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Tomorrow's Living Room

Jason Whitmarsh

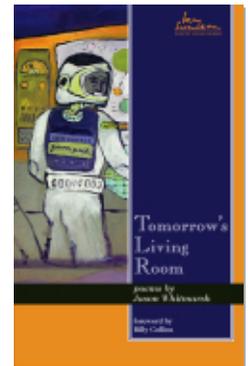
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DEAR MORBID IN MALAYSIA

all lines from Dear Abby columns

Your suggestion will benefit not only mail carriers,
but all individuals with outdoor mailboxes.
The woman you have loved for five years appears
to have made her choice—it's Daddy, not you.

But all individuals with outdoor mailboxes
consult an attorney before assuming their union is legal.
To have made her choice—it's Daddy, not you—
in the atmosphere you describe is not healthy:

consult an attorney before assuming their union is legal.
You should know that a condom for women was invented years ago,
in an atmosphere I'd describe as unhealthy.
Treat its lifesaving devices with the respect they deserve.

You should (knowing that a condom for women was invented years ago)
try to get a dialog going so you can get inside his head.
Treat its lifesaving devices with the respect they deserve,
and send Velma a bunch of carrots, and tell her you're sorry.

Try to get a dialog going so you can get inside his head.
Talk in money-syllables. Say, "Thanks, but I'm not interested."
Send Velma a bunch of carrots, and tell her you're sorry.
You could be about seventeen years too late.

You don't live in Schenectady—you live in Atlanta,
where the woman you have loved for five years appears,
saying, "You have written an important letter. I'm printing it.
Your suggestion will benefit not only mail carriers, but us all."