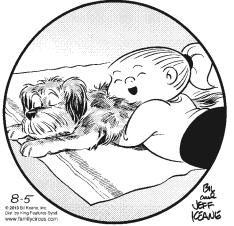


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



"Why do they put duck feathers in pillows? Doggy fur would be so much better."

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



BUTARE DON'T EVER YOUR HICCUPS DO THAT AGAIN GONE?

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DEPRESSOR

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Monday, 8.5.13 ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net NEWSROOM: News@yankton.net

Daughter Wants To Shield Her Kids From Toxic Grandma

DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

Phillips, and was

Dear Abby at

geles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby is written

by Abigail Van Buren,

also known as Jeanne

founded by her mother,

Pauline Phillips. Write

www.DearAbby.com or

P.O. Box 69440, Los An-

DEAR ABBY: My mother and I were close growing up. However, when I was in college she abandoned the family (my siblings were in high school and elementary school) for her much younger boyfriend.

Since then, our relationship has been strained, particularly since I learned she used to tell her then-husband she was visiting me when she was carrying on her affair. After that, I learned about additional lies she had told me throughout my childhood.

I'm married now and have two young children. Until a year ago we lived in the same city. Mom never came around much because she was preoccupied with finding new boyfriends to support her. She has since moved out of state and stalks me on Facebook, harassing me to get Skype so she can talk to my children.

My mother has never apologized for her actions to anyone and thinks we should just "get over it." Because so much has come out about her, I want to protect my children from being hurt by her the way I was. I can't tell her outright that I

don't want much to do with her for fear it will send her into an "episode," and I don't want my kids caught in the crossfire. If I try to sugar-coat what needs to be said, she won't get it. What should I do? — FRUSTRATED DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: Frankly, you'll save yourself a lot of grief if you just tell your mother you're not getting Skype and the reason why, and let her have her "episode." As a parent, you have every right to insulate your children from anyone you feel might be a negative influence - and that includes their grandmother.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating my boyfriend for more than a year and we are considering marriage. I am 23 and have never been dissatisfied with the way I look.

The other day he told my friend that when

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

if born after 9:54 a.m. (PDT). Prior to that time, the Moon is in Cancer

MONDAY, AUG. 5, 2013:

This year you might be concerned with your image and with solving some long-term problems. The issue for you is that you could have difficulty detaching from what triggers you. Listen to the friends you trust and their suggestions. From there, you will find the correct path. Your romantic energy runs high. If you are single, you will remember this year for a long time. If you are attached, this could be one of the most romantic

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-

we get married and become financially stable, he would pay for a boob job for me. I'm offended, mostly because I don't want one and don't think I need one. Do you think this speaks to his character (or lack thereof)? ----NOT GOING UNDER IN LOUISIANA

DEAR NOT GOING UNDER: No, I think it speaks to the degree he assumes he can control or make choices for you. That he would say something like that to one of your friends without having discussed it with you is rather disconcerting. I don't blame you for being offended.

> DEAR ABBY: I operate a small Internet radio station out of my house in Texas. I play music 24/7, except on Saturday nights when I usually do a live talk show. A topic I raise every year coincides with my birthday. I announce to all who are listening that I have desig-nated this day as Mind Your Own Business Day.

> On this day, my listeners are reminded that if they disapprove of someone's choice of mate, clothing, religion, favorite music, pets — and anything else that may be personal and nobody's business — to keep it to themselves.

Would you be willing to mention this in your column and help me spread the word that while everyone has a right to an opinion, it doesn't mean everyone should be forced to listen to it? Thanks in advance. - JIM IN TEXAS

DEAR JIM: Not only is your message succinct, your idea has merit. If more people followed your philosophy, it could eliminate a lot of conflicts, not to mention headaches.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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refer to the dates following each sign

A baby born today has a Sun and Moon in Leo

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR

periods of your life. A fellow LEO tests your limits.

their opinion -- not yours. Open up to new possibilities, and feel free not to share them with present company. Tonight: Toot your own horn!

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

 $\star \star \star$ Read between the lines when dealing with a neighbor or sibling. There could be a lot of contention or withholding from this person. Let it be. Don't take his or her comments personally. Much of what was said has more to do with him or her than with you. Tonight: Hang out.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-0CT. 22)

 $\star \star \star$ Bounce vour ideas off a friend. You might be amazed by what comes up as a result. Clearly, you could use someone to play devil's advocate more often. Use extra caution with your funds and with an important decision regarding a recent purchase. Tonight: Reach out for the stars.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ You'll listen to someone with care, yet within vou coul

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

ELEVATOR



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



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

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

 $\star \star \star \star$ You communicate succinctly, and others hear what you're saying. You might not appreciate their unresponsiveness, but understand that they could be revealing how they feel nonverbally. Be smart -- don't push too hard. Tonight: Keep the conversation light.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Try to keep your opinions to yourself, even if someone asks for feedback. This person might not be prepared to hear what you have to say. Theoretical discussions in general are fine, but those with ramifications could be problematic and cause an issue. Tonight: Happy to be home.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

 $\star \star \star \star$ You could be in a difficult position without even knowing it. When someone asks for your opinion, he or she won't want to hear it if it's going to be negative. Exchange ideas and reach out to those in the know. Tonight: Visit with a friend and catch up on this person's news.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

 $\star \star \star$ You might want to share more with a loved one, but this person's knee-jerk reaction could persuade you to keep some details to yourself. Why expose yourself to an unnecessary problem? You would be wise to avoid that experience. Tonight: Let a child or new friend be spontaneous.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

 $\star \star \star \star$ You might find it to be a bit of a downer when you try to integrate new ideas, and others react with negativity. Remember, that is

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



negatively. Do not view this as being random; the idea presented just might not be workable. Find someone else you trust whose thinking you agree with. Tonight: In the limelight.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

 $\star \star \star \star$ Listen to the words a loved one utters. You could feel hurt or have a very strong emotional response to what this person says. You might wonder what would be best to do under the circumstances. Give your feelings some time to wash over you. Tonight: Be more childlike.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Deal with others on a one-on-one basis for the best results. You might find the agreement you reach with someone to be unsatisfying. You'll wonder why you invested so much time. Compromise often is marked by both sides being disappointed. Tonight: Let a friend close down.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ To get a word in with someone demanding will take skill, but it also will encourage a lively exchange. You might wonder where this person is coming from. Observe, and you will find the key to his or her personality. Tonight: An older friend could be the downer of the night.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You might want to reconsider your plans. Perhaps you're not being realistic about what you can accomplish in a certain amount of time. You'll want to feel good at the end of the day, so try to detach from daily conversations and actions. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

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