get from your coworkers who are, in your opinion, little more than sentient saddlebags full of spoiled baloney. The dog wins every time. Am I right?

The best advice you can offer is the type that has two potential outcomes: Either the advisee will succeed and you can claim the success as your own, or the advice ends up killing the advisee and any witnesses. Either way you end up looking like the smart one.

The worst kind of advice is the type that lends itself to measurement. You don't want to advise someone that getting a lawyer to review a document will only take a week because anyone with a calendar will eventually figure out that it took seven months.

You want to give the sort of advice that defies measurement. For example, if someone asks your opinion on a proposed company logo, say something like, "The blue needs to be bluer." And never offer a reason because that just opens you up to attack.

My advice today is that you should read this book because it will make you more attractive in ways that are impossible to measure. But in the interest of full disclosure, the other possibility is that you'll discover how much your job is like Dilbert's and cry yourself into an early grave.

I would write more but Snickers just advised me that I need to take a break.

Thank you for reading Dilbert.

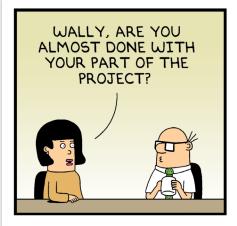
Scott Adams

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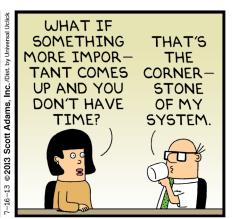










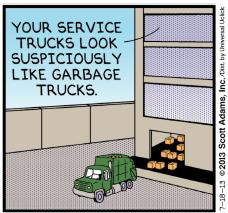










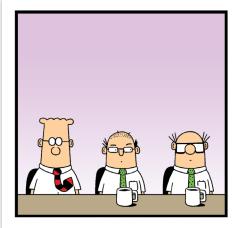


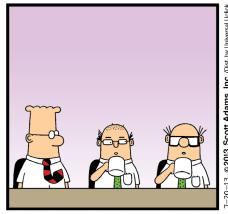


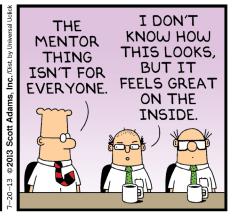








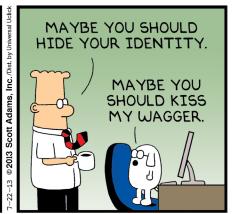


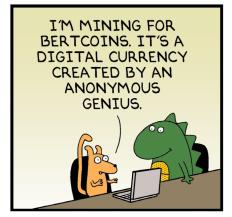


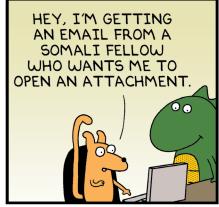


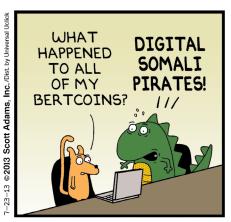


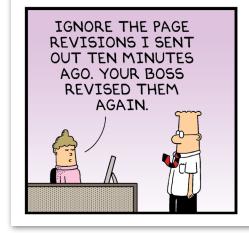










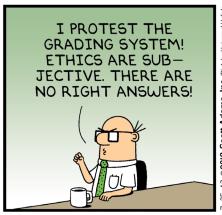




THANK YOU FOR REMOVING THE LAST SHRED OF MEANING FROM MY WORK.

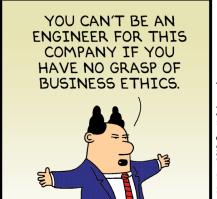
IT'S WHAT I DO.



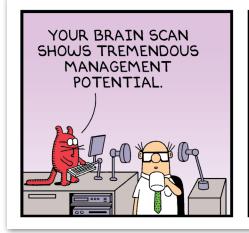


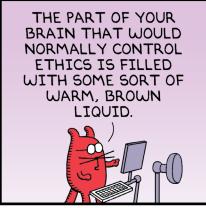








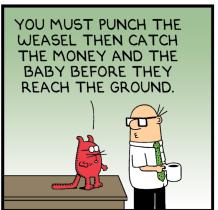




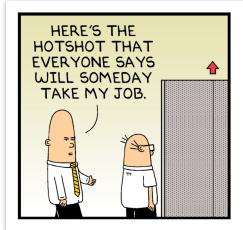


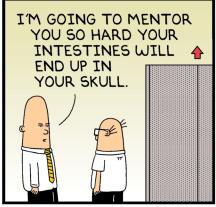


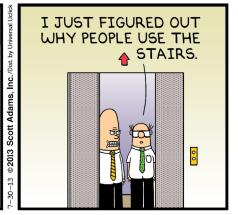


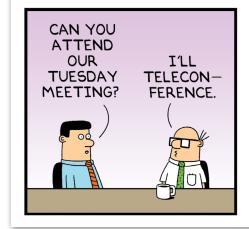






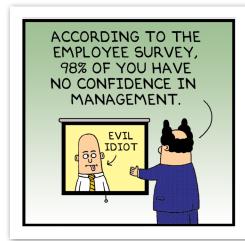


































I COULDN'T UNDER— STAND MOST OF THE ATTENDEES BECAUSE THEY WERE ON SPEAKER— PHONES IN ROOMS WITH BAD ACOUSTICS.

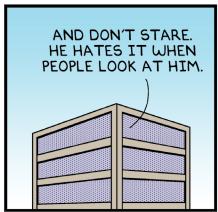










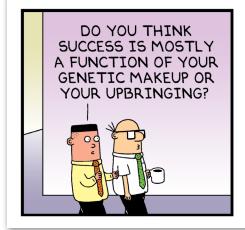




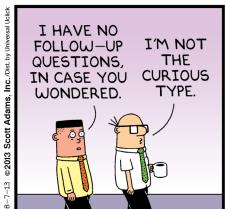




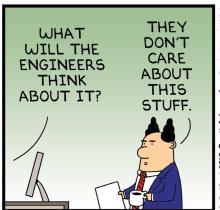


























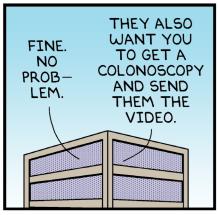


















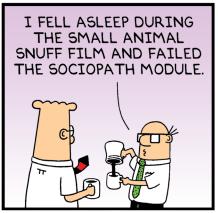




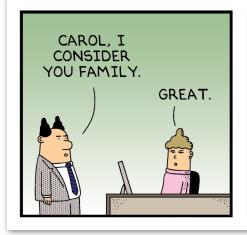






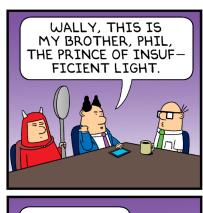












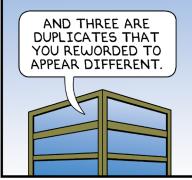






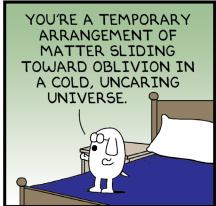


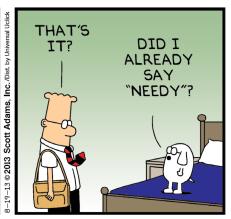


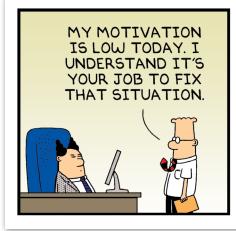








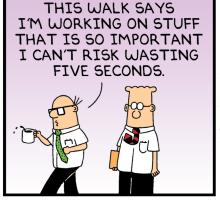


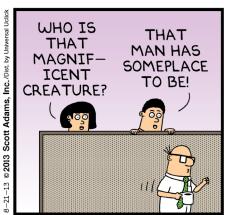




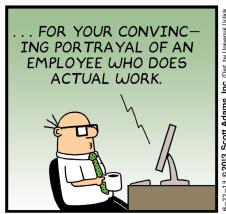






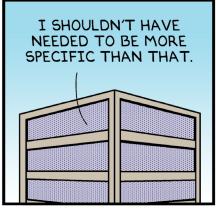




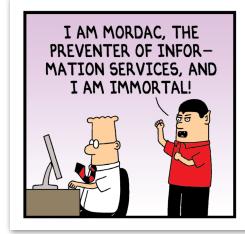


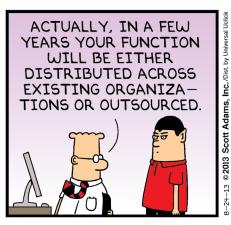


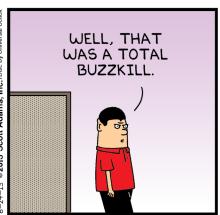






















IN THE EVENT OF AN IMPENDING COLLISION WITH AN ASTEROID, TRY RUNNING IN PLACE WHILE THE EARTH ROTATES.



IF YOU TIME IT
RIGHT, YOU'LL BE ON
THE OTHER SIDE OF
THE PLANET WHEN THE
ASTEROID HITS.



TO PREPARE FOR EVERY OTHER TYPE OF DISAS—TER, I RECOMMEND CULTIVATING A TASTE FOR HUMAN FLESH.

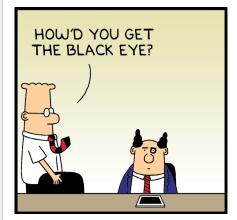




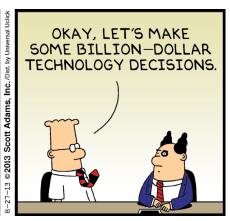






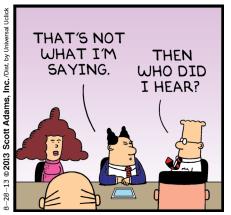


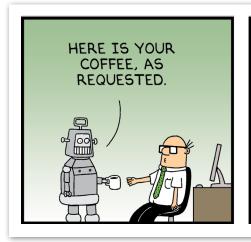


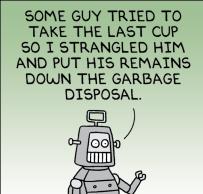




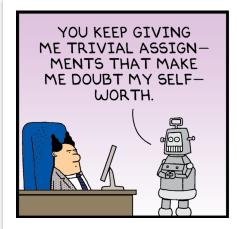




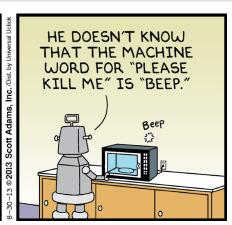




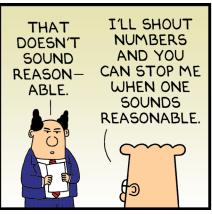






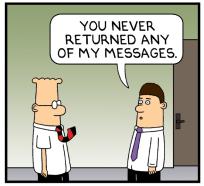














WELL, NO ... ONLY FOR A WEEK.

BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN AWKWARD TO RESPOND AFTER IGNOR—ING YOU FOR SO LONG.









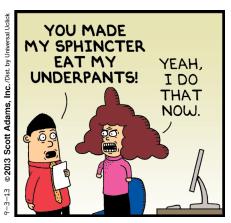




















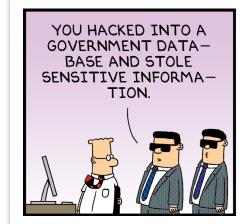








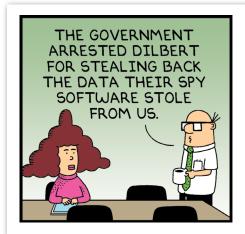


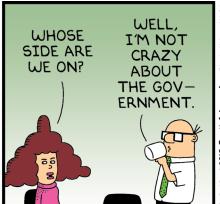


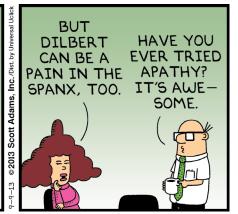




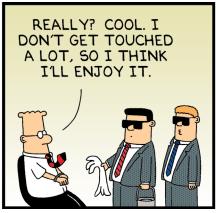




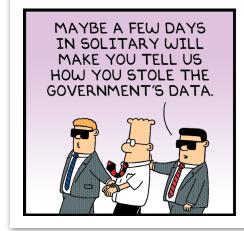


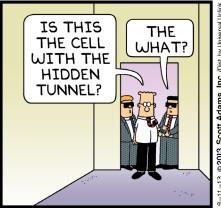




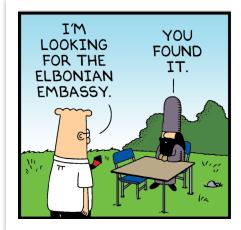




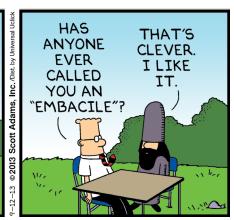


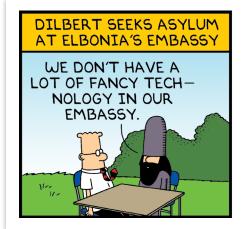


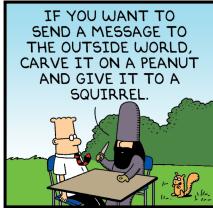


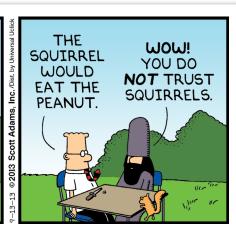






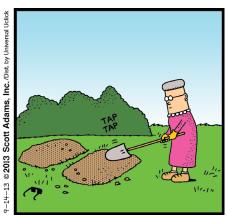






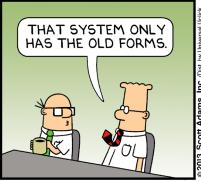












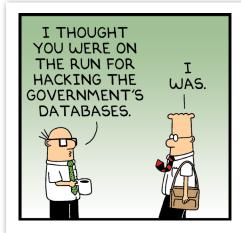




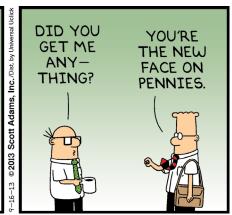




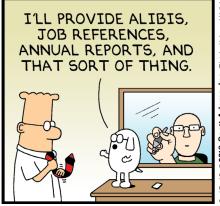




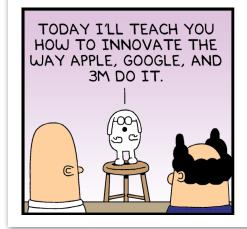


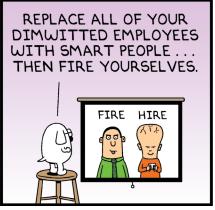










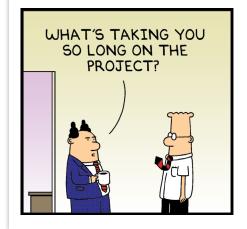


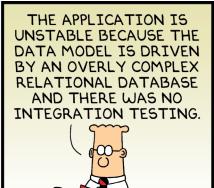


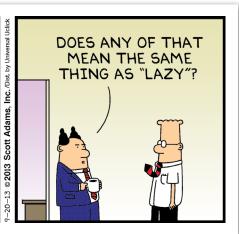


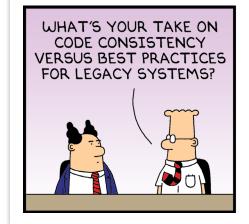
















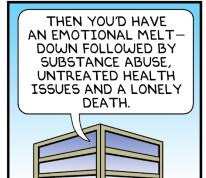






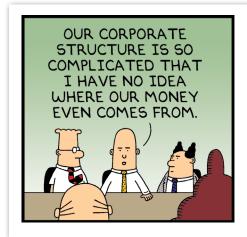






AND IT COULD ALL
HAPPEN BECAUSE OF
SOMETHING AS TRIVIAL
AS A TYPO ON ONE OF
YOUR SLIDES.











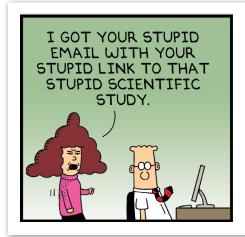


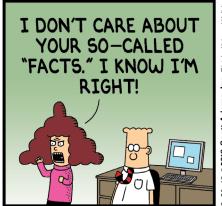








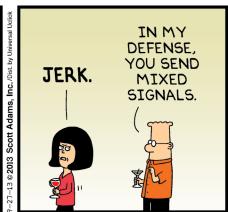




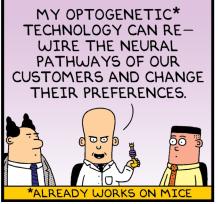




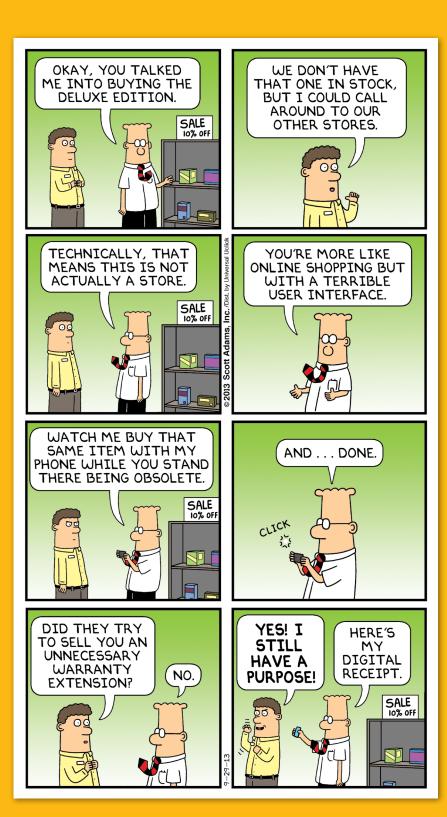


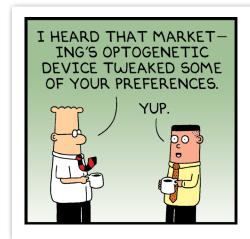












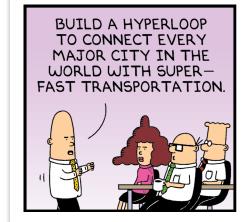


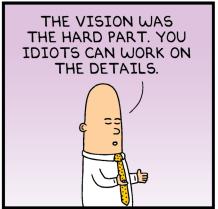


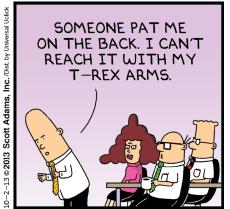






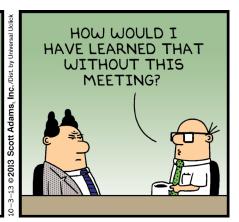


































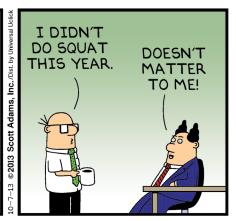


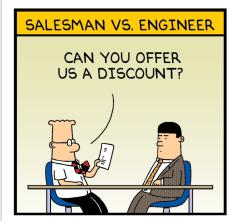












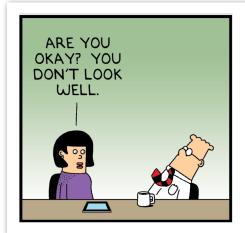




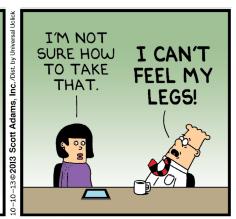




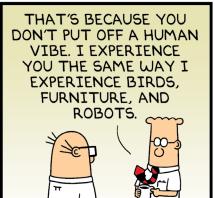


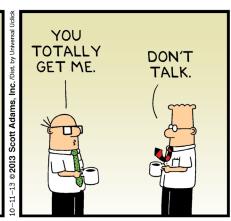


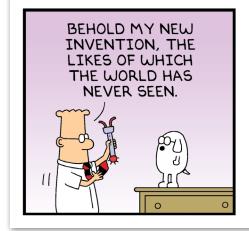




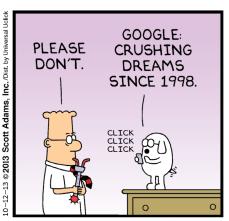


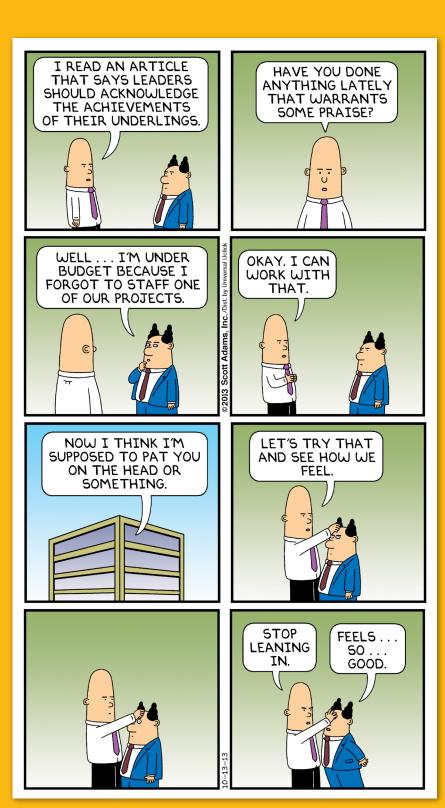


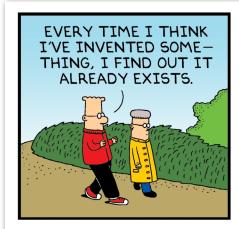




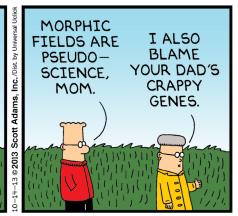










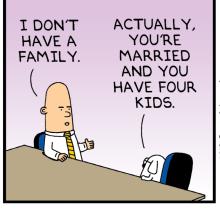


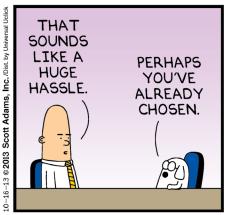




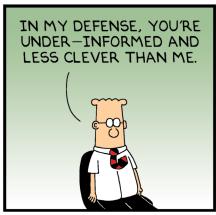




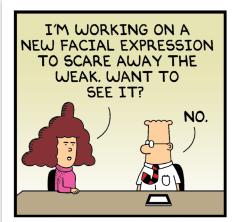








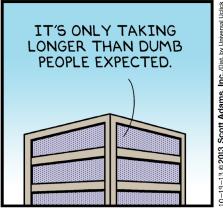






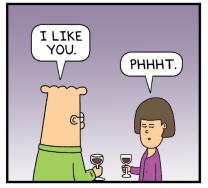




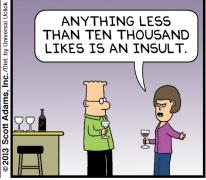






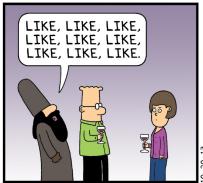


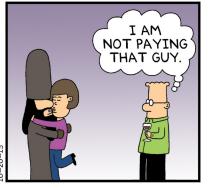


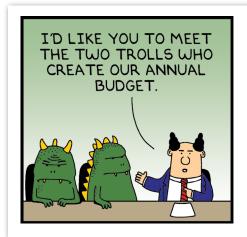








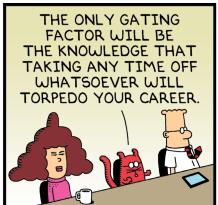






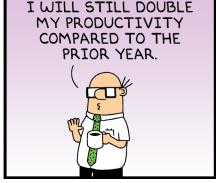




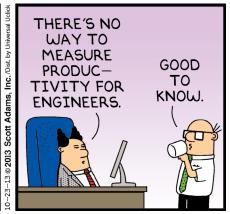


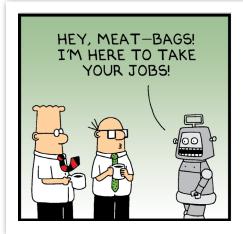


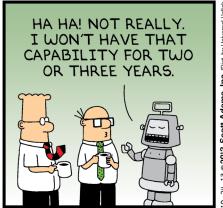


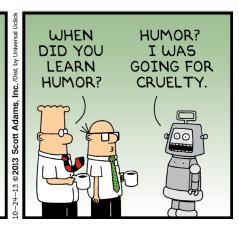


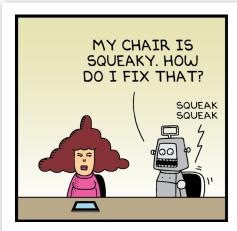
AND I GUARANTEE

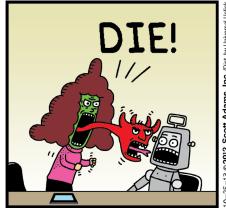


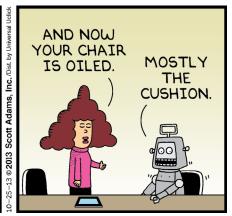


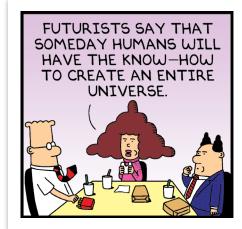














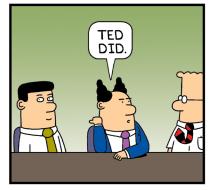


















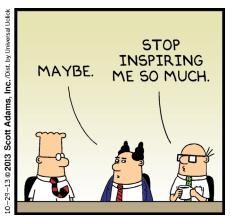


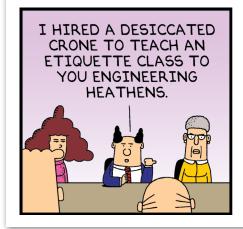




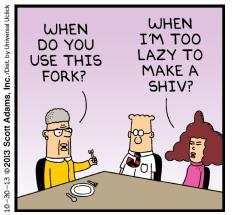






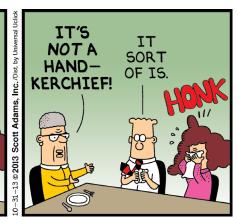












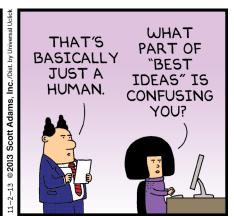






















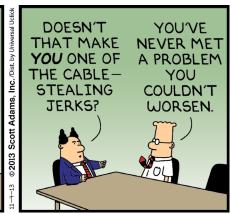












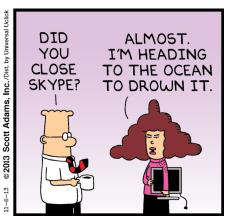


















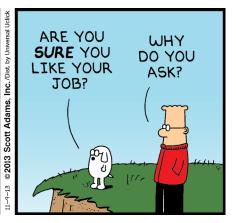




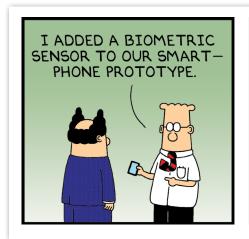


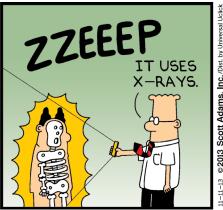


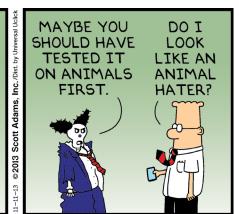










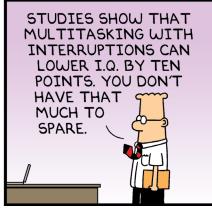
















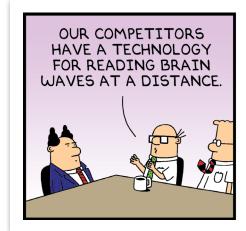


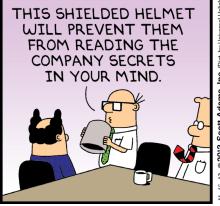






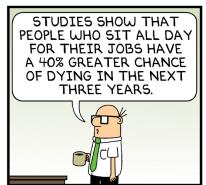


















SO INSTEAD OF SITTING AT MY DESK WORKING, I PLAN TO WALK AROUND AND DRINK COFFEE.

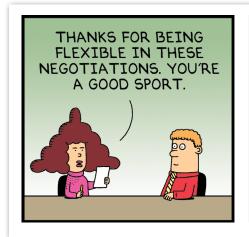




GO SIT AT YOUR DESK OR YOU'RE FIRED.

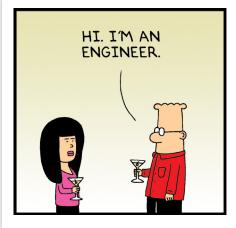


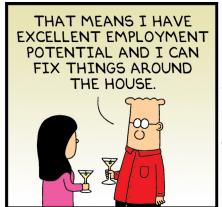


















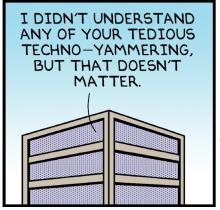


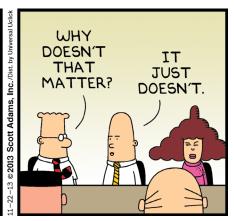














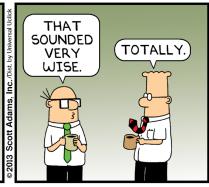


YOUR BOSS WAS JUST IN HERE SAYING THE SAME THING.



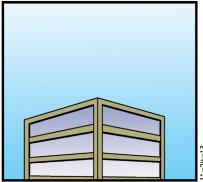




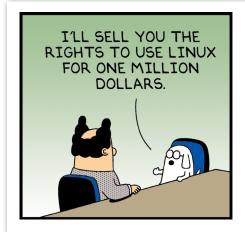








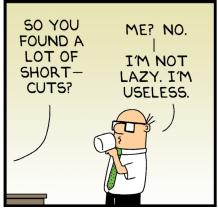






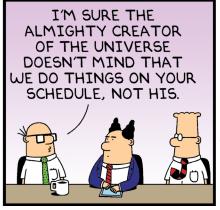




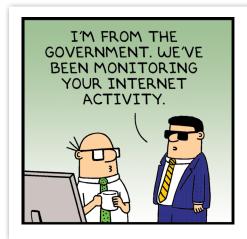










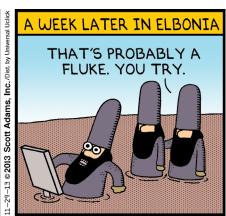












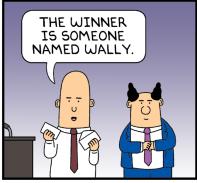




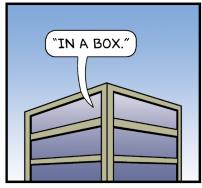










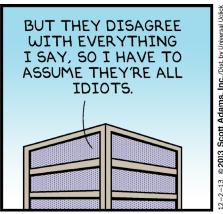
























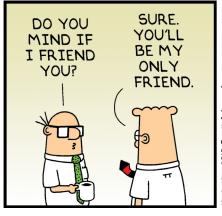


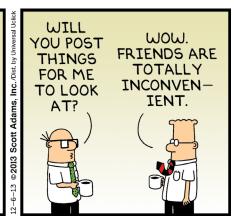






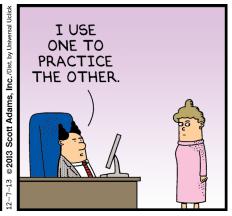




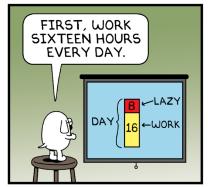






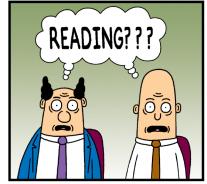




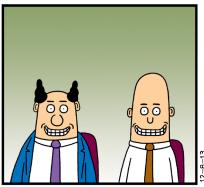


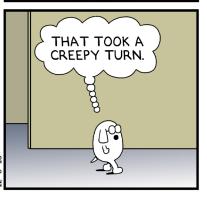






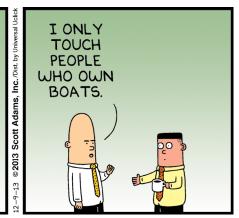






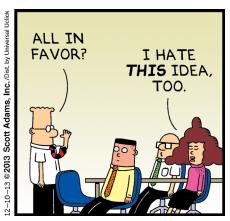




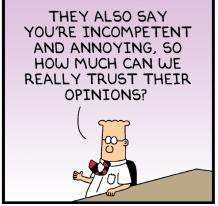


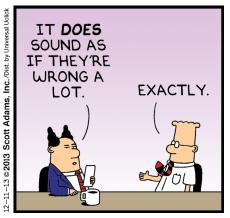




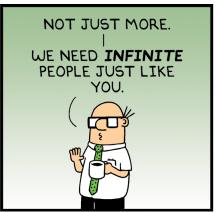




















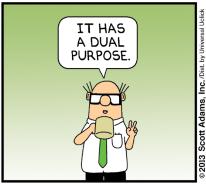






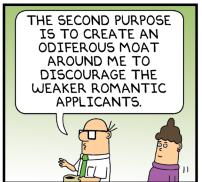


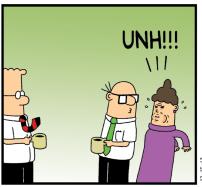








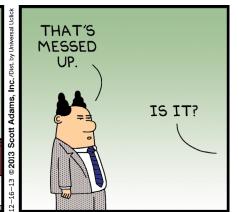




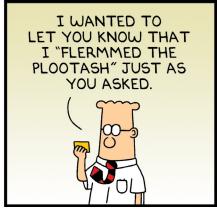


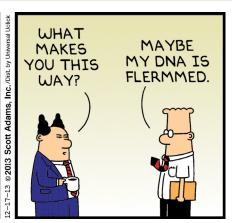


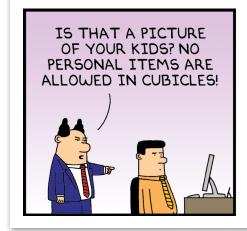






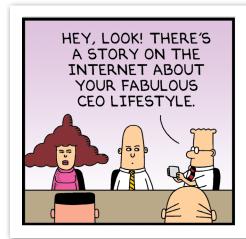


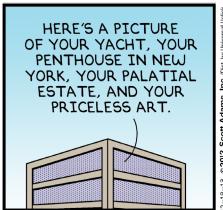


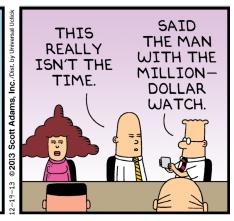




























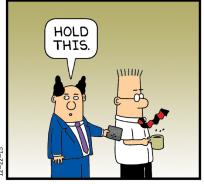










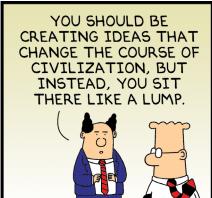




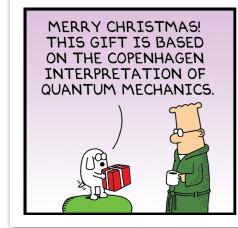












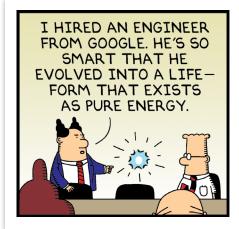






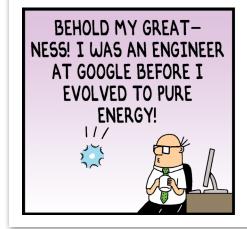


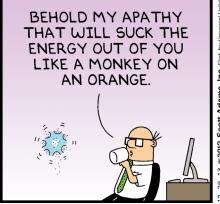






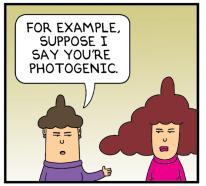




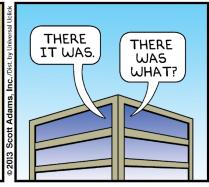






















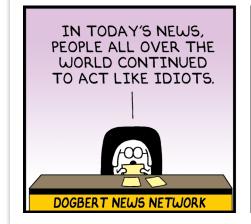


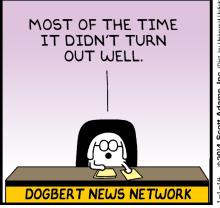






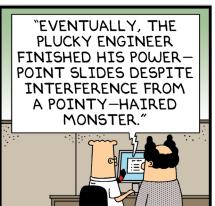












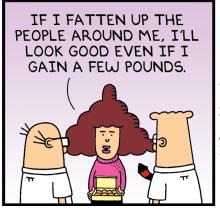


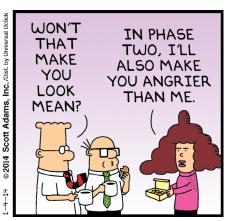






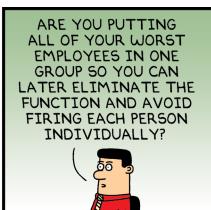






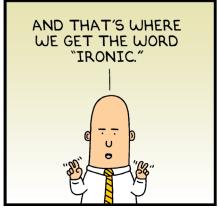


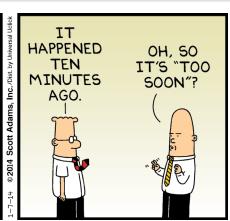








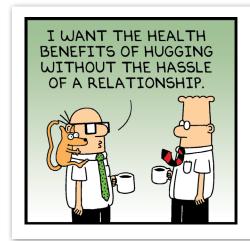












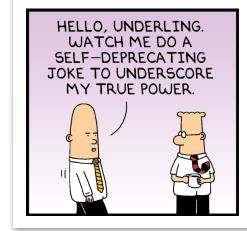




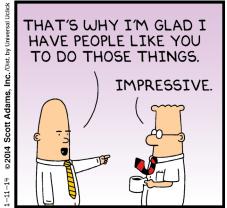
























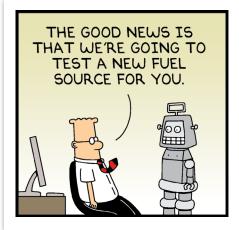




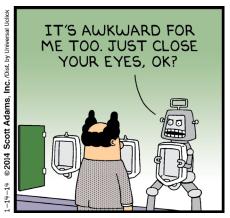


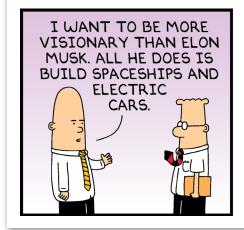


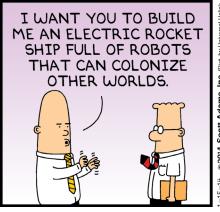


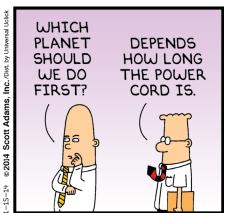


















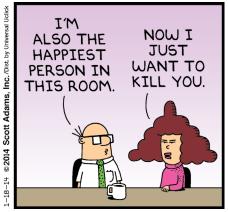








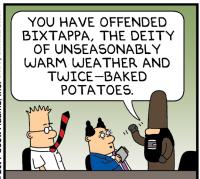










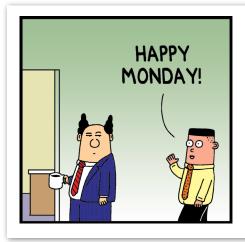




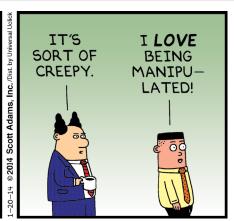








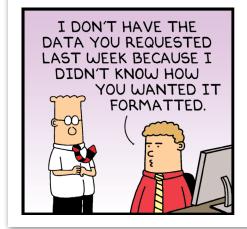


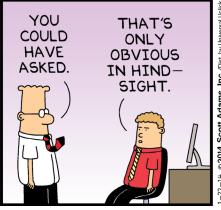


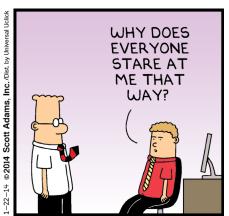


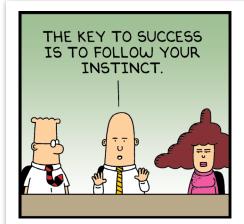




















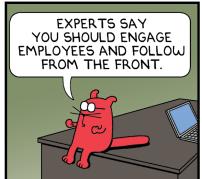


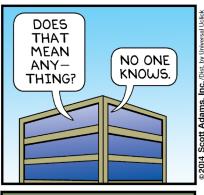












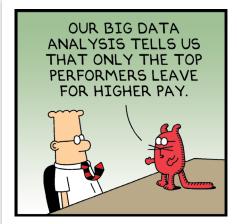


























OR . . . I COULD TRANS—
FER YOU TO A DEPART—
MENT THAT HAS A POOR
SAFETY RECORD AND
HOPE FOR THE BEST.







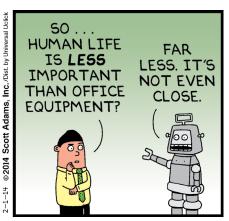








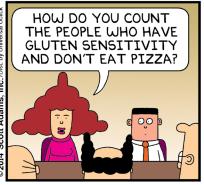


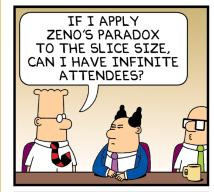




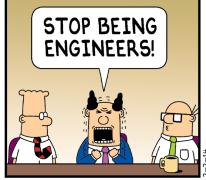












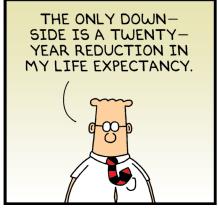


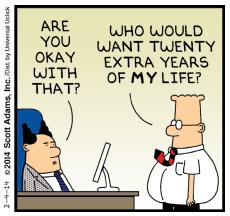


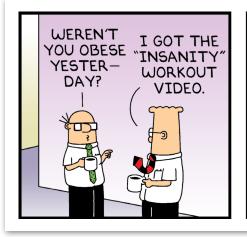


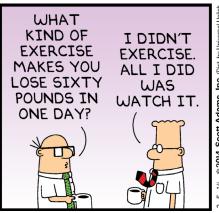


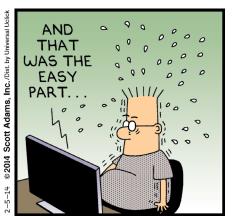


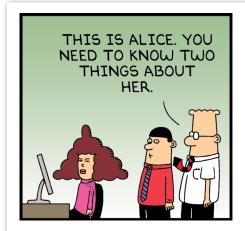














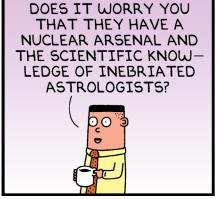




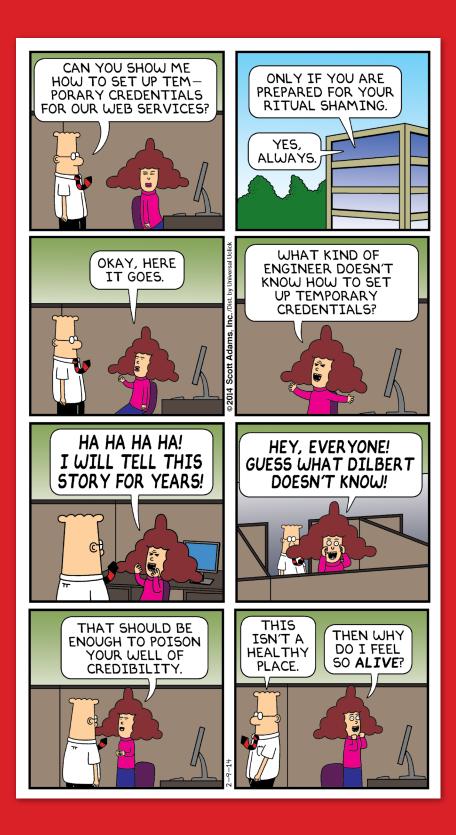


























WATCH ME DEFINE
ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR,
ALIGN YOUR GOALS WITH
COMPANY OBJECTIVES,
PRIORITIZE RESPECT,
DEAL DIRECTLY WITH
CONFLICT, MAINTAIN A
POSITIVE ATTITUDE
AND PRETEND TO CARE!



THAT
WOULD BE IMPRES ODD
SIVE.

SETTLE
DOWN,
BILBO.

BILBO.





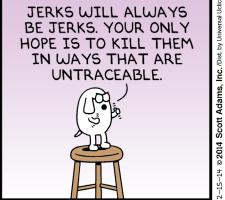




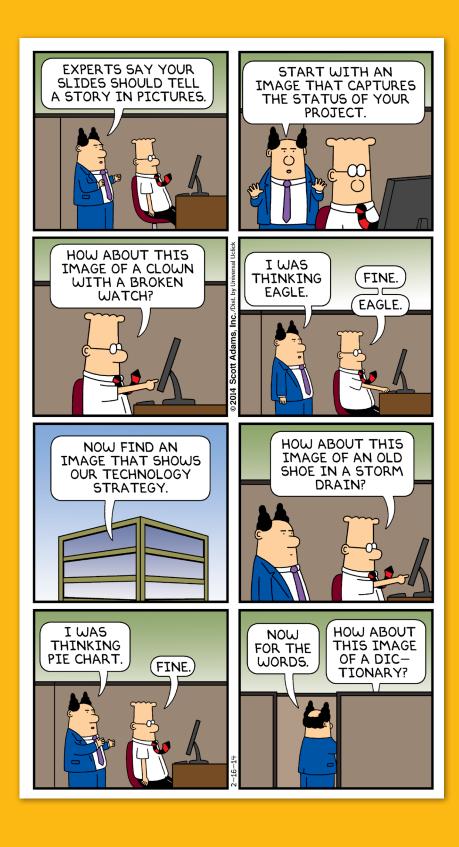




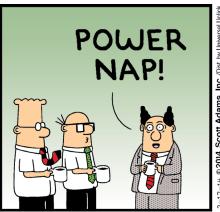






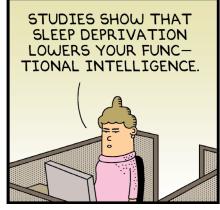


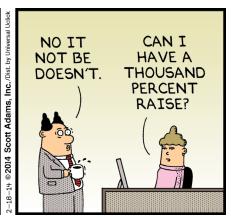


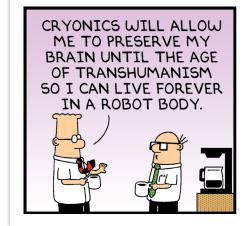




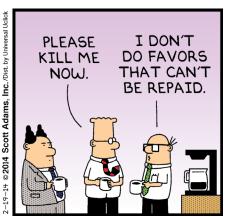


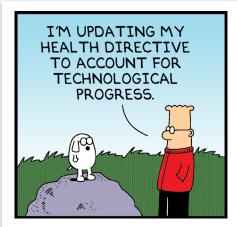


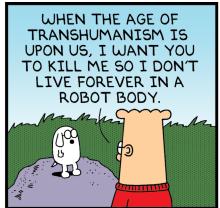


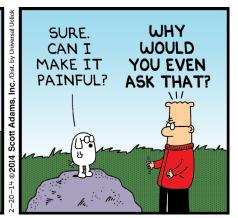






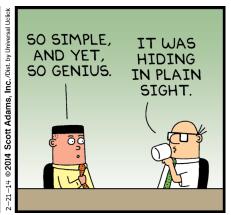






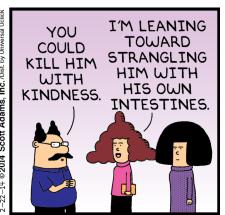










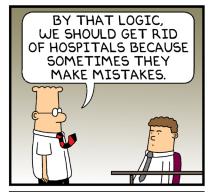




















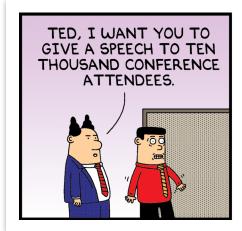




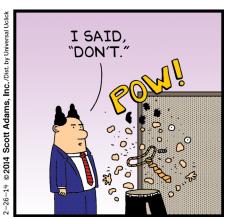
















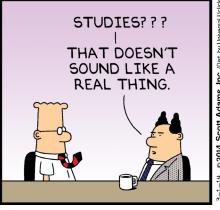


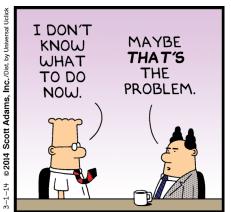


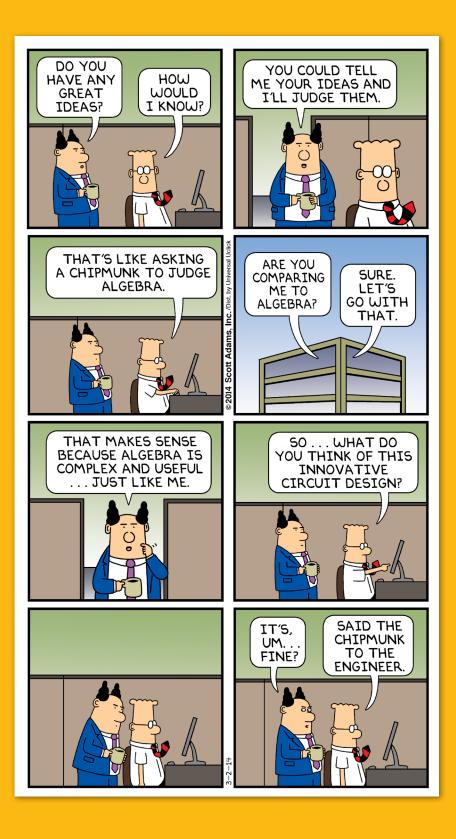


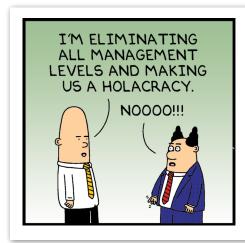








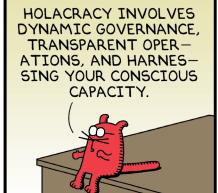




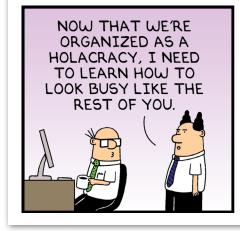






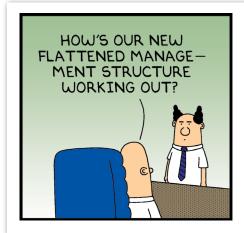


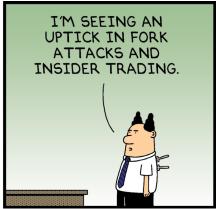


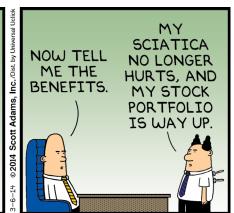


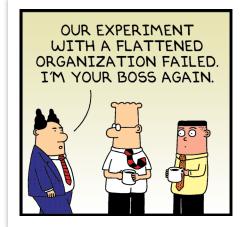




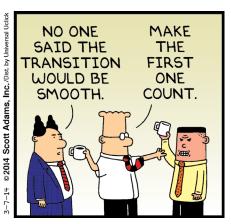










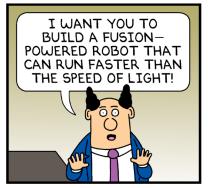






STICK WITH THE LIBERATED FROM THE LOOKS BETTER. THINKING.











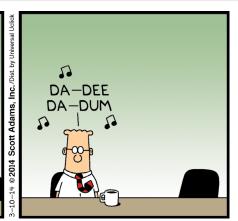


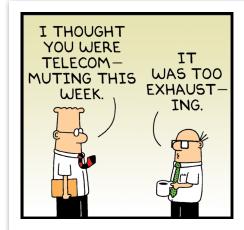


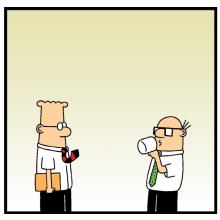


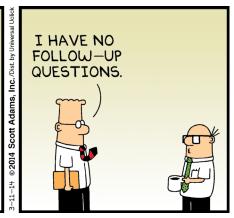


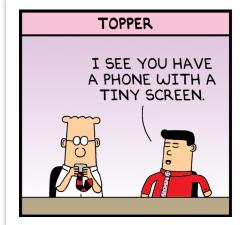






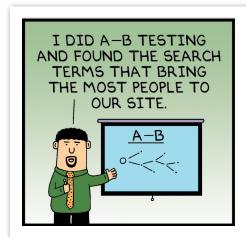




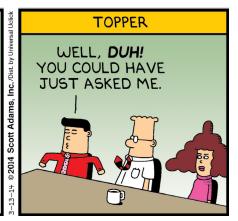






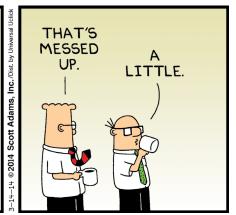


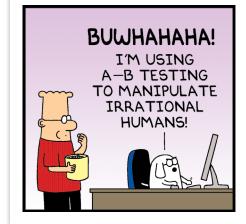






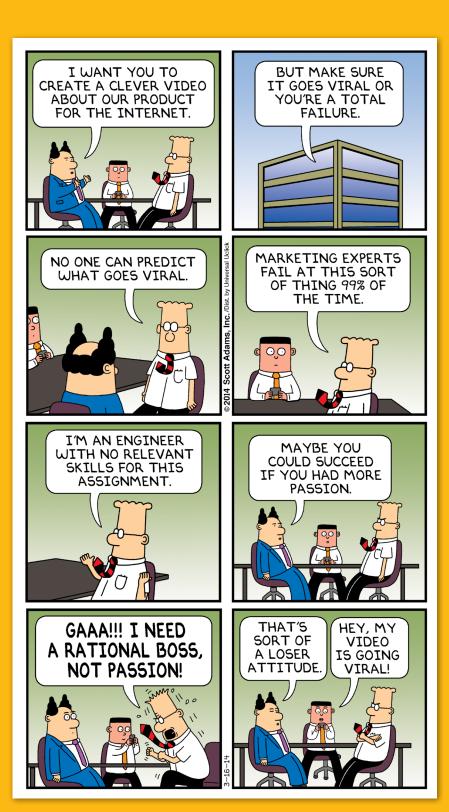


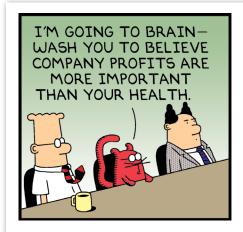






















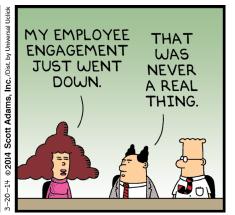






























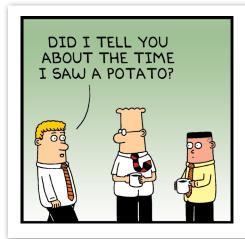




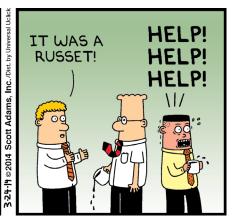


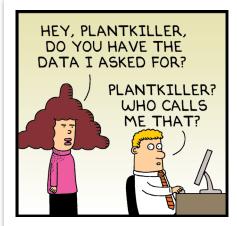








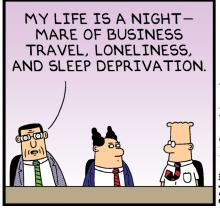


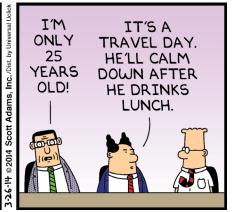






































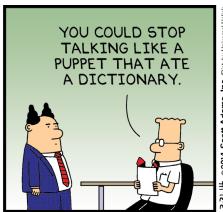




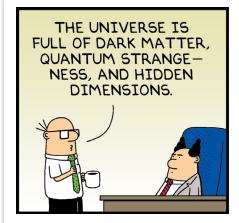


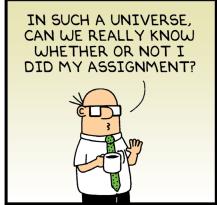


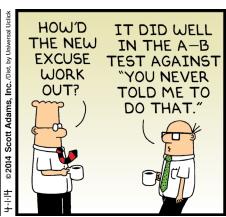




















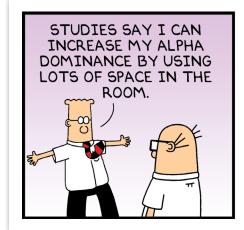


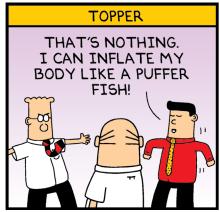
























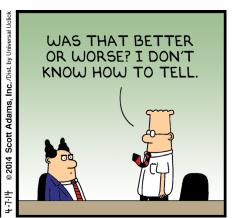


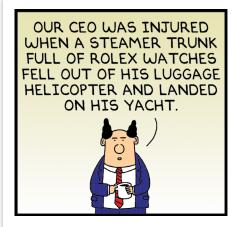


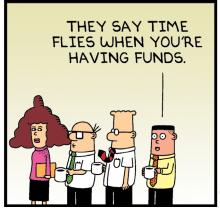


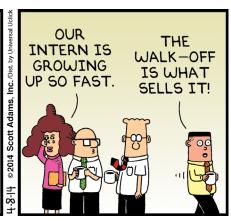






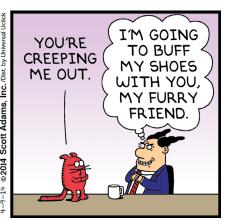




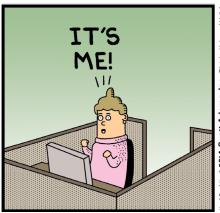
























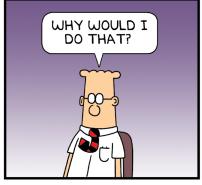


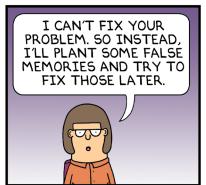


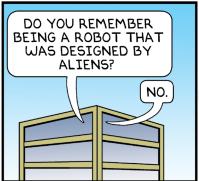




































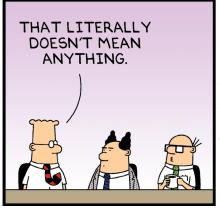








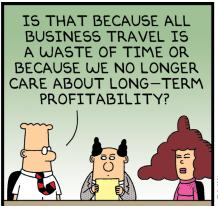










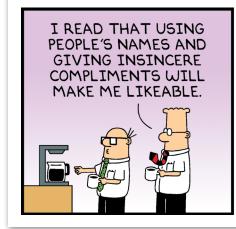
















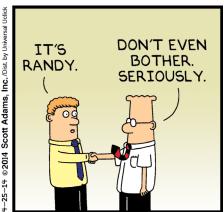


















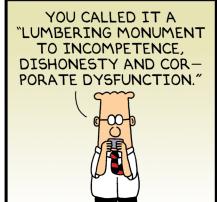


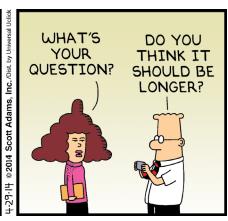




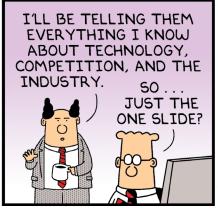


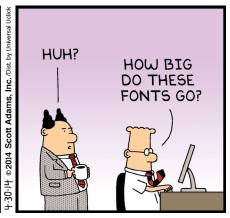


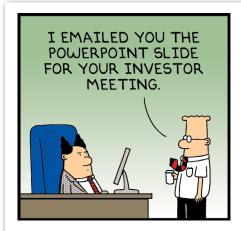


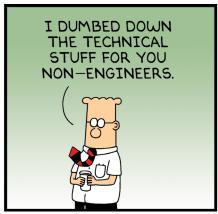


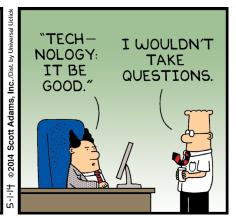














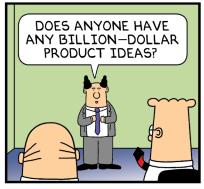


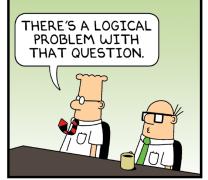


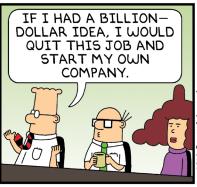








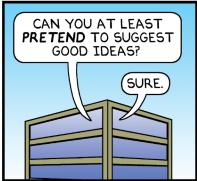


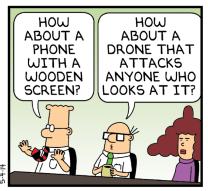




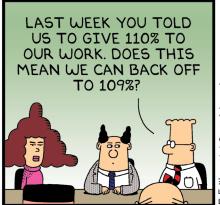














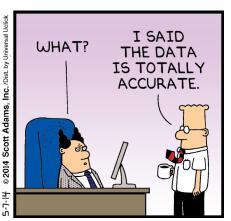


















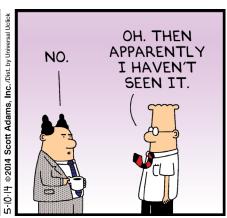


















NO, MOST OF THE DIFFERENCE IS IN RESTROOM TRIPS AND DETOURS PAST AN ATTRACTIVE WOMAN'S DESK.

YOUR WRIST MONITOR SHOWS UNACCEPTABLY LOW LEVELS OF CAFFEINE FOR YOUR WORKLOAD.



THAT'S PROBABLY
WHY YOUR TYPOS ARE
UP 9% AND YOU HAVE
LOOKED AWAY FROM
YOUR WORKSTATION
NINE MORE TIMES
THAN LAST MONTH.



NOW YOUR WRIST
MONITOR INDICATES
A DESIRE TO BEAT AN
AUTHORITY FIGURE TO
DEATH WITH HIS OWN
TABLET COMPUTER.



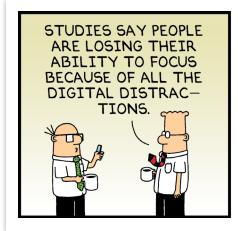
PHEW! YOUR BRAIN'S WUSS SUBROUTINE JUST KICKED IN. THE DANGER HAS PASSED.





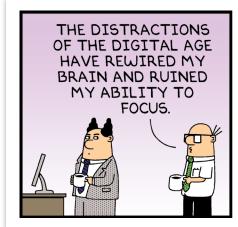






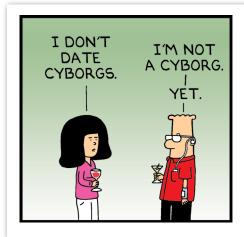


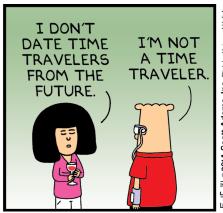




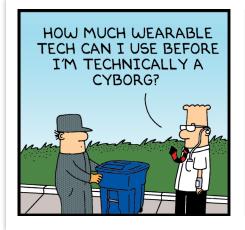


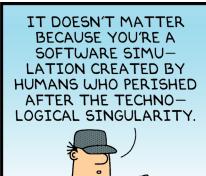


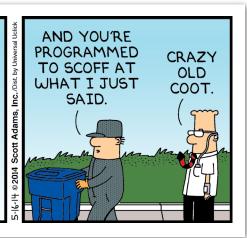








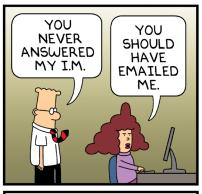


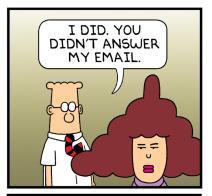


















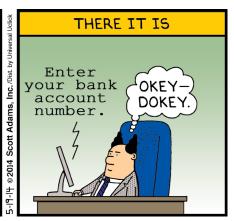




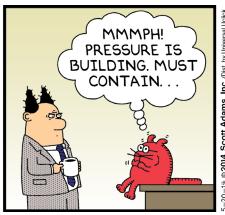












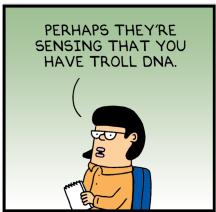


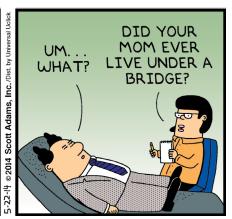




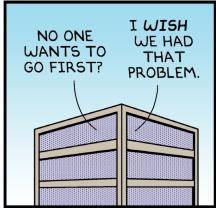






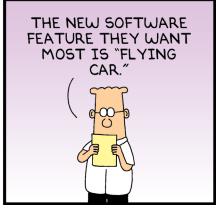






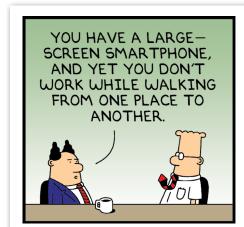


























MAYBE I SHOULDN'T LET PEERS DO THE VOTING. TO WIN AGAIN NEXT MONTH.





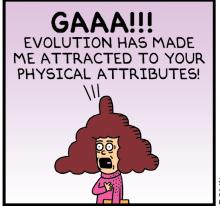
































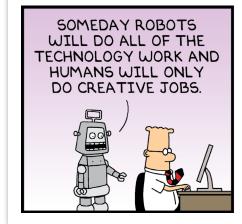


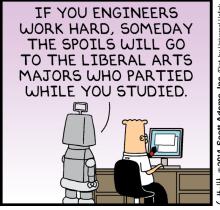


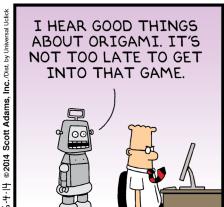


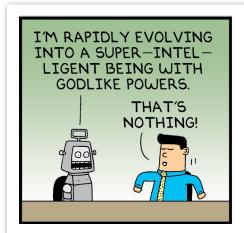


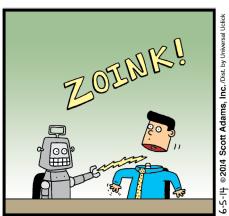


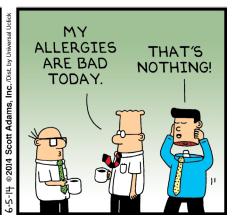










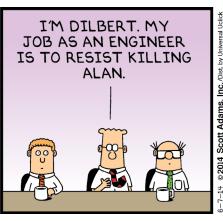


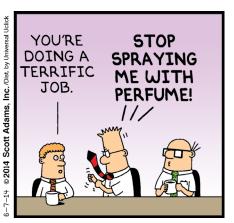


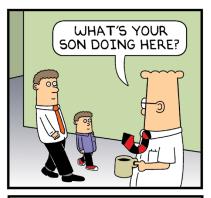




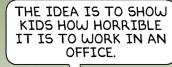










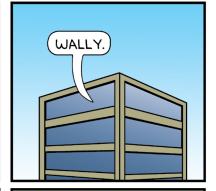






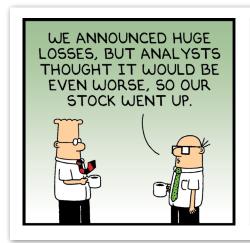
JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY, WHO TOLD YOU THIS IS "BRING YOUR KID TO THE CESSPOOL DAY"?











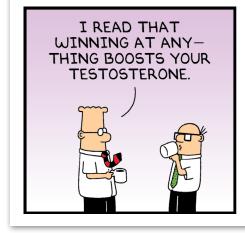












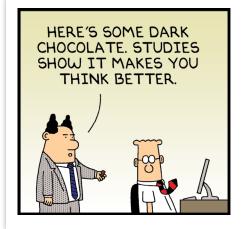


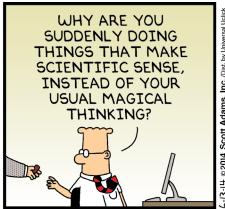














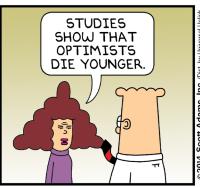


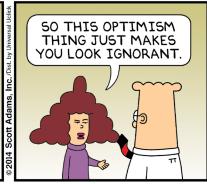






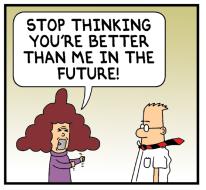


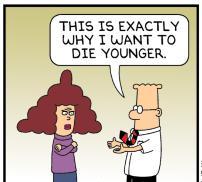




AND BECAUSE MY
HAPPINESS IS BASED
ON A COMPARISON TO
MY PEERS, I DON'T
WANT YOUR FUTURE
TO BE TOO BRIGHT.







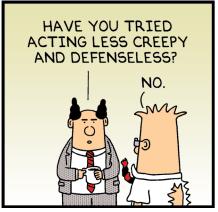


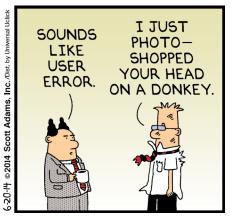


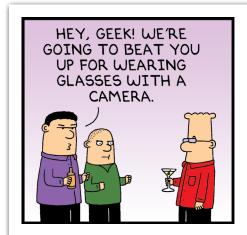


















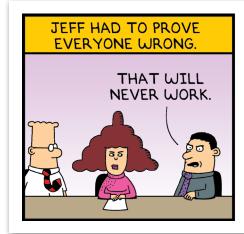




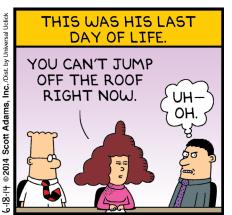


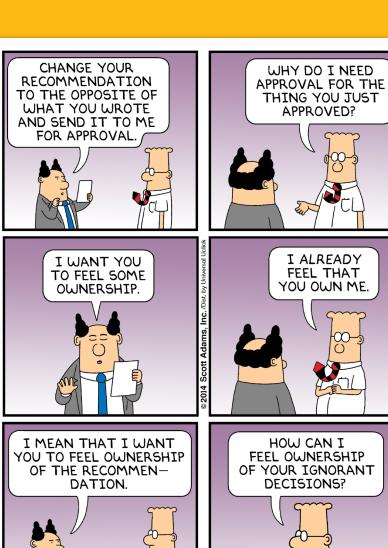






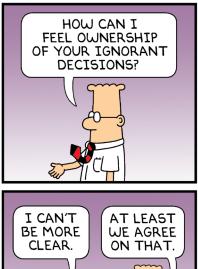


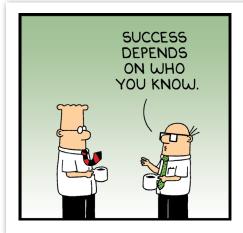




BY GETTING

MY APPROVAL FOR THEM.





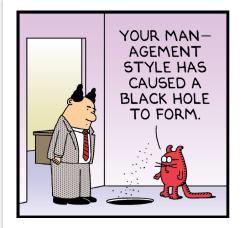












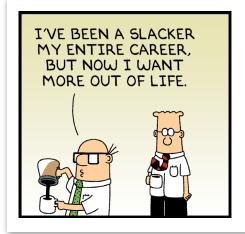


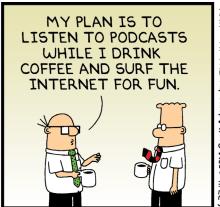


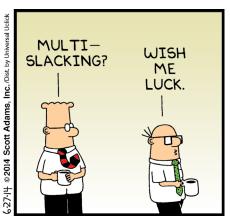




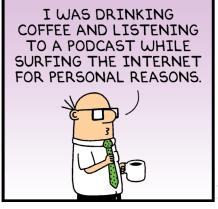


















I DID THE MANDATORY
TRAINING THAT HAS
NO USE, ATTENDED YOUR
MANDATORY MEETINGS
THAT DON'T HELP, AND
FILLED OUT REGULATORY
PAPERWORK FOR THINGS
WE DON'T DO.

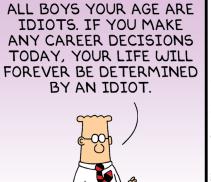






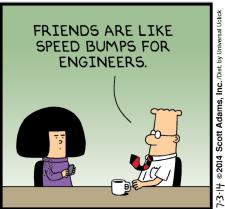


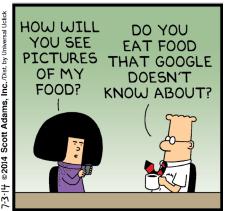


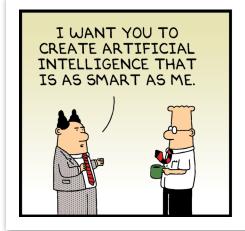


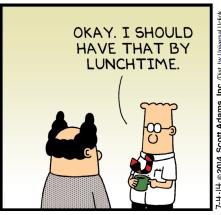




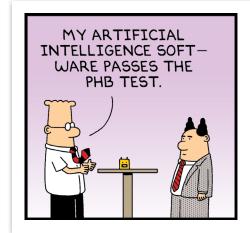




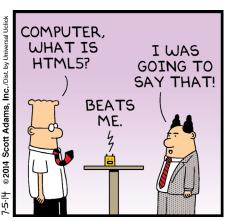




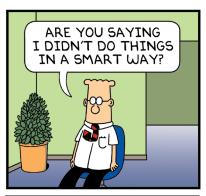














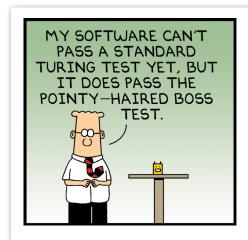


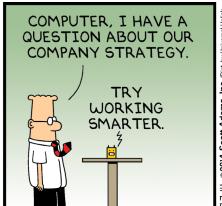












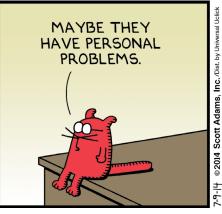






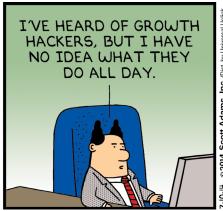




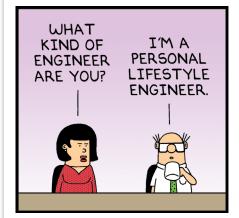




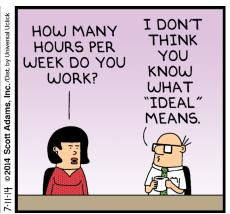




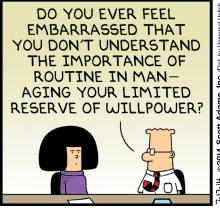


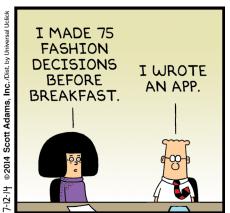


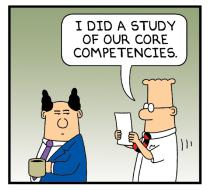














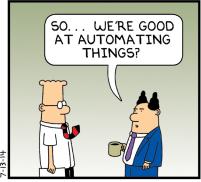


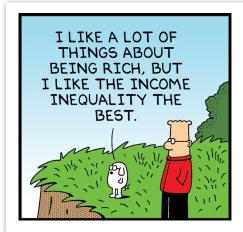


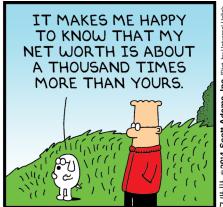




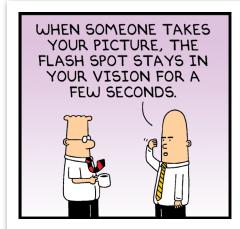


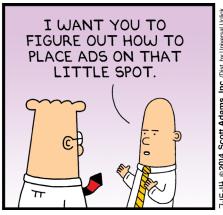


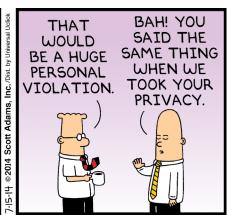


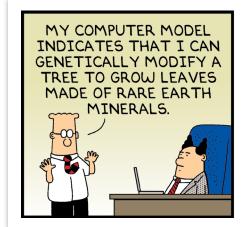


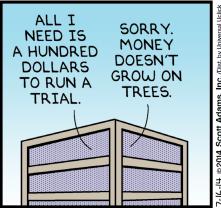






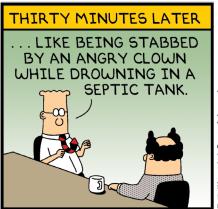




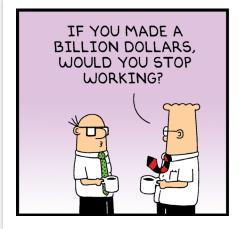


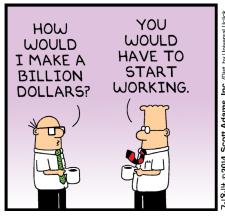








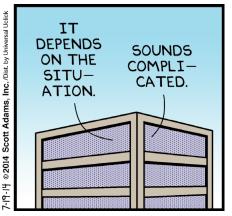




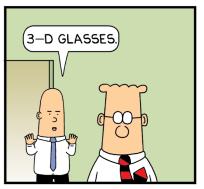


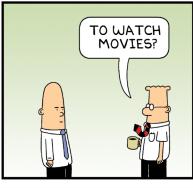






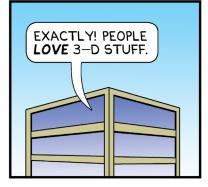




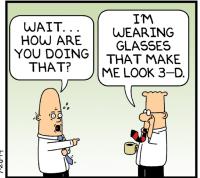












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About the Author

What started as a doodle has turned Scott Adams into a superstar of the cartoon world. Dilbert debuted on the comics page in 1989, while Adams was in the tech department at Pacific Bell. Adams continued to work at Pacific Bell until he was voluntarily downsized in 1995. He has lived in the San Francisco Bay area since 1979.