

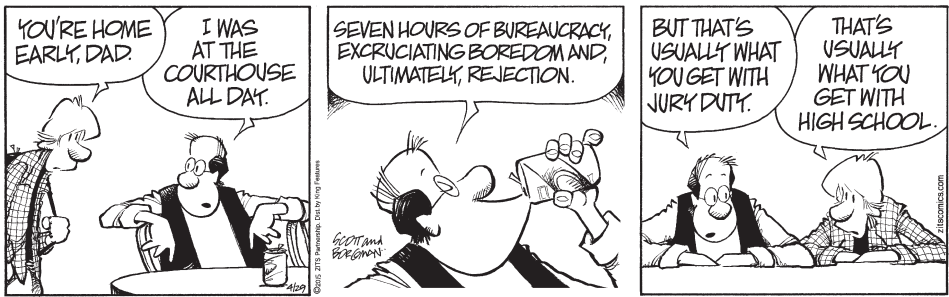
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



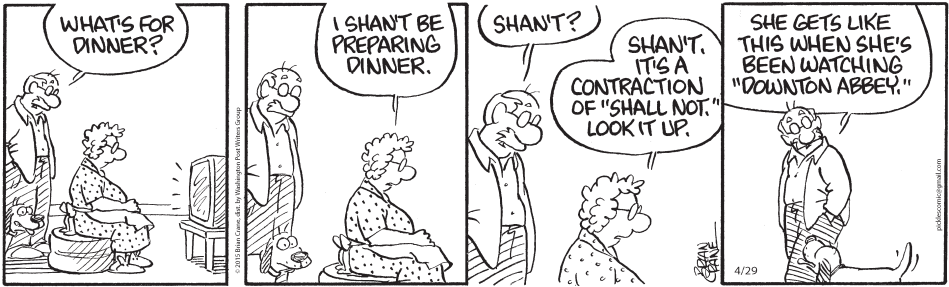
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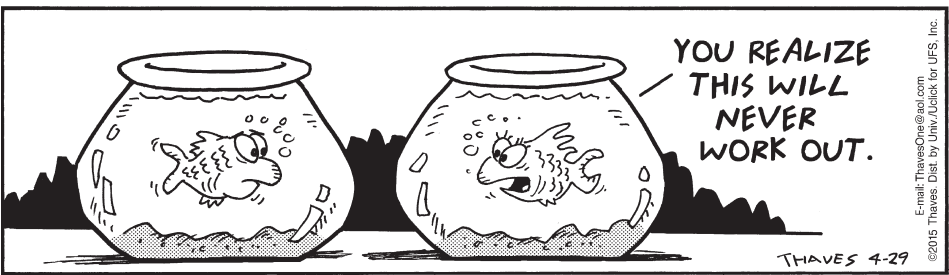
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



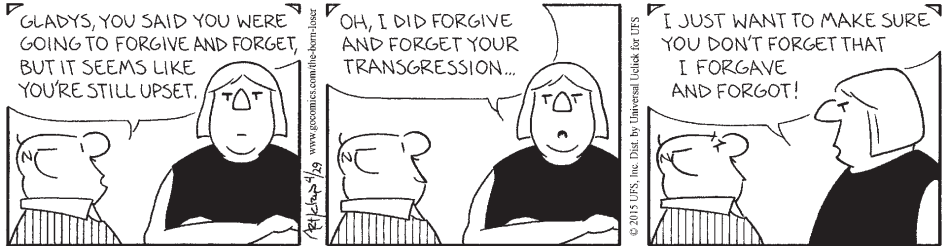
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



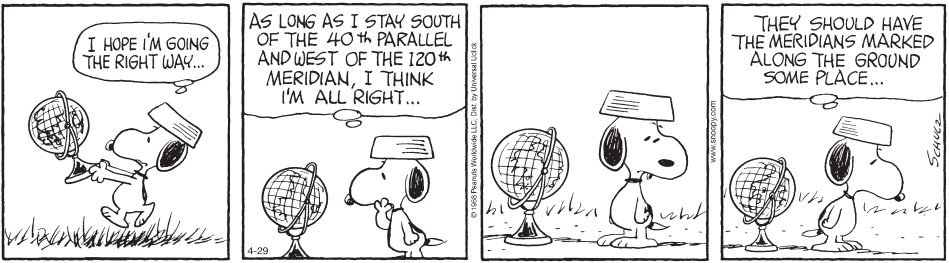
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



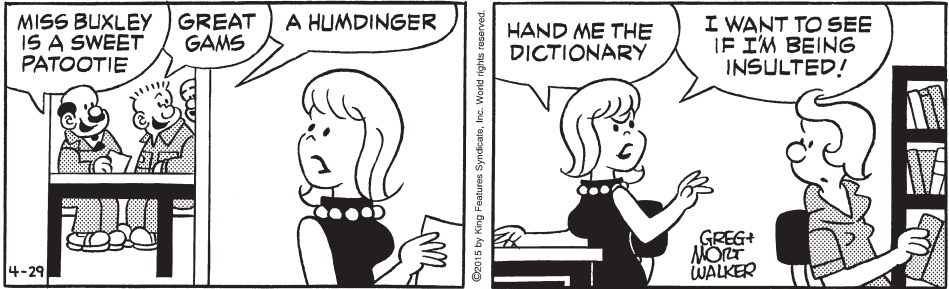
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



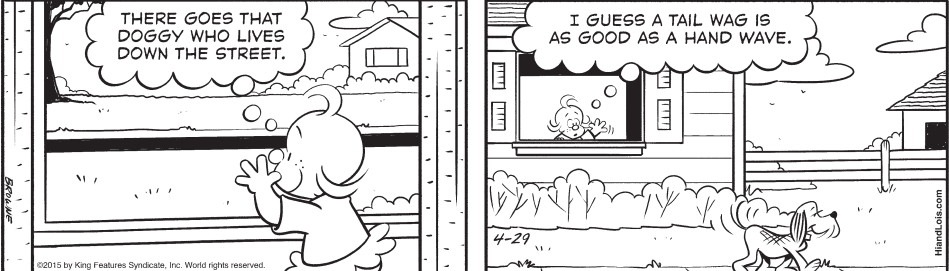
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



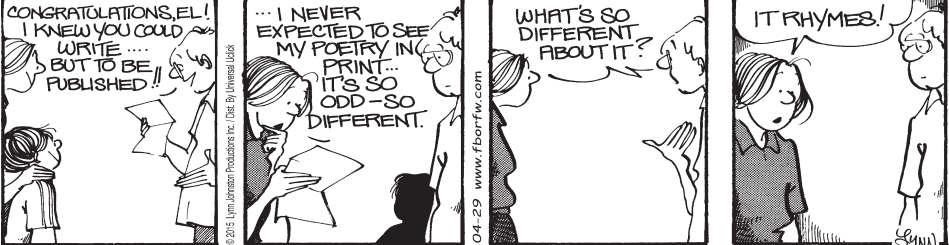
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



# Mom With Secret Addiction Is Playing Dangerous Game

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 17-year-old girl and I caught my mom sniffing nail polish remover. She obviously doesn't want me to know because she tries to hide it.

I don't know what to do. I don't know why she would want to do this. It's something people MY age would do. I know better than to do that.

Should I talk to her about it? She'll probably make up some excuse like she likes the smell. She sometimes tells me I need to grow up because I can act silly. But honestly, SHE is the one who needs to grow up.

I want to help her because I know what she's doing is not good for her. But how? - KNOWS HER SECRET IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR KNOWS: Your mother may have an acetone addiction. Because you can't convince her to take your concerns seriously, tell another adult ASAP what's going on - a relative, your father if he's in the picture, a teacher or counselor at school.

This kind of inhalant addiction is serious because in high concentrations acetone is a nervous system depressant. This means it can slow a person's heartbeat, respiration and metabolism, causing a person to become dizzy, confused and pass out. It can also damage the vital organs - the heart, liver, kidneys and the bone marrow - and cause cardiac arrest and death.

A support group for the children of addicts such as Alateen could give you emotional support. To find one, visit al-anon.org.

DEAR ABBY: My husband had a heart attack a week ago and is still in the ICU. I visit him every day. Yesterday I found out that he had asked his sister to stay with me to "be there for me."

I am furious. My sister-in-law is a nice woman, but we have never been close. My house is a shambles (my husband and I are

both disabled, he with peripheral artery disease and me after having been run over by a car) because housework is painful for me. So now, in addition to the stress of taking cabs to see him, I have the additional stress and pain of trying to make the house presentable.

I know my husband meant well, but I don't

want to go through this in front of an audience. I feel angry and also guilty for being angry. Can you help me put all this into perspective? - STRESSED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR STRESSED: After spending a week in an ICU, your husband may be having concerns about ever emerging. He may have suggested his sister come because he was worried about how you would handle being alone. That you might be upset because your home isn't ready to be featured in House Beautiful probably didn't enter his mind.

However, now that she's coming, be smart. Ask her to help you with the deferred housework so the place will be shipshape when your husband is discharged. If, as you say, you and your sister-in-law aren't close, her stay with you may be shorter than planned.

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.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable - and most frequently requested - poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Keepers 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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## 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 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015:

This year you often feel as if you have to cater to a loved one who might be very emotional. You often have a strong reaction to that type of behavior. Your creativity will tend to save the day and find solutions. Through August, you will be happiest close to home. If you are single, you will meet someone who makes you feel worry-free and cared about. If you are attached, you will enjoy your significant other far more than you have in the past. A change around your home is possible. VIRGO is fussy.

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)

★★★ Generally your communication excels, but when others remain nonresponsive, you can get very upset. What you choose to do is likely to shake up the status quo, but it might not draw the response you desire. Tempers suddenly could flare up. Tonight: You need to relax a little.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ A caring gesture will warm up emotional waters. You can be direct as long as you are nonjudgmental and exhibit depth and caring. A friendship will allow you to spread your wings and understand others better. Let your fun side emerge. Tonight: Enjoy every moment.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Listen to a loved one before you make a decision. Someone might be whispering gossip in your ear rather than facts. Go directly to the source. Remain on top of what you need to do. Express your feelings in a way in which they can be heard. Tonight: Respond to a friend.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You could be past the point of no return. Your ability to have a discussion despite someone's manipulation and some excess anger might surprise even you. You tend to understand this person better than he or she understands him- or herself. Tonight: Say little for now.

### LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★★ Much is happening behind the scenes. The less you say, the more information you will get. Someone who cares a lot about you might

not be able to express it. Be kind to this person, as you don't get friends like this very often. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

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

★★★★★ Someone you need to answer to or who can cause commotion in your life could be quite enthralled with what you are doing. This person might be unwilling to share his or her thoughts. Pressure builds around a decision to break past barriers. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

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

★★★ You might not realize how important you are to someone. As a result, you could feel left out. Make a call to a loved one and have a long-overdue discussion. Be aware that communication is off right now. Proceed with care. Tonight: Be more forthright.

### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★★ Your understanding of others easily could pay off. A friend will seem calculating and cool, but he or she could be quite emotional. You'll see through this person's defenses, but you might choose to not let him or her know. Tonight: Buy a token of affection for a loved one.

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

★★★ You could feel as if a boss or an associate tends to be overbearing. You might want to run away. Perhaps a discussion at a later date would be appropriate. A family member, who likely will have good intentions, could make the situation worse. Tonight: In charge.

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

★★★ Reach out to someone you care about. Your ability to make a difference will take you down a new path. You could see a situation in a totally different light as a result. Be careful not to be too distracted. Tonight: Listen to an option that you have not yet thought of.

### AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You might feel as if a partner is too controlling about a financial matter. Be careful if you are unhappy, as you are likely to do whatever it takes to stop overthinking the issue. A family member encourages you to spend. Ask yourself why. Tonight: Follow someone else's lead.

### PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★★ Your emotional mood could evoke a strong reaction from someone who is often too much in his or her own head. Bypass this person and get to the root of the problem. You might not be able to clear the air immediately, but you will soon. Tonight: Visit with a friend.

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## BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



## BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

