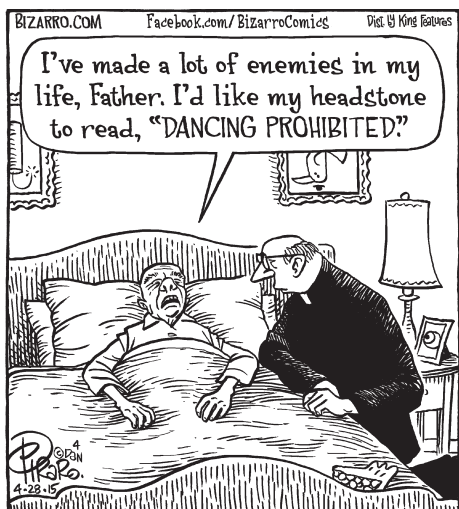


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Despondent Husband Wants To Break Cycle Of Cheating

DEAR ABBY: I have been married twice. My first marriage lasted 20 years, the second one about four years.

During my first marriage, I started cheating seven months after our wedding. My wife knew about some of the affairs and stuck with me anyway. I finally felt so guilty for hurting her emotionally, I called it quits and married the last woman I cheated on her with.

My second marriage was in many ways better. I was able to remain faithful for more than three years before cheating again. I feel terrible that I have hurt another woman I loved, but I have now fallen in love with the woman I'm cheating with.

It's like I'm in a perpetual cycle and don't know how to stop. I want this relationship to be my last one. I want to remain faithful and committed, but I'm scared to death I'll end up cheating on her and let us both down.

I'm not proud of how I treated my exes, but I can't change the past. How do I change this pattern of behavior so I can be a faithful and devoted partner? - CHEATER IN MICHIGAN

DEAR CHEATER: I respect you for recognizing you have established a pattern and admitting it. The most effective way to break a "perpetual cycle" would be to understand exactly what has driven it. I don't think this is something you can or should do on your own. That's why I recommend you schedule some sessions with a licensed mental health professional before making another trip to the altar.

DEAR ABBY: Is there a rule of etiquette regarding Christmas presents at this point in the year? I have boxes full of gifts for some friends and their children. These friends live no more than 30 minutes away, but have canceled every plan we have made since the middle of November. They know I have the gifts, and I've asked them to stop and get them out of my home, even if they don't have

time to come in and visit.

When I try to make plans to bring them their gifts, they say they have errands to run and they'll let me know when they're home. Then they wait until the next day to tell me they forgot, or they were out longer than expected.

We have no idea what's going on in each other's lives past the point of social media, which has shown me at least once or twice a week. I understand life is busy, but it feels like they're purposely avoiding me at this point.

Most of the gifts are personalized and can't be returned or repurposed. But for those that aren't, at what point is it OK to give up trying to deliver them and return them to the seller? - TIRED OF WAITING

DEAR TIRED: Sometimes no message sends a strong one. By now it should be clear to you that those folks are not interested in receiving anything from you, and are probably not eager to continue any sort of personal relationship. If you need my permission or encouragement to return the items - if, indeed, any of them are still returnable - I'm giving it to you now.

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.)



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

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FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



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PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



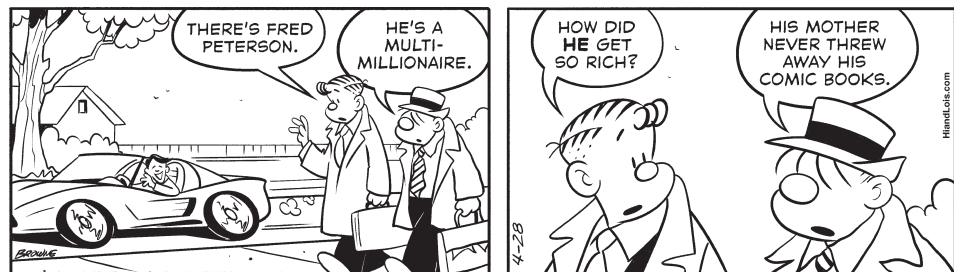
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



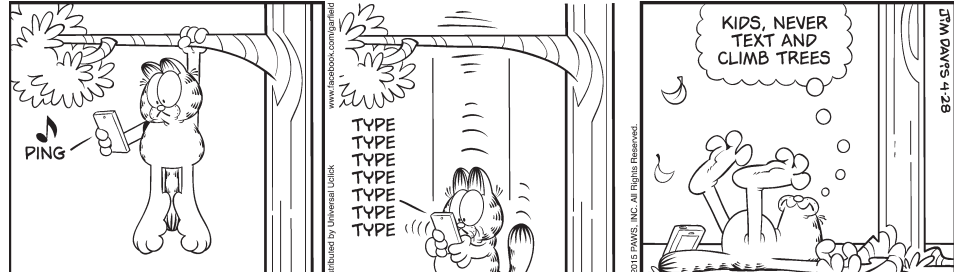
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



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 Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015:

This year you could be more detail-oriented than you have been in the recent past. Your creativity surges. The application of both of these assets will make your work, your choices and your life far more dynamic. Friends who have high ideals surround you. If you are single, someone of significance could enter your life sometime after August. You will enjoy all the bells and whistles of dating. If you are attached, you will find that the period following summer could be very special and significant. Make the most of this romantic period. VIRGO is known for his or her fussiness. 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 will need to make an extra effort to determine what to do to get some feedback from an important person. Keep in mind that you could be stubborn or provocative if you don't get the answer you desire. Be aware of the costs of proceeding. Tonight: Get some exercise.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You typically are logical and forthright, but at this point in time, you'll tap into your creativity when a problem appears. A meeting occurs that could confuse you as well as others for a while. You will be fine, as long as you focus on your priorities. Tonight: Go for what you want.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Lie low and choose to be passive. Listen carefully to a conversation to determine what is being left out. Confusion seems to surround a work-related situation. Let it go; time will help you clear up the problem. Say little and learn a lot. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You know what you want, and you recognize the power of having support from others. When you speak to others, you have a way of conjuring up a clear mental picture for them. Experiment with new ideas and different approaches. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Be aware of the costs of heading in a

certain direction. A conversation with a friend could be confusing at best. Pressure builds and adds some stress. An associate could paint a totally different picture, void of reality. Be aware. Tonight: Go for a brisk walk, then decide.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You will jump over any obstacles that appear. Others are drawn to you, as you are able to accomplish a lot quickly. The only problem will be a judgment that might upset you or stop you in your tracks. Remember, this is just one opinion -- nothing more. Tonight: Go for the unusual.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ One-on-one relating could prove to be rather fruitful. Nevertheless, keep what you know to yourself right now. Answers might come forward in an odd manner. Someone is likely to ask a question that reveals more knowledge. Honor a promise. Tonight: Not to be found.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Keep your goals in mind as you approach a situation that has several implications. Avoid asking difficult questions or putting someone on the spot. You have the ability to cloak your thoughts and ask the right questions without upsetting someone. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Others see how gifted you are in many different ways. A demand might be overwhelming, and your knee-jerk reaction could cause a problem. You will want to see a situation differently from how you have viewed it in the past. Tonight: Choose a favorite stressbuster.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Reach out to someone you care about. Your way of proceeding will take you down a traditional path. Still, be sure to respect others who might suggest a more creative direction. Try the unusual for once, to see what could develop. Tonight: Expand your mind.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Deal with others on an individual level. You could be exhausted by what is happening in your immediate environment. Pull back some. A financial or emotional risk is sure to be a bad bet. Stay conservative in this realm for now. Tonight: Make it dinner for two.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

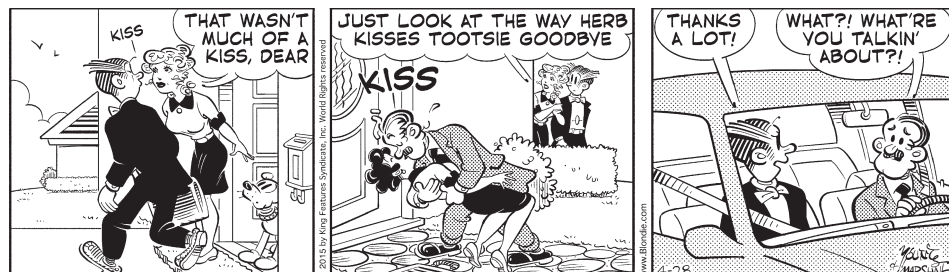
★★★ Take charge, and run with an idea while you can. Others won't intend to interfere, but they will. You have reason to want to back off completely, as confusion seems to surround communication. Play it low-key. Tonight: Don't challenge someone's authority.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

