

The First Apology Is the Worst



Let's Get It Over With

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Jimmy Huston



I wish you didn't need this book.

But you do.

Sorry.

See? That's all there is to it.

Sort of.

Just say you're sorry, and you can throw this book away.

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Dedicated to Clementia
Goddess of Forgiveness

Yeah, you've done or said *something*.

And somebody thought it was pretty bad.

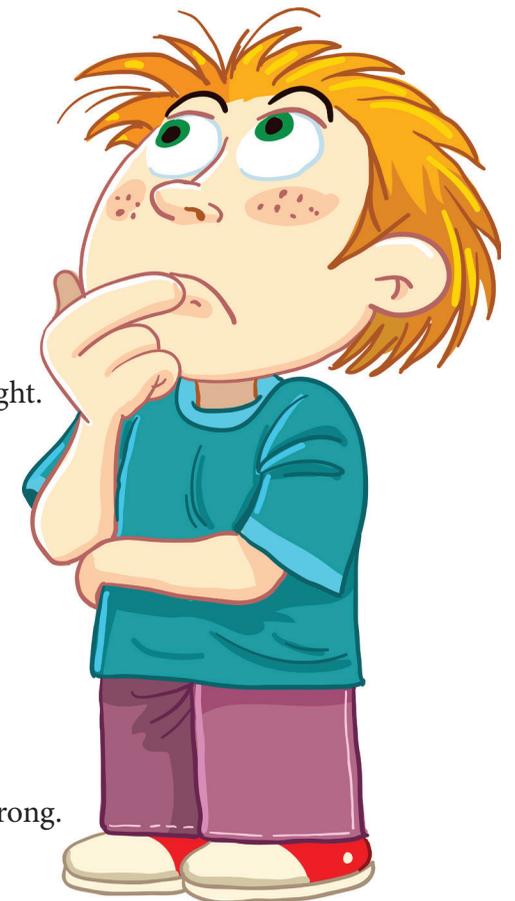
Now you're getting a little heat.

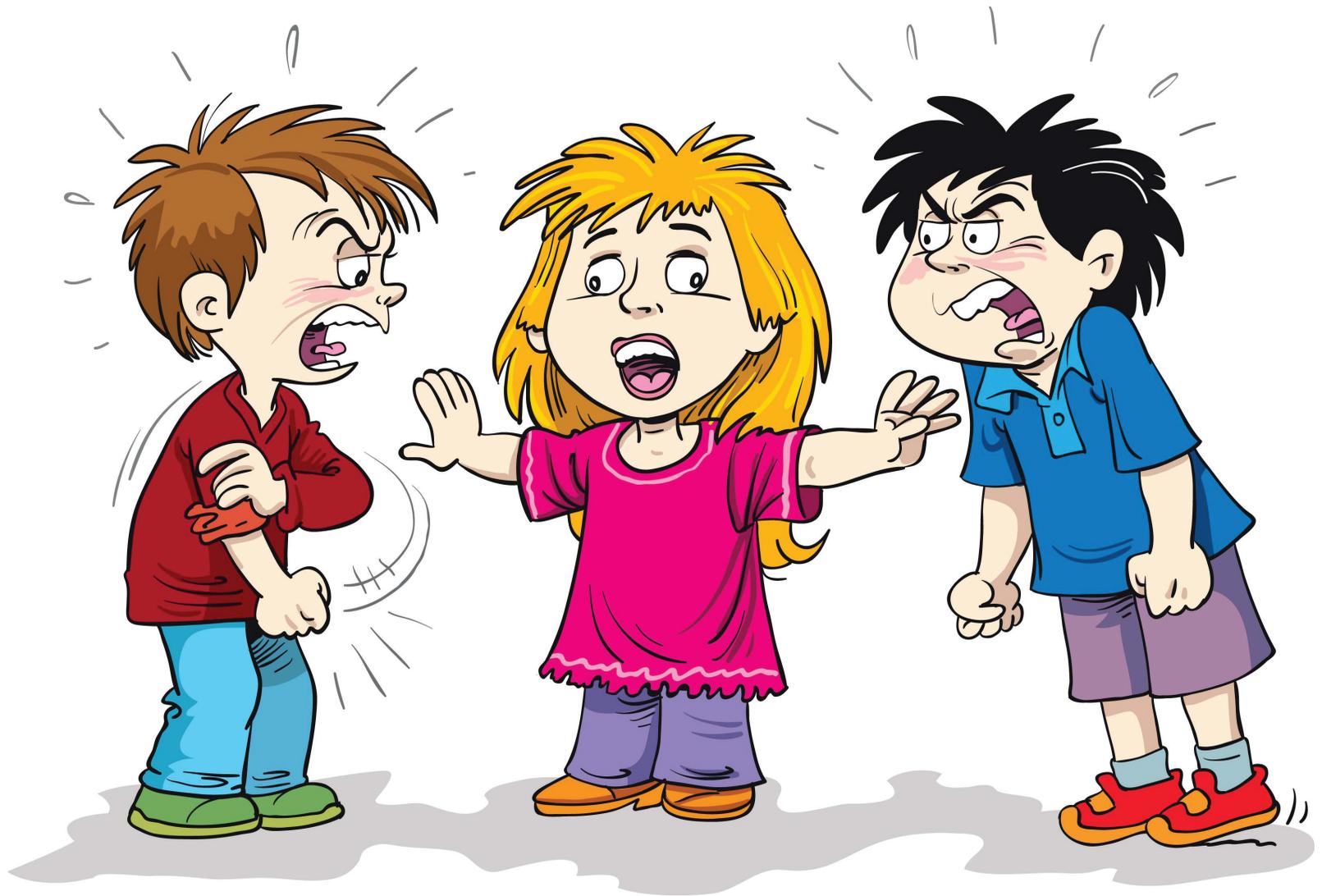
Bad vibes.

And they're not going away.

You may be (or have been) right.
This is the worst.

You may be (or have been) wrong.
This is the worst.





So you're in some sort of dispute?

That's never a good thing, but some disputes are worse than others.

If your disagreement is with someone who's going to be showing up in your life again, especially if it's someone you're going to need, you're going to have to work something out.

One or both of you is mad.

Things are not getting any better and, in fact, are probably getting worse.

You're sure not going to *apologize*.

Why should you?

That's a good question. Why should you?

This is how some wars start. Granted, this isn't going to grow to a full scale war, but things are not going that well for you now, are they?



Why Apologize?

Because.

You are in a dispute with someone who is important in your life, and who you will continue to have contact with, like it or not.

This trouble is going to color every situation with that person. It is going to get worse over time, not better.

On some level, you need this person. Or you will someday.

The longer you wait to get this straightened out, the worse it's going to get.

You really don't want to apologize but...



Romeo and Juliet

What if the Capulets and the Montagues had worked things out?

Imagine if someone in either family had apologized.

These two legendary lovers would not have killed themselves (and we wouldn't have to watch Shakespeare's play about them).



Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr

What if Hamilton had simply apologized to Burr instead of getting shot? They could have *both* danced happily in the finale of the Broadway play. It would've had a completely different ending. As would he.



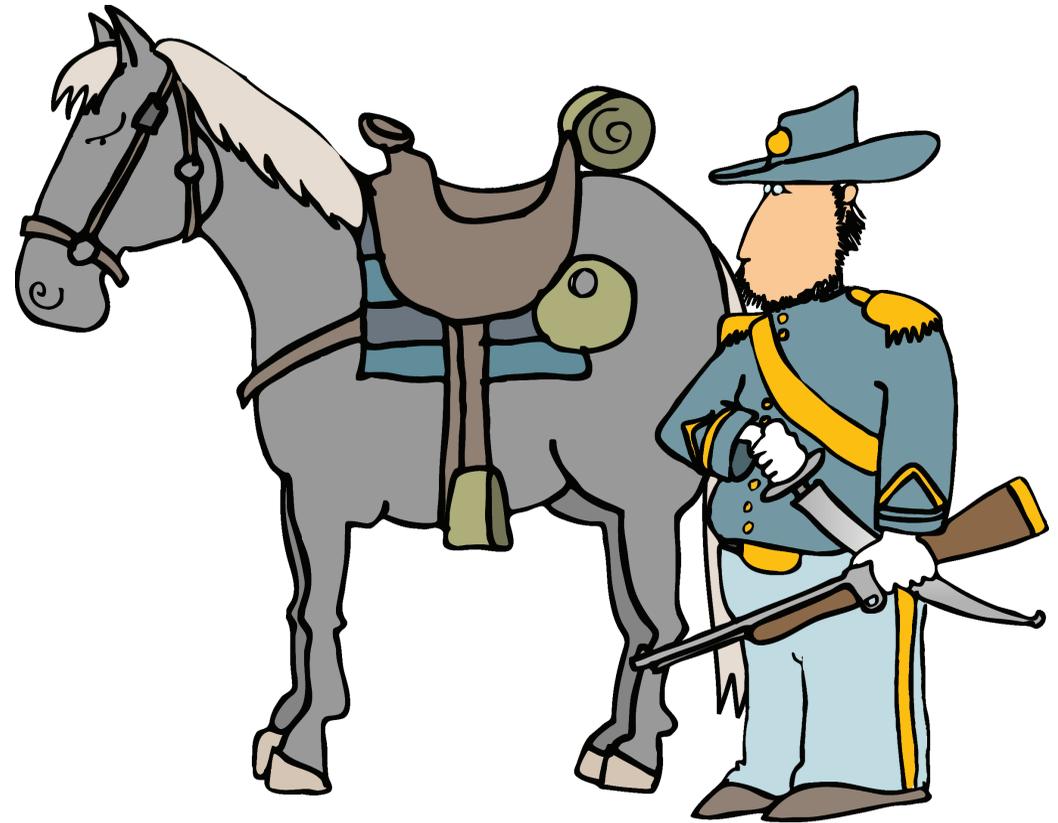
Julius Caesar

If Caesar had apologized to the Roman senate for crossing the Rubicon, perhaps the "Ides of March" would've had a completely different meaning.



Custer and Sitting Bull

If Lt. Colonel Custer had apologized to Chief Sitting Bull he'd still be alive. Well, maybe not alive, but he would definitely have lived longer than he did. (He just wouldn't be as famous.)



There was probably an awkward moment or two for him at Little Bighorn when he would've gladly traded his fame for a few more years on Earth.