



News in Print

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS LIBRARY



HOW TO STUDY

by Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P.

Many students survive four or more years in the University without mastering the right way to study. This reveals two basic weaknesses in our educational system: its contents and the faulty methods. Complete ignorance of most elementary concepts of the modern world and culture in graduating students, say from Commerce, Medicine or Architecture. It is humiliating to see students of Civil Law photocopying hundreds and hundreds of pages from SCRA that they are made to recite in their daily classes.

Have we forgotten how to extract a logical conclusion? Is it possible to walk into the century of information not being able to understand the problems of population in our own land? Can't our educated youth distinguish between fact and fiction?



We are educators, yes, but are we good educators? A good educator is concerned not only with the explanation of the contents of his course, especially when half of his students cannot understand those concepts. Today's teacher must find time to elucidate the process of learning.

Any student enrolled in our class ought to be reminded from the outset that his exposure with books and other learning tools belonging to the course of his choice is the determining factor in his future success. The sooner he learns to set up his priorities the earlier he will stay out of trouble.

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THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE: *ALA WORKING SCHOLAR*

by Lira C. Avedillo

A college freshman is always a clean slate, very impressionable, vulnerable and receptive. He/she is like a child that has been let out of the crib to wonder the floor of the living room. Naturally, feeling adventurous and at the same time unsure of oneself, he/she still braves it, for it is quite inevitable, and learns a thing or two along the way.

I, for one, felt like a child being prepared to take on the world *out there*. From a sheltered high school life that introduces you to a variety of fields, to a university life that aims to facilitate your specialization after four years or so. In college, where everyone wants to be different, unique, special, and independent, I chose to crawl on a path only few can manage to take.

In psychology, there is what we call *individual differences* – and my wanting to be different and unique is nothing more than restating what is already true about myself, and the rest of the world for that matter. So, what do I really mean?

I am special. In the eyes of God, we are all dear to Him. But His gift to me is to get into the University of Santo Tomas and pursue my field of study, be helpful in organizations, and in order to make it all possible – become a San Lorenzo Ruiz scholar, which, to be able to remain so, makes me *special*.

In class, I am like anybody else. But when 5 minutes before 4 p.m. comes, I cease to be just like any of the regular students of the College of Science. This is when I would dash to

the library, unmindful of poise and others, just to be on time for my duty until 8 p.m. And this has been my routine ever since my college life began. Everything almost seemed to revolve around the university – from the Main building to the Central Library, and to the dormitory at the USTH (until last school year) – I lived and breathed UST.

For a working scholar, a school day is only divided into two: academics and work. *Extra-curriculars and social life?* Well, they could wait. I'm still young. Fortunately, 'ol reliable *change* came to visit my schedule, and eventually I was able to slip in some extra-curriculars and gimmicks at the side, making my life more well rounded and eventful. So, I didn't feel deprived at all. If anything, I'd say I've never been more blessed!

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LIBRARY COORDINATORS' MEETING SY 2004-2005

by Michelle M. San Gabriel

The Library Coordinators of the different colleges, faculties and departments met for the second time this school year with the library administrators headed by the Prefect of Libraries, Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. This was held last November 19, 2004 at the Conference Room of the UST Central Library.

The agenda included matters concerning the library budget for the SY 2004 – 2005, library orientation, accreditation, book fair, access to electronic journals and other library projects such as:

☑ Heritage library

☑ Book Fair at the UST Library in celebration of the 2004 National Book Week

☑ Lecture forum on “The Lord of the Rings” scheduled on January 22, 2005 with Dr. Michael Anthony Vasco, Faculty Secretary of the UST Graduate School, as guest speaker

☑ Orientation for faculty members on the use of online database

Likewise, a draft of the duties and responsibilities of both the Advisory and Ad-hoc Library Committees were presented for approval.

Fr. Aparicio urged the faculty members to help in reviewing the periodical subscriptions. Faculty members, according to him, also play a major role in the selection of library materials in support of the curricular offerings of the university. □

A MEETING WITH THE EDITORS

by Anne L. Garcia

The Committee on Linkages of the Library Department met with the editors of the different UST publications last October 19, 2004. This was held at the UST Library Conference Hall, the aim of which was to discuss the possibility of having the scholarly journals be featured in the UST Library Homepage.

Present during the meeting were the following editors: Dr. Ophelia Dimalanta, editor of *TOMAS*; Dr. Maribel Nonato; *Acta Manilana*; Prof. Giovanna Fontanilla, *Unitas*; Prof. Cynthia Luz Rivera, *Journal for the Arts, Culture & the*

Humanities; Mr. Rodwin Oloresisimo, *Res Socialis*; Ms. Hazel Alconga, *Law Review*; Fr. Javier Gonzales, O.P., *Philippiniana Sacra*; and Ms. Angel Guinto, representing Fr. Vicente Cajilig, O.P., *Boletin Ecclesiastico*.

Also present were the library administrators, Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries, the Chief and Assistant Chief Librarian, Ms. Estrella Majuelo and Ms. Angelita Timbangcaya, respectively. Also in attendance were Dr. Edna Recaña, editor of *News in Print*; Mr. Raymond Mendoza, Mrs. Michelle San Gabriel, Mrs. Sabina Viernes, and yours truly.

Being the chairman of the Committee on Linkages, I presented the mechanics of the project and came up with the deadline for the submission of the needed documents.

In this endeavor, the library will assist in promoting the UST publications through its homepage. □

SEMINAR WORKSHOP ON COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF

by Arlene N. Albis

The UST Library Science Alumni Association (USTLSAA) jointly sponsored a 2-day seminar-workshop with the UST Librarians Association (USTLA) on **Communication Skills for Librarians and Library Support Staff**. This was held last October 20-21, 2004 at the UST Central Library Conference Hall.

The seminar aimed to achieve the following objectives:

☑ to enhance the competencies of the librarians and library support staff in communicating effectively both in oral and written communication;

☑ to train the librarians and library support staff in group processing and facilitating skills, oral and written communication, conflict management, shared decision making and team management;

☑ to foster leadership among librarians through communication education; and

☑ to learn how to communicate with persons of diverse backgrounds in a variety of contexts, especially in the library workplace.

Day 1 of the seminar-workshop had two distinguished speakers, Prof. Candida Agcaoili, Discipline Consultant of the Library Science Area, UST Graduate School, and Prof. Anna Maria Gloria S. Ward, President, Linguistic Society of the Philippines and Director, UST Public Alumni Affairs.

Prof. Agcaoili lectured on *Communication Skills for Librarians and Library Support Staff*. According to her, communication is important because it is the foundation of one's personal and professional relationship. The ability to communicate effectively is essential to everyday life in order to become successful in every task we do, in getting the job we want, in gaining promotion, in providing leadership, being productive as well as in our relation with other people. She also discussed the significance of business communication in the attainment of successful endeavor and in the realization of organizations and companies' objectives.

Prof. Ward, on the other hand, talked on *Communication: a Key to Successful Collaboration in the Educational Environment*. She pointed out that the ability to communicate is vital in having a good partnership with students, faculty, administration and librarians. The lecture focused more on the *intra* and *interpersonal communication* which, according to her, are both essential in the exchange of ideas and interaction with other people.

Day 2 had Dr. Nora Claravall, University Librarian of Benguet State University as speaker. Her topic focused on *Strategic Communication in the Digital Age*, which, according to her, is the trend nowadays. She emphasized the importance of communication in the digital environment like the computer mediated communication (CMC) or the exchange of information between persons through computer networks or emails, internet, computer conferencing, blackboard, voice mail, and internet relay chat (IRC), among others. Messages can be sent conveniently with just a click of the mouse. However, technology is only a tool that can never replace personal human interaction.

The 2-day seminar-workshop was concluded by the ratification of USTLSAA Constitution and By-laws, presided by the USTLAA President, Dr. Claravall. Afterwhich, an accomplishment report of her 150 days in office as the association's president was presented to the general membership. □

JOINT CONFERENCE ON CULTURE OF LIFE AND LOVE

by Ma. Luz C. David

The UST Center for Campus Ministry, in collaboration with Human Life International-Asia (HLI-A), sponsored a family-oriented conference last October 12-13, 2004 at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex Auditorium. The 2-day conference aimed to understand the eminent threats to family solidarity and to explore the initiatives in order to establish a strong, unified Thomasian community.

After the welcome remarks delivered by Rev. Fr. Rodel Aligan, UST Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs, Dr. Orestes Monzon, Executive Director of HLI-Asia, presented an overview of the whole conference. He emphasized that the threats to family solidarity are real, and now is the time to address this issue. Hon. Henrietta de Villa, former Ambassador to the Holy See, conformed to the statement of Dr. Monzon by citing local surveys on an increasing number of separations due to domestic problems. She encouraged the audience to implore the divine intervention for guidance and stressed the power of faith and devotion to Jesus Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary for a dignified Christian life.

Contrary to the common belief that overpopulation is the root cause of poverty, Ms. Norma Lasala, a noted banker and economist, thinks otherwise. She has quoted numerous case studies pointing that efficient governance and the proper implementation of socio-economic policies would be the key towards attaining sustainable growth regardless of how fast the population is gaining. In the second session, aptly titled *Empty Nests and Emptiness*, Dr. Ernesto Gonzales of the UST Research Institute, outlined the emotional and psychological implications when someone leaves the family to settle down or work in another place. According to him, some cases of migration may cause irreparable damage to the family affecting most especially the children who are most vulnerable to such changes. A decision to leave, is therefore, a vital

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WORKSHOP ON THE PREPARATION OF A COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT PLAN

by Cecille Lobo

The Library Committee of the Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines (CEAP), sponsored a workshop entitled *Preparation of a Collection Development Plan* held at the AV Center of St. Joseph College, Quezon City from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm last October 23, 2004.

The workshop started with an opening prayer led by Ms. Lolita Gonzales, Chief Librarian of St. Scholastica's College. Sis. Esperanza Vistor, SFIC, President of St. Joseph College, gave the welcome remarks while Ms. Marlo Chavez, College Librarian of San Beda College formally opened the workshop. The guest speaker was introduced by Ms. Josephine Combalicer, College Librarian of Sta. Catalina College.

The speaker, Mr. Fernan Dizon, Acquisitions Librarian of Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University focused his lecture on the following topics:

- ✓ Collection Development
- ✓ Some Truth About Collection Development
- ✓ Aspects of Collection Development
- ✓ Basic Goals of Selection
- ✓ Selection Thrusts
- ✓ Evaluation and Assessment Criteria of Library Materials
- ✓ Steps in the Selection Process
- ✓ Aspects of Collection Development
- ✓ Eight Standard Methods of Library Acquisitions
- ✓ Basic Library Materials Acquisitions
- ✓ Aspects of Collection Development
- ✓ Deselection of Weeding
- ✓ Collection Evaluation
- ✓ Collection Development Policy
- ✓ Elements of a Strategic Collection Development Plan
- ✓ Elements of a Good Collection Development Plan
- ✓ S.M.A.R.T. Plan
- ✓ Collection Development Plan Formulation Procedure

Mr. Dizon encouraged the participants to ask questions or share their experiences in their respective libraries with regard to collection development.

Being the chair of the Collection Development Committee in UST, I find

the workshop very timely and helpful because we learned new strategies on how to build the library collection from the practices and experiences shared to us by some participants.

The workshop, which was one of the series, was concluded by a closing remark from Ms. Cely Cayaban, Chair, CEAP-NCR Library Committee and Library Director, College of St. Benilde, De La Salle University. □

CURRENT TRENDS ON RECORD FILING

by Madonna Remedios V. Alonzo

The Ortigas Center Library Consortium (OCLC) Inc. in cooperation with the Rizal Technological University (RTU) sponsored a seminar on "Current Trends on Filing Records Manually and Electronically". This was held last July 16, 2004 at the Rizal Technological University (RTU), with Dr. Angelina Resurreccion, Library Director of RTU as guest speaker.

The seminar aimed to help librarians, secretaries, archivists and office employees whose work is focused on managing the records of the company.

Dr. Resurreccion discussed the basic steps of filing records using the manual as well as the electronic method. According to her, records are documents or other recorded information which are produced or received as part of the business activity. It also provides information or sources of evidences that are very expensive to produce and maintain. Records, she further reiterated, must be classified by type and value of the materials – whether it is a document, internal or external records that are important, useful or non-essential.

The basic ways of filing records can be done alphabetically, geographically, numerically, chronologically and by subject. On the other hand, filing records manually involves the following steps: inspecting, reading and indexing, coding, cross referencing, sorting and filing.

With the advent of computer technology, files and records can now be easily stored and accessed electronically.

The seminar was concluded with a piece of advice from the speaker that the habit of filing records regularly is encouraged. □

HOW TO STUDY *from page 1*

There are two practical considerations in studying: space and time. Space, plays a very important part towards final results. There is no such thing as ideal place for study whether alone, with company, at home, coffee shops, malls, etc. The library has always been considered the best place to study though sometimes I feel otherwise. Libraries are conducive for studying only when the right atmosphere is observed.

Time is the other factor. Work out a time schedule and follow it strictly. Believing that Medicine and Law are the most difficult courses, while Education, Commerce and the like are easy to study is just another freshman's theory. For the undergrads, why not try to be at par with the study habits of the Medicine and Law students? How about dedicating three hours daily of review and advance reading of lessons even on weekends and holidays? Give ample time to study for each subject. Prioritize each subject according to your own pace, review results, remember the terms and appraise yourself as to how far have you gone.

In conclusion, one cannot learn without understanding. If you realize that you cannot express correctly what you think you know, it is because you do not really know it at all. □

JOINT CONFERENCE... *from page 3*

matter that concerns the welfare of both members of the family.

An open forum concluded the morning program, immediately followed by a brief lunch break that was enlivened with a performance of animated songs. Session 3 was facilitated by Mr. Edwin Lopez of the EWTN Global Catholic Network, who tackled the effects of mass media. He clarified that mass media in all its forms – print, television, radio, and cinema – should not be perceived as an enemy but a messenger in building a values-oriented structure of the family. According to him, “what matters is not the influx of media products that appear to be offensive but the critical participation of each family member to thresh out the bad eggs.”

The activity during the first day was concluded by a workshop session. The

participants were divided into four groups that were instructed to tackle the issues concerning men, women, parents, and singles. They were also asked to share their thoughts on how they could help build a family and a community that nurtures life and love.

On the second day, Asst. Prof. Cecilia Villaraza recapitulated the proceedings of the previous sessions. In session 4, Dr. Ofelia Nubla lectured about emotional stress among children and the factors that affect their normal behavior. Parental separation, absenteeism, sibling rivalry, death in the family, sexual disorientation, and a restrictive environment are common causes of child dissent that could lead to family erosion. In this regard, Dr. Nubla appealed to parents for more consideration, understanding, guidance and even self-sacrifice to prevent children from harboring ill feelings. The succeeding session bannered the theme of forgiveness. Mr. Edgardo Sorreta drew a line between his personal experiences and the movie “The Lion King” to drive his point. For Mr. Sorreta, forgiveness meant escaping from the emotional burden of resentment, anger and fear. It is the pill that cures our bitterness and the light that shows the beauty of man and life.

The sixth and last session of the conference dealt with the power of prayers, with Mrs. Emma Culanag representing Msgr. Cesar Pagulayan. Her lecture evolved around the time-tested message: *The Family that Prays Together Stays Together*. She narrated contrasting stories of how families disintegrate when they forget God, and of families that were able to hurdle seemingly insurmountable challenges because of divine intercession. She also assured her listeners that God's love is boundless and we should not hesitate to ask for the Lord's compassion especially in time of crisis. A workshop followed the lecture where the participants reflected on the issues discussed, and came up with appropriate resolutions about love, faith, hope and peace.

A eucharistic celebration, officiated by Rev. Fr. Tamerlane Lana, O.P., UST Rector, highlighted the event that brought a new dimension of what we should live in life. □

ALA WORKING *from page 1*

As scholars, we've always anticipated the end of every semester. We anxiously ask: What's my average? Will I be able to renew? Did I make the cut? What will be my schedule? Where will I be assigned next? And finally, “Thank you God! *Sana po, hanggang pag-graduate...*”

To remain a working scholar until the last year in college gives me a wondrous feeling – and if my heart had ears, it would have smiled from ear to ear with joy and gratitude. Because, when you reach your graduating year as a scholar, it only means you're richer in skills, knowledge, and especially friends. It's your supervisor's pieces of advice and understanding of your occasional absence and tardiness; your fellow working scholars' generosity and helpfulness to swap duties with you; your professor's and classmates' concern and support; and your family that all in all, keeps you from derailing.

I am proud. To be not just any scholar, but a working scholar helped develop in me a variety of values learned only if you actively participate in *this* kind of life. I know I could learn independence, assertiveness, time management and sociability by joining organizations. But working for your own tuition, at the same time meeting different people and enhancing other aspects of your personality, with the ups and downs only working scholars could experience, is wholistic enough – and I wouldn't exchange it for anything else.

Each person has a tale to tell. Every scholar has a sob story to share. We cry. We laugh. We hurry. We relax. Life goes on for everyone. Despite the problems and life's challenges, it's our creativity, discipline and perseverance to go about it that makes a difference.

This March, I will be graduating. Excited? Of course! Scared? Not *very*, because the things that I've learned as a working scholar makes me shine brighter than others.

I am special. I am proud.

I am a Working Scholar! □



MEET *Edith*

by Mrs. Leonila M. Manuel

Pretty, petite, and quite the *fashionista*, Ms. Editha 'Edith' Alcaraz- Polinag is the "Pop Idol" of the UST Central Library. She dances with much energy and sings with all the emotions Beyonce Knowles could even muster, a one sure candidate for the "Bibbong Librarian" challenge.

Born on the 16th day of December, 1965, Edith is the 4th angel of Leon and Concha Alcaraz of San Juan, Batangas. At 16, she braved Manila and independently struggled to finish her studies – where else, but in the University of Santo Tomas. She first took a Business Management course, but then finished a degree in Library Science after her marriage and having four children.

Being a familiar face in the library, Edith began as a working student assigned at the Filipiniana section under Ms. Margarita Cruz until she graduated from college. She was then transferred to the Social Science section with Mrs. Antonia Garcia as her section head.

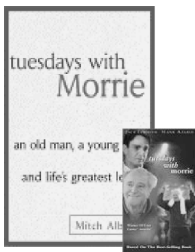
In 1991, Edith found a close friend and mutual confidante with her new section head, Mrs. Leonila Manuel, who remains to be until now.

At present, Edith is not only known to be a down-to-earth mom and a regal entertainer. She is also an ace volleyball player for the UST Women's Volleyball Team that has been the champion in the 2003 annual sportsfest for non-academic employees.

Truly, Edith is a remarkable person and employee. She is a certified Sagittarian known for her positive outlook in life, versatility, strong-will, adventurousness, and eagerness to extend her experience beyond the physically familiar. Despite problems and challenges in life, Edith is a true diva, who rises after every fall and believes that the show must always go on.

BOOK REVIEW

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE: AN OLD MAN, A YOUNG MAN, AND LIFE'S GREATEST LESSON



Author: Mitch Albom
Imprint: New York:
Broadway Books,
c1997
ISBN: 076790592X
192 pages

Review by Edna J. Recaña

Tuesdays with Morrie (TWM) is more than just a dying man's last words. It is an inspirational recount of a man's life – a man whose passion for the human spirit has continued to live long after his last breath.

This book has two sides of stories. One is the story of a man and a disease. The other is the story of a professor of social psychology who came to understand that life's complexities can be broken down into simple truths.

Mitch had lost track of his Brandies University professor and college mentor, Morrie Swartz, shortly after he graduated and settled in Detroit as a sports writer.

He was saddened to learn in one of the interviews by Ted Koppel on ABC's

Nightline that his professor was dying of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as Lou Gherig's disease (a degenerative disease). He quickly got in touch of his old professor that started a reunion of old friends turned into the project of a lifetime.

Mitch and Morrie spent the next sixteen Tuesdays together exploring many life's fundamental issues like family, marriage, aging and culture, among others. Morrie was giving his last lecture while Mitch was writing his final thesis.

Morrie finds himself more concentrated in dealing with aging. When asked by Mitch if he felt jealous about the young, Morrie replied by saying that those who want to be young again are those who have not yet found meaning in their lives – for if they have found meaning, then they would appreciate getting old rather than staying forever young.

When asked about culture, Morrie views it as important as our lives. According to him, we are taught how to be independent and unique, but in reality

we all have the same needs. What is important according to him, is to invest in people rather than material things – for a man will be remembered not by his wealth, but by how he spent his time listening to a friend and helping others.

Morrie speaks to every person because he *is* every person. He has led a simple yet meaningful life that inspires us. Perhaps his story is more powerful because we are not only taking in his wisdom, but we are also experiencing his death.

Mitch's life had changed dramatically as he exchanged views with his mentor. He began spending more time with his wife; took more time from his work; and completely restructured his daily regimen. He now faces life with less fear than before; visits his family more often; and cared to invest in people because he learned that life comes only once and must be lived to its fullest.

Thus, we begin to realize that Morrie is not just teaching Mitch; he is teaching us all. □

List of New Acquisitions for the College of Science

1st Semester; SY 2004-2005

- Abao, Z. (2003). *Algebra*. Manila: Bookmark.
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- Beeraends, R.J. (2003). *Fourier and Laplace transforms*. Beerends. Cambridge, U.K.; New York: Cambridge University Press. QA404 .F826 2003
- Bird, R. (2003). *Chaos and life: complexity and order in evolution and thought*. New York: Columbia University Press. QH331 .B532 2003
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- Caporale, L.H. (2003). *Darwin in the genome: molecular strategies in biological evolution*. New York: McGraw-Hill. QH366.2 .C173 2003
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- Harrigan, G.G., & Goodacre, R. (Eds.). (2003). *Metabolic profiling: its role in biomarker discovery and gene function analysis*. Boston, Mass.: Kluwer Academic. QP171 .M564 2003
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Answers to Whats in the word or phrase?

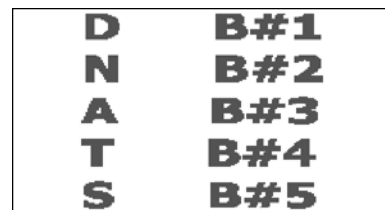
by Edna J. Recaña



Answer: For instance



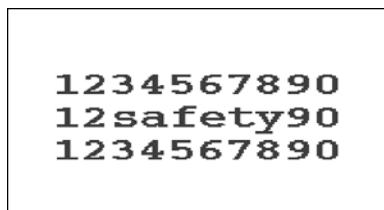
Answer: Bolt up



Answer: Stand up and be counted



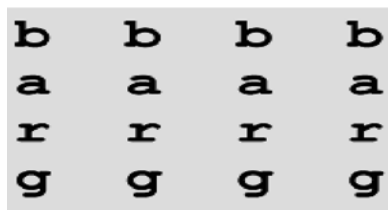
Answer: Back to square one



Answer: Safety with numbers



Answer: Robin Hood



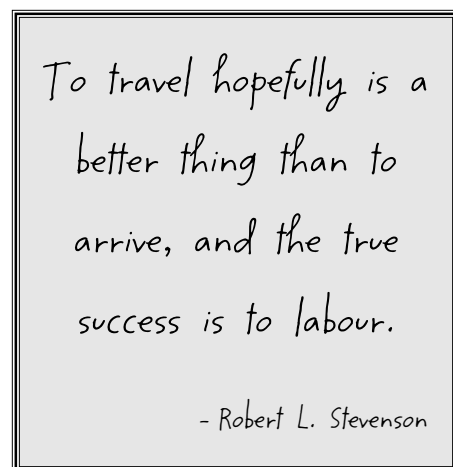
Answer: Up for grabs



Answer: Forgive and forget



Answer: A friend in need



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