Girl Fears She'll Lose Touch

With Best Friend Far Away

DEAR ABBY

Dear Abby is written by

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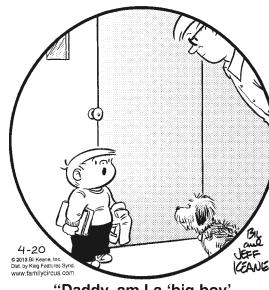
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Jeanne Phillips

# FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE

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"Daddy, am I a 'big boy' or a 'young man'?"

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# DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



#### **BLONDIE** | YOUNG & DRAKE

# BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



lish in an ESL class. I read your column and could use some help to solve my problem because I am very upset. I have known my best friend, "Vanessa," for a year and a half. She is my age and we were very close. She had to leave school because her family moved. I can't visit her because she is

DEAR ABBY: I am a 16-year-old girl from Serbia. I have been in U.S. for two years and I'm studying Eng-

too far away. I cried because I don't know if she is going to remember me or if she is going to forget all about me. I'm so afraid I am going to lose her. Can you help me? — SAD IN BUFFALO

DEAR SAD: You are obviously doing well in your ESL studies, and for that I congratulate you. Because you and Vanessa no longer live close does not mean that you can't still be friends. Although she has moved to a different geographical location, you can maintain a friendship because she is as near as your phone or computer.

Because you want to still be a part of her life, keep her updated on what is going on in your life and ask her to do the same. That is the way long-distance relationships are maintained, and some of them have been known to last a lifetime.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating my boyfriend, "Adam," for three years. Although we are young, we are serious about our relationship. Not too long after we started dating, Adam began staying over at my house on most weekends. I live with my mom, who is 47.

For the past year when Adam comes to visit, my mom has been coming out of her bedroom in her bra and panties, for the most part exposed. She also makes flirtatious comments to Adam that I feel are completely inappropriate.

I have tried talking to her about it, letting her know how uncomfortable Adam and I and some of my

# JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Taurus and a Moon in Leo if born before 6:08 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Virgo.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2013:

This year you will accomplish a lot -- and quickly at that. Your high energy emphasizes your striking, charismatic personality, and others simply cannot stay away from you. If you do not find an outlet for this vitality, you could become very frustrated and quickly angered. If you are single, sorting through your admirers takes a lot of time. Know that you do not need to settle. If you are attached, your significant other could be on the receiving end of your highs and lows. VIRGO can be critical. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dy-

namic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

# ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

 $\star \star \star \star$  A child entices you into a fun game. You might be startled by some of the insights you have and/or hear when in the company of this child. Use care with spending, and count your change! Go out to a ballgame or try to squeeze in some exercise. Tonight: Your time to treat.

## TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

friends are about it. I hoped she would understand, but she continues with the flirting and underdressing. What can I do about this? I'm desperate to try anything. — DESPERATE IN MAINE

DEAR DESPERATE: You may be desperate, but not as desperate as it appears your mother is for attention. Because talking to her hasn't helped, accept that she is not going to change her behavior. Have Adam stay over less often. When you meet with your friends, do it at someone else's house. And if you can afford to move elsewhere, you should consider it.

DEAR ABBY: I am a single mother of a 12-year-old boy. Three or four of his friends are constantly over at our house, and I feel obligated to feed and/or entertain them. Their parents don't send money for their meals and often don't even call to check on them, so they are left spending the night here.

I don't mind the boys staying with us, but I don't think I should be expected to pay for their food and fun or feel guilty if my son and I eat and they don't. Any suggestions? — SINGLE MOM IN THE SOUTH

DEAR SINGLE MOM: Call the boys' parents and have a friendly chat with them. I agree that the current situation

isn't fair to you, and because the boys are at your home so often, their parents should be chipping in. Alternatively, start sending the boys home at dinner time.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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could be taken aback by news and want to head in a different direction. Be careful not to stumble into a disagreement. Tonight: Make sure wherever you are, there is music!

#### VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ You might want to change gyms, get a new look or visit with a relative. Make today about you. You will feel much better than you have in a while as a result. Reach out to a friend you might have been avoiding. Tonight: Dance up a storm.

#### LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Others are overly affectionate. You might think that this behavior is cute, or you could think that it's aggravating. Understand that you are not going to change this person's behavior. A partner or close associate could unleash his or her temper on you. Tonight: Make it early.

# SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

 $\star \star \star \star$  You know that others are observing you, and you might feel as if you must make a good impression. You can't change the way others judge you -- everyone has a different bias. A partner might be jealous, and you are likely to hear about it. Tonight: Do your thing.

#### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Reconsider a choice you made about an upcoming trip or vacation. You'll seek out new information in an attempt to expand your thinking. Some of you might meet a foreigner at this moment in time. Your energy draws others toward you. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.



### **GARFIELD** | JIM DAVIS

## BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



# HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



# THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



★★★★★ If you consider how you felt several weeks ago as opposed to now, it will feel like you're comparing night and day. Your energy level revs up. Understand that you need to figure out an outlet for this energy; otherwise, you could become accident-prone. Tonight: Take a walk.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

 $\star \star \star \star$  A friend could trigger an unexpected insight. Be careful with your anger for the next few weeks. Work on expressing it in an appropriate way. If you hold your feelings in, they could backfire. Visit with a neighbor, and catch up on his or her news. Tonight: At home.

## CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You could be exhausted by recent events. A parent or boss surprises you. Just when you think you understand someone, he or she will surprise you. A friend could be unusually assertive. This person really wants confirmation and your company. Tonight: Plan on joining friends.

# LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

 $\star \star \star \star$  Be aware of your time, your limitations and your agenda. Sometimes you have to please yourself. You

# BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



# FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON







# MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



## CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

\*\*\*\* Share your thoughts and feelings with a dear friend or loved one. Understand what needs to happen in order to move a project forward. Your drive and creativity are high, and they'll help you find a path where few would even believe possible. Tonight: Express your earthier qualities.

# AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Listen to news more openly. Emphasize your long-term goals, and focus on what you need to accomplish. Toss yourself into a project. You might see a situation differently from a roommate or loved one. Tonight: Order pizza, and enjoy catching up with a friend.

# PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You could be racing through a lot of work. Complete as much as you can, but recognize that you might be accident-prone if you rush. If you can delegate, do. Be sensitive to alternatives. Schedule some time with a special person in your life. Tonight: Choose something fun.

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