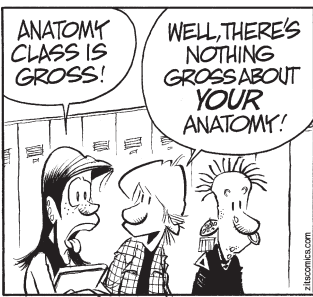


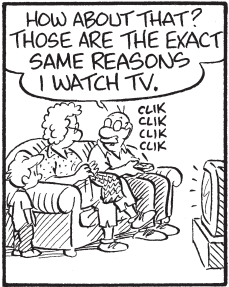
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



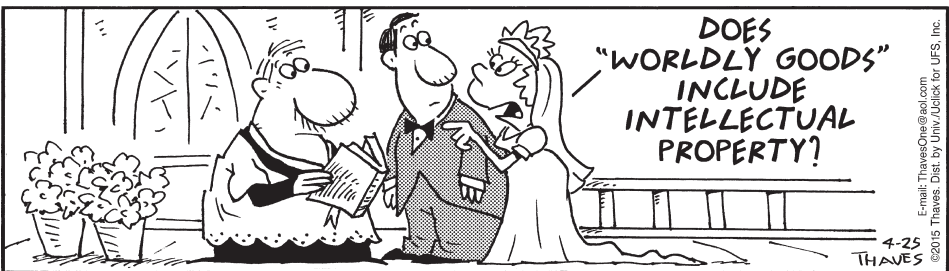
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



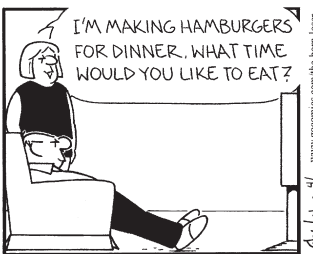
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



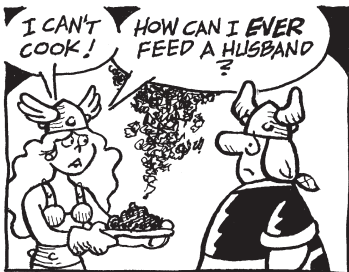
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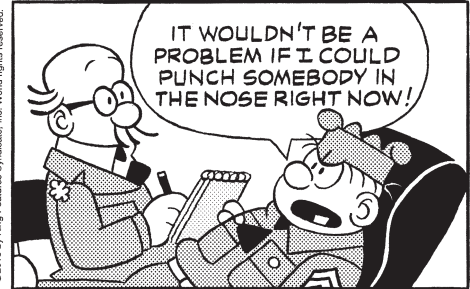
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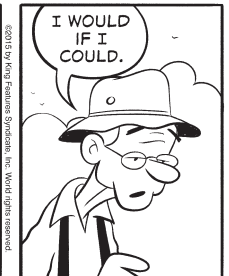
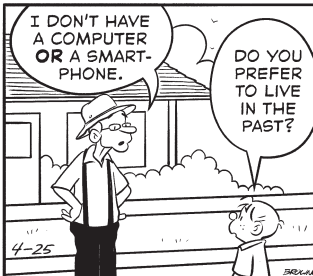
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



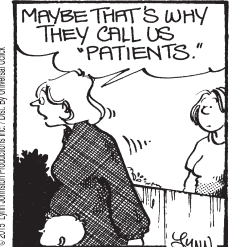
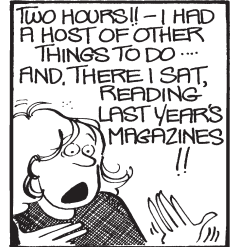
BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Trauma In Teen's Past Is A Secret She Should Keep

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 16-year-old girl, just starting to dip my toes into the dating scene. It's not that I haven't wanted a boyfriend in the past, but I live in a rural area where options are few.

I am becoming close with a guy who lives near me, and I care a lot about him. Therein lies the problem. We're getting to the point where we are finding out EVERYTHING about each other. I love learning things about him, and I want to share myself entirely with him.

Lately we have been talking about the past. To make a long story short, my childhood was traumatic. From the age of 6 until age 11, I was molested by a family member. Although I am a virgin, when I'm with my friend, it's obvious that I have done certain things before.

I don't want to "unload my baggage" too early and scare him away, but if we are going to commit to each other, I feel it's important for him to know. When is a good point in the relationship to tell him, or in future relationships as well? Any advice you could give would help a lot! - DIPPING MY TOES IN THE DATING SCENE

DEAR DIPPING: The answer depends upon how mature this young man is, because the information you're considering imparting to him is sensitive. How would you feel if this first relationship ended badly and he broadcast your history to the entire community? This has been known to happen - as we all know - with intimate photos.

Personally, I think it will be a while - a few years - before you will be ready for a truly committed relationship. I'm not saying you shouldn't have fun and romance in your life, but until you are absolutely sure that you are in a committed relationship, my advice is not to confide this.

If you haven't already received counseling for the trauma you experienced as a child, please consider it. Licensed counselors are ethically bound not to reveal what is discussed during sessions.

DEAR ABBY: I am in my mid-20s and have a close relationship with my mother. She always struggled to make ends meet, but has recently come into greater financial security.

For some time I have been embarrassed about her stingy habits when it comes to splitting the check in group situations. She'll often divide costs unfairly and rely on the generosity of her fellow diners to cover her share. I don't want to embarrass her at the table, but I'm uncomfortable apologizing for her after the fact.

Now that I'm older, I feel responsible in these situations, but I know money is a sensitive topic for her. I don't want to be critical or make her self-conscious. How can I talk Mom into correcting her behavior so we can salvage relationships that are important to both of us? - KELLY IN NEW YORK

DEAR KELLY: You shouldn't embarrass your mother in front of others. But you should have a private talk with her and express your feelings.

The frugal habits of a lifetime can be hard to break, even if there is a windfall later in life. But if you feel relationships are being destroyed because of what she is doing, then you should tell her and give her some examples. That's the only hope you have of convincing her to change.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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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 Cancer if born before 6:13 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015:

This year finds you much more upbeat than you have been in a long time. You also see solutions easily, especially when dealing with more than one person. If you are single, you are likely to meet someone substantial with whom you can relate deeply after July. What you do with this romantic tie is your decision. If you are attached, the two of you love spending time at home together. You might decide to remodel or perhaps buy a new home. Consider the importance of your domestic life. LEO can be very dramatic and demanding.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

***** You could be seeing the big picture while a friend might not. Allow yourself to let go of recent developments and become more spontaneous. Whether you opt to go off and play a sport or meander into a fun brunch makes no difference. Tonight: Be a little impulsive.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

**** You will need a timeout to catch up on sleep. Exhaustion undermines your enthusiasm and intellectual interest. You might feel as if you can't do enough for a family member. Fatigue infiltrates nearly everything. Tonight: Happy to stay close to home.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

**** You could feel as if you're in a bind. Remain positive and optimistic. You might be hearing several different versions of a disagreement. Maintain your sense of humor, and you will make the best of the situation. Return calls. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

**** Be aware of the costs of accepting a certain invitation. If you feel uptight, take a step back. Get a project completed before meeting up with friends. This will allow you to relax and actually enjoy a fun happening. Tonight: A shared piece of information gives you pause for thought.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

***** The Moon slides into your sign and

makes you the center of all the action. You know what you want, and you're willing to cross a line to get it. Right now, you simply have to ask. A new friend might delight you with his or her mischievousness. Tonight: Stay in the moment.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

*** Listen to your instincts. You might need some personal time. Create the environment you desire, even if a partner doesn't seem happy about it. Screen calls if you want to relax. Others will be happy when you reappear. Don't worry. Tonight: Read between the lines.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

**** You are a friend above all, and you often help others achieve what they want. The results will be far better than you initially had thought possible. In fact, you will create a situation that pleases you to no end. A partner might test your limits. Tonight: Where the action is.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

*** Work with a friend or loved one who might want to do something very different from your normal activities. This person will be wary of your attempts to make sure that he or she follows your suggestions. Defer to others more often. Tonight: On center stage.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

**** You could be taken aback by how you feel after having a compassionate talk with a loved one. Accept your differences, and understand where this person is coming from. As a result, you might find some common ground. Tonight: Whatever you choose to do, be with friends.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

*** Your vision of possibilities could change after a discussion with your sweetie or a loved one. You might feel as if you have not been as open as you should have been. Let go of remorse; it prevents you from moving forward. Tonight: Go with the good times.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

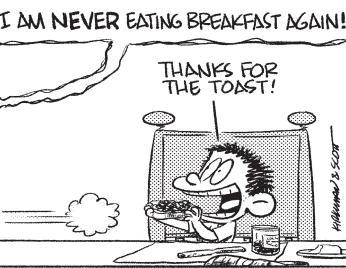
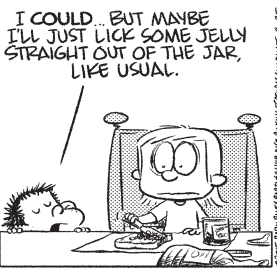
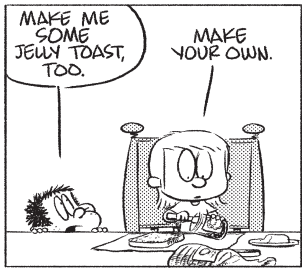
**** You'll be amazing with your responsiveness. Many people will enjoy being around you for that reason alone. Remain upbeat. An encounter with a friend will illustrate how much he or she cares. Don't push away someone who tends to be remote. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

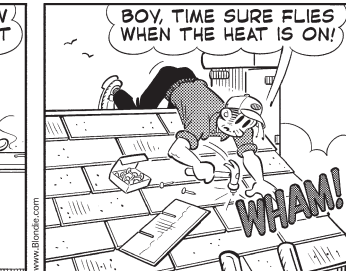
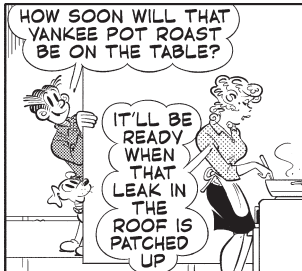
*** Get into a favorite pastime that you associate with this time of year. A friend might decide to join you in a fun escape when he or she sees how upbeat you are. As a result, a new sense of friendship is likely to emerge. Relax with the moment. Tonight: Play it low-key.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

