**Mother’s Day - Funnies**

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**Education Secretary Lamar Alexander grew up in a house where better schooling was always part of the conversation. His father served as principal of a local elementary school, and his mother ran a preschool and kindergarten in the family garage. The day he was nominated for the Cabinet post, Alexander was given some basic advice by a former teacher: his mother. In a published comment, Alexander had dismissed his chances of being the candidate by saying, “It’s not me.” Flo Rankin Alexander, 76, caught up with her only son in his office at the University of Tennessee, where he had been president since 1988. “If you are going to go about this country as Secretary of Education, you can’t say ‘It’s not me,’” she informed him. “It’s not I.” *(Kenneth J. Cooper, in Washington Post)***

**Mother’s Day brings back memories of maternal advice and admonition. Picture the scene with these famous offspring:**

**Alexander the Great’s mother: “How many times do I have to tell you – you can’t have everything you want in this world!”**

**Franz Schubert’s mother: “Take my advice, son. Never start anything you can’t finish.”**

**Achilles’ mother: “Stop imagining things. There’s nothing wrong with your heel.”**

**Madame de Pompadour’s mother: “For heaven’s sake, child, do something about your hair!”**

**Sigmund Freud’s mother: “Stop pestering me! I’ve told you a hundred times the stork brought you!” *(Jane Goodsell, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**A young boy about five or six years was talking on the telephone. As his dad listened on, the youngster told his grandparents dejectedly, “Mom is in the hospital, so the twins and Roxie, Billy, Sally, the dog, and me and Dad are all home alone.” (S.C.U.C.A. Regional Reporter)  
  
 A police recruit was asked during the exam, “What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?” He said, “Call for backup.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**In 1957, when my niece Susan was 4, her mother (my sister) came home from the hospital with a baby daughter, Debbie. My sister hired a nurse to help with the baby during the 2 weeks she was recuperating. This also allowed my sister more quality time with Susan during this period. After 2 weeks, when the nurse was leaving, little Susan ran after her, yelling, “Hey, you forgot your baby!” *(Celia Solomon, in Reminisce magazine)***

**The truth is there’s only one most beautiful baby in the whole world. The miracle is every mother has that baby. *(Submitted by Guideposts reader Janey Clark of Mustang, Oklahoma)***

Zoe: “When you were born, people called you Wanda.” Mom: “Uh-huh.” Zoe: “When you became a young woman, they called you Wanda, and when you got married they still called you Wanda.” Mom: “Yeah.” Zoe: “But when I was born, you became Mom! Zoe McPherson, life-changing event!” *(Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)*

**Behind every great man is his mother: Mrs. Morse: “Sam, stop tapping your fingers on the table -- it's driving me crazy!” Mrs. Lindbergh: “Charles, can't you do anything by yourself?” Mrs. Washington: “George never did have a head for money.” Mrs. Armstrong: “Neil has no more business taking flying lessons than the man on the moon.” *(Modern Maturity)***

**The most effective form of birth control I know is spending the day with my kids. *(Jill Bensley)***

**Three women started boasting about their sons. “What a birthday I had last year!” exclaimed the first. “My son, that wonderful boy, threw me a big party in a fancy restaurant. He even paid for plane tickets for my friends.” “That's very nice, but listen to this,” said the second. “Last winter, my son gave me an all-expenses-paid cruise to the Greek islands. First class.” “That's nothing!” interrupted the third. “For five years now, my son has been paying a psychiatrist $150 an hour, three times a week. And the whole time he talks about nothing but me.” *(Current Comedy)***

**A snobbish Bostonian approached the painter, James Whistler, at a party one evening, “And where were you born, Mr. Whistler?” she asked. “Lowell, Massachusetts,” replied the painter. “Whatever possessed you to be born in a place like that?” exclaimed the woman. “The explanation is quite simple,” said Whistler. “I wished to be near my mother.” *(Little, Brown Book of Anecdotes)***

**Mom: “Look at the way Wren is sitting. Zoe used to do the same thing.” Dad: “Really?” Mom: “And she made those exact sounds when she scooted on her tummy, except hers were higher-pitched.” Dad: “Huh?” Mom: “And I’ll never forget how Zoe used to curl the toes on her right foot when we tickled her under her arms.” Dad: “What? How can you remember all that stuff?” Mom: “I’m a Mom. My brain is permanently set on ‘kid.’” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The waitress at Mom’s Diner says to Ziggy: “Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, young man, where were you?” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**Two children ordered their mother to stay in bed one Mother’s Day morning. As she lay there looking forward to being brought breakfast in bed, the smell of bacon floated up from the kitchen. Finally, the children called her to come downstairs. She found them both sitting at the table eating bacon and eggs. “As a surprise for Mother’s Day,” one explained, “we decided to cook our own breakfast.” *(Tidbits)  
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Child says to Mother: “We wanted to buy you toys, but Daddy said you'd rather play with flowers.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Dolly: “Mommy, when you have lunchroom duty, should we call you Mrs. Mommy?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Before entering a Catholic seminary, I was interviewed by one of the priests. “Unless it’s the archbishop or the pope,” he told the secretary, “don’t put any calls through.” In the middle of our meeting, the phone rang. Annoyed, Father answered it. Then his eyes widened. “Yes,” he said. “I told her not to let any calls through unless they came from the archbishop, the pope or you, Mom.” *(Jack Terrillion, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**When a gold Mercedes-Benz sports sedan was delivered by mistake to Ruth Shepard’s driveway in Uniondale, New York, in May, 2002, she thought it was a surprise Mother’s Day present. A short time later, she was arrested for resisting police officers’ attempts to get the car back to its rightful owner. *(Universal Press Syndicate)***

**Wife says to husband: “Let's try getting up every night at 2:00 a.m. to feed the cat. If we enjoy doing that, then we can talk about having a baby.” *(Randy Glasbergen cartoon)***

**When my grandson was 6 years old, he gave his mother three certificates he had made in school for Mother’s Day. The first certificate said, “I will clean my room.” The second said, “I will take out the garbage.” The third one said, “Free Choice.” After his mother had thanked him with hugs and kisses, he looked up at her and said, “Now remember, Mom, you can only use them once.” *(Martha Mahon, in Country magazine)***

**Wife: “With the back problems that your Mom has been having, maybe we should get her one of these mechanical lift chairs for Mother’s Day.” Husband: “Don’t you think that’s kind of dangerous?” Wife: “I’m sure the chairs are perfectly safe.” Husband: “I’m talking about my Mom’s reaction.” *(Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers, in Crankshaft comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**I have five siblings, three sisters and two brothers. One night I asked Mom how she had changed as a mother from the first child to the last. She told me she had mellowed a lot over the years: “When your oldest sister coughed or sneezed, I called the ambulance. When your youngest brother swallowed a dime, I told him it was coming out of his allowance.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**After putting her children to bed, a mother changed into old slacks, a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. At last she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard her 3-year-old ask with a trembling voice, “Who was that?” *(The American Legion magazine)*  
Maiden Names: “A few years ago, I was explaining to my 7-year-old son that when a woman gets married, she usually changes her name. With a puzzled look, he asked, “So you changed your name to Mom?” *(Maryrose Steer, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Checking luggage is like how I imagine childbirth to be. You do it, it sucks, takes forever to come out, you forget, you do it again. (Olivia Wilde)**

**Evelyn: “Omigosh! I had no idea my son's old comic books were worth so much money!” Other woman: “Evelyn! Don't feel bad. We mothers serve a noble purpose for our country. In our relentless quest for tidiness, we create wealth by disposing of our kids' comic collections!” Evelyn: “We do?” Other woman: “Absolutely! We fuel an entire industry, bringing prosperity to dealers and happiness to collectors!” Evelyn: “I never realized that we mothers were so -- so vitally important!” *(Phil Frank & Joe Troise, in The Elderberries comic strip)***

**My four-year-old Richard looked at me with a loving look and said in true TV commercial style, “Mother, I like you better than any other leading brand.” *(Mrs. H. Priday, in Catholic Digest)***

**Mothers who give up work often transfer their competitive nature from the office to the home. In this instance, motherhood becomes their new “job.” It’s like being a corporate team leader – success is based upon the success of your subordinates. And in both cases, you’re dealing with a lot of whining, power struggles, and temper tantrums. *(Terri Libenson, in Pajama Diaries comic strip)  
\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Told she was too young to learn to cook, granddaughter Alexis sighed, “When I grow up and become a mommy, I’ll probably get fired from the kitchen.” *(Leila Blake, in Country Woman magazine)***

**Chef: “I’m having a special Mother’s Day dinner here at the diner.” Blondie: “Do you really think people will want to bring their mothers here for dinner on Mother’s Day?” Chef: “You bet! I got my mother to come over and cook for the whole day.” *(King Features Syndicate, in Blondie comic strip)***

**A Scout Master noticed a tenderfoot camper having trouble with his cooking equipment, notes Christina Kuehn from Albert Lea, Minnesota. “What’s the matter, son?” he asked. “Did you forget something?” “Yes, sir,” replied the scout, “my mother.” *(Country magazine)  
\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Hagar raises his glass of beer, looks at his servant, and says to him: “Here's to the one person I can always count on when things get tough!” The servant then raises his glass and says: “And here's to the one person I can always count on when things get tough! My Mom!” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar The Horrible comic strip)*  
At 3 a.m. the new mother shook her husband awake and told him to check the baby. He listened for a minute, then said, “I don't hear her crying.” “I know,” she replied. “It's your turn to see why not.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Starting my first week as a dormitory custodian at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, I was appalled at the mess in some stairwells – smashed fruit, discarded pizza and soft-drink containers. I put up a sign saying “Pretend the custodian is your mother,” hoping the students would think twice before throwing their garbage around. Under the sign the next morning was a basket of dirty laundry and a note requesting homemade cookies. *(LaVonna Thompson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**While conducting inspection one morning, I entered the quarters of a young enlisted man. His room was spotless, but I knew something wasn’t right. Then I noticed his pants were cuffed, not hanging straight as service regulations demand. “Airman,” I snapped, “have you decided to change the Air Force dress code?” “No, sir,” he replied. “My mother did. She thought the uniform looked better this way.” (*Col. Ron Cox, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Motherhood: If it was going to be easy, it never would have started with something called labor! *(Denver Rocky Mountain News)***

**Proud mother, exhibiting her baby: “He’s eating solids now – pencils, keys, newspapers, rubber bands, spiders, and ashtrays. *(Matty Simmons, in The Saturday Evening Post)*  
Enlightenment is the quiet acceptance that one day your children will grow up – and leave. *(Evelyn Beilenson, in Motherhood Is Not For Sissies)*  
With all of the children wanting Mom's attention, she thinks to herself: “If humans are still evolving, mothers will soon have more than two hands.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**September is when millions of bright, shining, happy, laughing faces turn toward school. They belong to mothers. *(The Orben Comedy Letter)***

**One woman says to the other: “They’re always talking about The Faith of Our Fathers. Why don’t we start talking up The Faith of Our Mothers?” *(The Saturday Evening Post cartoon)***

**The kids are singing: “And on this farm he had a Mom, eeyi- eeyi-oh. With a hug-hug here, and a hug-hug there.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)*  
  
Hammie: “Who’s your favorite kid?” Mom: “Oh, Hammie, what a silly question! Mommies don’t have favorites, Mommies have long memories!” Zoe: “If this is about the footprint in the piecrust, I said I was sorry!” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**Our daughter Hannah, 2, was admiring the flowers in our flower bed with her father, and he began naming them for her. He told her some were mums . . . to which she quickly added, “But no dads.” *(Cathy Young, in Country Extra magazine)***

**Mom: “When Dolly was born we thought about giving her my name.” Billy: “Oh no! Then we’d have a sister named Mommy!” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Billy says to his Mom: “Around Grandma I'll just say you're ONE of the world's best mommies, okay?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**I don’t know why they say “you have a baby.” The baby has you. *(Gallagher)***

**Headache Cure for Mothers (and Nurses): If you have a lot of tension and you get headaches, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: “Take two and keep away from children.” *(Nurses: Jokes, Quotes, and Anecdotes, 2005 Calendar)***

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**May 13 is the day we honor cooks, waitresses, nurses, teachers, maids, chauffeurs, psychologists, psychiatrists, doctors and bankers, or, to use their generic name -- MOTHERS! *(Orben's Current Comedy)*  
Mothers and fathers who think they’re all important should remind themselves that this country honors each of them only one day of the year. Pickles get a whole week. *(Bits & Pieces)  
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 Mother of a small boy to psychiatrist: “Well, I don’t know whether he feels insecure, but everybody else in the neighborhood certainly does!” *(Matty Simmons, in The Saturday Evening Post)*  
  
When a pastor asked the class, “Why was Jesus born in Bethlehem?” a boy raised his hand and replied, “Because his mother was there.” *(S.C.U.C.A. Regional Reporter)***

**Dolly says to her Mom while she fixes the leaky pipe under the kitchen sink: “Very good, Mommy! You're a Jill-of-all-trades.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Mom says to the neighbor lady: “I was sure motherhood would be hard work when it began with something called labor.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)*  
  
 The most remarkable thing about my mother is that for 30 years she served the family nothing but leftovers. The original meal has never been found. *(Calvin Trillin)***

**A man wrote to READER'S DIGEST. Here is what he said: “My mother has always treated me like her baby, no matter what my age. After turning 30, I purchased a computer and learned to use it. Thinking I'd impress her with my skill and maturity, I sent her a well-written letter, complete with computer graphics, borders and an elaborate typeface. I phoned to ask her what she thought of the letter. ‘It's lovely, dear,’ she replied. ‘I have it hanging on the refrigerator for all the neighbors to see.’” *(Dr. Delia Sellers, in Abundant Living magazine)***

**Life begins when the kids (and the grownups) go to bed. *(Evelyn Beilenson, in Motherhood Is Not For Sissies)***

**A little boy forgot his lines in a Sunday school presentation. His mother was in the front row to prompt him. She gestured and formed the words silently with her lips, but it did not help. Her son’s memory was blank. Finally, she leaned forward and whispered the cue, “I am the light of the world.” The child beamed and with great feeling and loud clear voice said, “My mother is the light of the world.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The teenager approached the sales clerk in the dress shop with a large bag. “My mother likes this outfit -- may I exchange it?” *(Tidbits)***

**A first grader proudly walked to the front of his class and proclaimed, “When I grow up, I want to be a lion tamer. I'll walk into the cage of roaring lions and not be afraid.” As the children looked on in stunned silence, he added, “I'll have my mommy with me.” *(Jan Brunette, in Portals of Prayer)***

**Little Benjamin sat down at the desk to write a letter to God asking for a little baby sister. He started the letter like this: “Dear God, I’ve been a very good boy.” He stopped, thinking, No, God won’t believe that. He wadded up the piece of paper, threw it away, and started again: “Dear God, most of the time I’ve been a good boy.” He stopped in the middle of the line, again thinking, God won’t be moved by this. So he wadded up the letter and into the trash can it went. Benjamin then went into the bathroom and grabbed a big terry cloth towel off the towel rack. He carried it into the living room and carefully laid it out on the couch. He smoothed out all the wrinkles. Then he went over to the fireplace mantle, reached up, and very carefully lifted down a statue of the Madonna. He had often seen his mother carefully dust the statue, and he had eyed it many times. On several occasions, his parents had told him that he could look but was not to touch the statue. Now, with all the care he could muster, he had it in his possession. Benjamin gently placed the statue in the middle of the towel, carefully folding over the edges. He then placed a rubber band around the whole thing. He brought it to the desk, took out another piece of paper, and began to write his third letter to God.  It went like this: “Dear God, if you ever want to see your mother again . . .” *(Moments for Mothers)*   
  
An elementary-school teacher had just given her class a science lesson on magnets. Afterward, she asked her young students questions. Her first question was: “My name starts with ‘M’ and has six letters. I pick things up. Who am I?” All the children said together: “Mother!” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**When my daughter was home during college break, she came in for an eye exam at the optometrist's office that I manage. I gave her some paperwork to fill out, and had to laugh when I read what she had written under method of payment: “My mom.” (Shirley Kudrna, in Reader's Digest)**

**Little Johnny had finished his summer vacation and came back to school. Two days later his teacher phoned his mother to tell her that he was misbehaving. “Wait a minute,” she said. “I had Johnny with me for three months and I never called you once when he misbehaved.” *(Tidbits)***

**Woman to cloistered monk: “I don't care if you have taken a vow of silence. I'm your mother -- you should have called!” *(Hickerson, Los Angeles Times Syndicate)***

**Insurance Forms: What is the nature of the claim? Pregnancy. Is the claim related to your employment? Yes. What is your job? Homemaker. *(Nurses: Jokes, Quotes, and Anecdotes, 2005 Calendar)***

**Ziggy says to the waitress at Mom’s Diner: “Honest, I don’t need a booster chair!” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)*  
Woman: “I got in! Charlene got tickets!” Husband: “For what?” Woman: “Lunch with Oprah!” Husband: “You and Charlene are going to have lunch with Oprah Winfrey?” Wife: “Yup! She's on her 'Live Your Best Life' tour! We live in one of the lucky cities she'll visit!” Husband: “Let me see that ticket.” Wife: “Okay.” Husband: “A hundred and eighty-five bucks for lunch?” Wife: “She's going to tell us how to live our lives.” Husband: “You could get the same thing having lunch with Mom!” *(Robb Armstrong, in Jump Start comic strip)***

**One woman says to the other: “Jennifer, the term ‘blissfully pregnant’ is an oxymoron.” *(Dave Carpenter cartoon)***

**A man was called upon at a dinner of the Pilgrim Fathers to respond to the toast, “The Pilgrim Fathers.” After paying tribute to the Pilgrim Fathers for enduring the rigors of the New England winters and the privations and dangers of life in the little settlement of Plymouth, he paused. “But let us give thought,” he added with a grin, “to the Pilgrim Mothers. For they not only had to endure everything the Pilgrim Fathers endured, but mark this, they had to endure, also, the Pilgrim Fathers.” *(C. Kennedy)*  
 Husband: “Hi Honey. How was your day?” Wife: “Eight diapers, six spit-ups, three outfits, two screaming fits and a sore nipple. Pardon me while I go ponder the wonders of motherhood alone in a hot bath.”  
*(Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)*  
My husband has a rather portly build, with a sizable potbelly. When our daughter was expecting her second child, my husband and I went to her house to take care of her three-year-old girl. The first night, our little granddaughter made the rounds to kiss us all goodnight. After she kissed her mother's cheek, she then kissed her mother's tummy, bidding the unborn baby goodnight. She ran down the hall to bed, then suddenly ran back to the living room, stopping in front of her grandfather. She bent over, kissed his belly and announced, “I forgot to kiss Grandpa's baby goodnight!” *(Ruth M. Henshaw)***

**Johnny had just been put to bed for the umpteenth time and his mother’s patience was wearing thin. “If I hear you call ‘Mother’ one more time, you will be punished,” she said sternly. For a while it was quiet. Then she heard a small voice from upstairs: “Mrs. Jones? Can I have a drink of water?” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**CHILDREN ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT MOTHERS:  
- What ingredients are mothers made of? God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world, and one dab of mean.  
- What kind of little girl was your mom? I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.  
- Why did your mom marry your dad? My grandma says that mom didn't have her thinking cap on.  
- What's the difference between moms and dads? Moms know how to talk to teachers without scaring them.  
- What does your mom do in her spare time? Mom's don't have spare time.  
- If you could change one thing about your mom, what would it be? She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that. *(Bedside Bits)***

**Real mothers:   
Don't eat quiche; they don't have time to make it.   
Know that their kitchen utensils are probably in the sandbox.   
Often have sticky floors, filthy ovens and happy kids.   
Don't want to know what the vacuum just sucked up.   
Sometimes ask “Why me?” and get their answer when a little voice says “Because I love you.”  
Know that a child's growth is not measured by height or years. It is marked by the progression of Mama to Mommy to Mom. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**There’s a good reason why it’s called labor. *(Evelyn Beilenson, in Motherhood Is Not For Sissies)***

**A very dirty little fellow came in from playing in the yard and asked his mother, “Who am I?” Ready to play the game she said, “I don’t know! Who are you?” “WOW!” cried the child. “Mrs. Johnson was right! She said I was so dirty, my own mother wouldn’t recognize me!” *(Tidbits)***

One of the youth league soccer coaches didn’t care much for my refereeing and had no problem letting me know it. Fed up, I threatened him with a penalty if he didn’t can it. He calmed down, but an older woman took up where he’d left off. “You’d better control your sideline,” I warned the coach. The coach turned to the woman and barked, “Knock it off, Mom!” *(Joseph Wheeler, in Reader’s Digest)*

**The hand that rocks the cradle usually is attached to someone who isn’t getting enough sleep. *(John Fiebig)*  
Many people in the large company where I worked shared the same first names. It could be a problem when customers called without knowing the appropriate surname. They would try descriptions like “tall Pat” or “short Pat.” One day I got a call from a woman wishing to speak with Lisa. “Which Lisa?” I asked. “The pretty blonde who's really nice,” she replied. Recognizing the description, I informed her that Lisa was out of the office, but I would be happy to take a message.” “Please tell her that her mother called.” *(Joyce Weyant, in Reader's Digest)***

**Dolly asks her Mom: “Will you take my dolls shopping so they can get me something for Mother's Day?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Telltale Signs of Motherhood: The phrase “Ready for bed” means that all you have to do is pack tomorrow’s lunches, check homework, fill out permission forms for a field trip, straighten up the living, and fold two loads of laundry. *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**Husband on phone: “Hi, Honey. It's me. I just wanted to remind you that Zoe has soccer practice at four.” Wife: “I can't be in six places at once!” Husband: “You mean two places at once.” Wife: “What?” Husband: “I think the phrase is, ‘I can't be in two places at once.’” Wife: “Hey, I'm a Mom, remember? I consider being two places at once a vacation!” *(Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)* For Mother's Day, my young daughters promised to be quiet and let their mother sleep in. One morning weeks later, I overheard a conversation between my daughter Alyssa and her grandfather. “Where's your mom?” he asked. “Oh,” said Alyssa, “she's upstairs pretending it's Mother's Day.” *(Gene F. Nicolai, in Reader's Digest)***

**Lars says to the man: “The goldfish died. Oh, and speaking of death, your mother called.” *(J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)***

**Father: “Happy Mother's Day!” Woman: “Thank you.” Child: “What is Mother's Day anyway?” Father: “What is it? It's a special day when mommies get special treatment.” Child: “Like what?” Mother: “All kinds of stuff. Somebody else cooks the meals, somebody else cleans the house, somebody else takes care of the kids.” Father: “Basically, it's a day mommies can relax and let somebody else do the work.” Child: “Ohhh, now I get it. There's one Mother's Day, and the rest are all Daddy's days.” Mother: “Exactly.” Father: “What?” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**A suburban mother’s role is to deliver children obstetrically once, and by car forever after. *(Peter De Vries)***

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When my oldest granddaughter, Debbie, was about 3 years old, her parents and siblings came to visit us on the farm. We took a little drive around the area, and when we passed a one-room schoolhouse, I told the kids I used to teach there. “Your Uncle Lance and Uncle Marvin went to school there,” I added, “and I was their teacher.” We drove on for another quarter mile or so before Debbie asked, “Who was their mother then?” *(Dorothy Sterns, in Country magazine)*During my senior year at Pequot Lakes High School in Minnesota, a new English teacher was hired. Early in the first week of classes, a group of us gathered to discuss our teachers. “Do you have Mrs. Hauser for English?” one boy asked me. When I said I did not, the other students went on to describe how strict she was, how she would not tolerate misbehavior and how tough her academic standards were. As they reached the end of their complaints, I nodded and said, “I know.” “But you told us you didn't have her class,” they responded with puzzled looks. “I don't,” I said. “She's my mom.” *(Carolyn Corbett, in Reader's Digest)  
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**Hammie: “Wanna play twactors, Zoe?” Zoe: “I am a girl, and girls don’t play with tractors!” Hammie: “Wanna play twactors, Mom?” Mom: “Okay!” Zoe: “Hey!” Hammie: “She’s not a girl, she’s a Mom.” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**Rose: “There! I’ve successfully tucked myself in. Hmmm, it feels a little empty and cold! Momma! I’ve reconsidered my position on being tucked in!” Mom: “What changed your mind?” Rose: “I’m a better tuckee than a tucker!” *(Pat Brady & Don Wimmer, in Rose Is Rose comic strip)***

**My colleague, a professor of clinical psychology at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand, included a lecture on crowd psychology in his annual course. To illustrate mass hysteria, he regularly showed TV news footage of teenage crowds greeting the Beatles at the local airport in the 1960s. Last year, when he ran the footage, he heard squeals and bursts of laughter from his students. When the film ended he asked what had caused the hilarity. Replied one student, “We recognized some of our mothers!” *(Roger Robinson, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The counselor was helping his kids put their belongings away on their first morning at summer camp. He was surprised to see one of the youngsters had an umbrella. The counselor asked, “Why would you bring an umbrella to camp?” With his face turning red, the child replied, “Did you ever have a mother?” *(Bedside Bits)***

**The TV says: “Due to the graphic nature of the following program, viewer discretion is advised.” Mom then turns off the TV and the child says to her: “It said viewer discretion, not mother of viewer discretion!” Mom: “Too bad!” *(Kevin Fagan, in Drabble comic strip)***

**A man with three children entered the restaurant where my friend Sarah was waitressing. As he led his kids to a table in Sarah’s section, the restaurant owner remarked to her, “It’s nice to see a father treat his kids to dinner out on Mother’s Day so his wife can have a quiet evening.” Sarah laughed. The man was her husband, and the kids were theirs. *(Kim Dupuis, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The elderly waitress at Mom's Diner says to Ziggy: “No more water for you! You'll be up all night!” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**A soldier was standing at attention during a parade drill when he waved to one of the spectators. The drill instructor went over to the young man and growled. “Soldier, don’t ever do that again!” But as his company marched past the reviewing stand, the young man waved a second time. When the troops got back to the barracks, the drill instructor barreled in and barked at the soldier. “I told you not to wave! Aren’t you afraid of me?” “Yes, sir,” the private replied, “but you don’t know my mother!” *(Our Daily Bread)***

**Mom says to the crying baby: “What is it, Lizzie? Something hurts? Sore tummy? No pins, no fever. Is it teeth, Lizzie? Are you hungry? What’s the matter, baby, tell me! Tell me! Why aren’t they all born speaking English?” *(Lynn Johnston, in For Better or For Worse comic strip)***

**I would be the worst mother. I’m too neurotic. If my kid yelled to me in the middle of the night, “Mommy, I think there’s a monster under my bed!” I’d be like, “Of course there is, honey. That’s why I’m not coming in there.” *(Jen Kirkman, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Grandpa: “Did you have a nice Mother’s Day, Dear?” Grandma: “Yes, thanks for the flowers.” Grandpa: “I guess I should’ve cooked dinner for you, but you know how I am in the kitchen. Anyway, you know how I feel about you. You’re the light of my life, the pearl of my oyster, the apple of my eye, and you’re the potato of my couch.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

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