**(Cartoon and humor)**

**View:** Today you are invited to view a sample cartoon by New Yorker cartoonist Roz Chast\*, consisting of the visual of a tombstone with this caption: “[I can’t believe I ate al that kale for nothing.”](https://fineartamerica.com/featured/i-cant-believe-i-ate-all-that-kale-for-nothing-roz-chast.html)

**Deepen the Experience:** humor and the meaning of life

***Cartoon game for Singles or for Families and Households of All Ages:*** What does our culture insist is important for leading a good life, but might not be? Look for a few advertisements on boxes, in magazines, printed from the internet, or wherever you find them. You can cut out advertisement photos and glue them to paper, or trace them, or just make quick sketches yourself. How might you draw over the objects depicted in ads to make them funny or absurd? Examples:

* How would you show those objects trying to acquire more power than they actually have?
* How would you show those objects doing something that an ordinary human might do during an ordinary day?
* What would those objects say to defend themselves if they were on trial?

***Questions to ponder:*** How does laughter help you approach the solemnity of the Holidays? How does laughing at our foibles help us define what is important?

\*About Roz Chast: from [Rozchast.com](http://rozchast.com/index.shtml): *Roz Chast’s work has appeared in numerous magazines through the years, including The*Village Voice*,*National Lampoon*,*Scientific American*,*Harvard Business Review*,*Redbook*and*Mother Jones*, but she is most closely associated with*The New Yorker*. Chast attended the Rhode Island School of Design, where she studied painting. After graduating in 1977 she returned to New York City, where she quickly established her cartooning career. In addition to collections of her*New Yorker*cartoons, Chast has written and illustrated a range of books. Her latest,*Going Into Town: A Love Letter to New York*(2017), a personalized travel guide to New York City that began as a going-away present to her youngest child, who was moving from the family’s home in Connecticut to attend SVA. Her first memoir,*Can’t We Talk About Something More Pleasant?*(2014) won a National Book Critics Circle Award and was shortlisted for a National Book Award.*