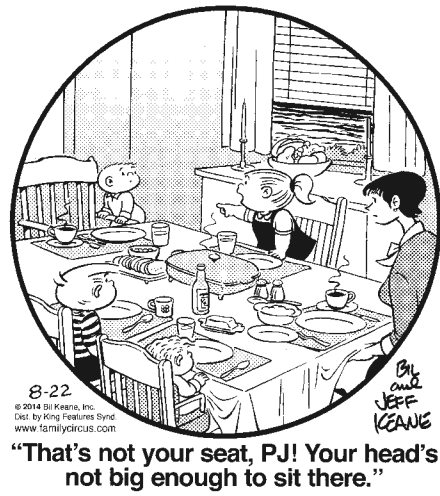


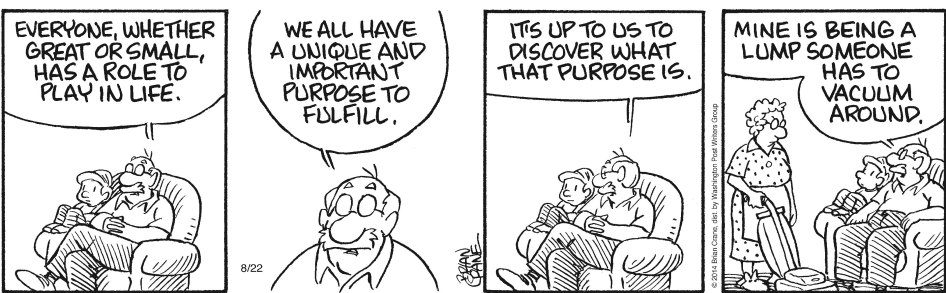
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ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



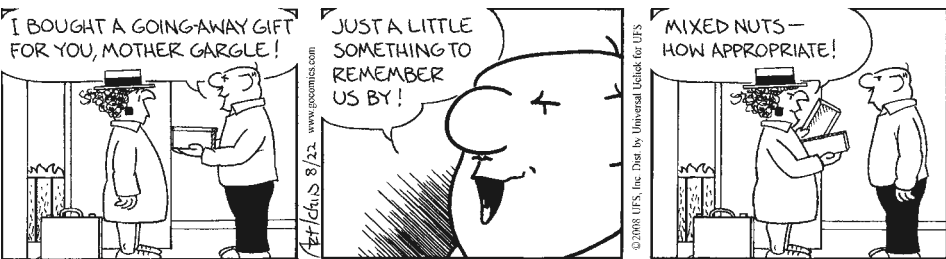
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



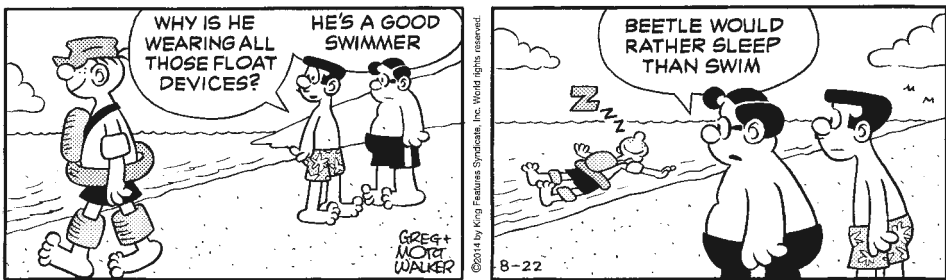
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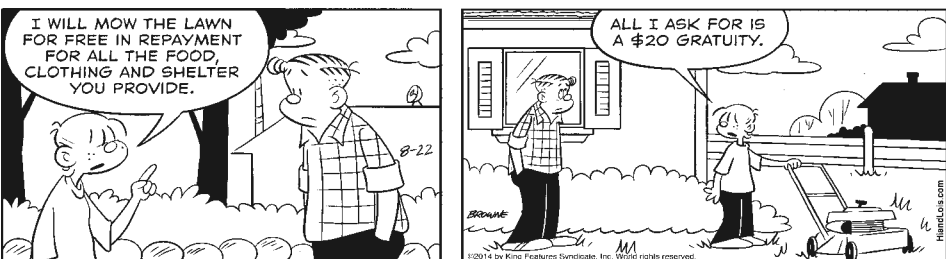
HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



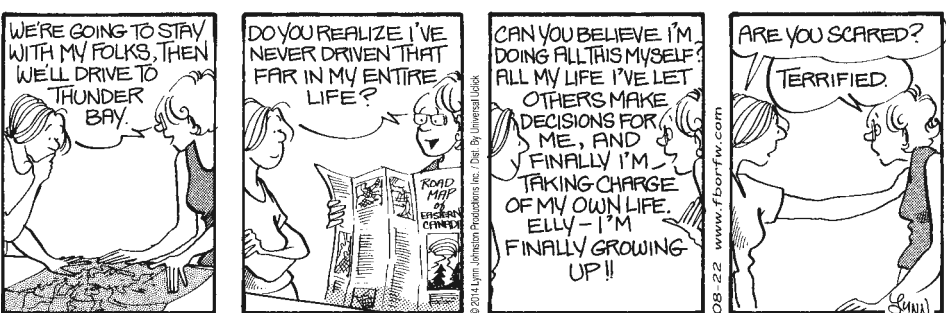
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



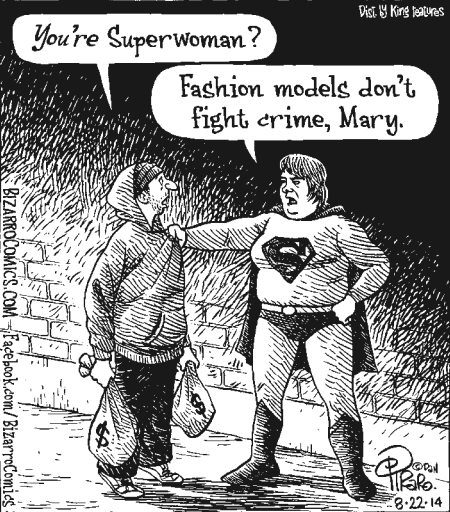
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



# Family Fears For Teen Falling Under Boyfriend's Influence

DEAR ABBY: My son's wife passed away very recently. He works days, so I have been helping him by looking after his 15-year-old daughter, "Leyla."

Leyla recently told her father that her boyfriend, "Dylan," has asked her to vandalize things — TV, Blu-ray player, etc. — if her daddy enrolls her in a private school or moves her to another school closer to his company for a better education. Leyla's grades aren't good, and she spends most of her time chatting or texting with Dylan.

Abby, I'm really worried. The last thing Dylan asked her to do was kill her daddy because "he controls her too much." Before school ended, Dylan skipped a field trip. He didn't want Leyla to participate either because he feared that without him, she might have a chance to make friends with others, so she didn't turn in her paperwork and stayed home.

We plan to send her to a psychologist in the coming weeks. Should we bring this problem to the attention of her school principal? Thank you for your help. — WORRIED SICK IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WORRIED SICK: I'm glad your granddaughter will soon see a therapist. I'm sure they'll have a lot to talk about.

Because Leyla is in constant communication with Dylan, take her cellphone away and monitor her activity on the computer. That he would ask her to damage property or cause physical harm to another person is something that should be immediately reported not only to the school principal, but also to his parents and the police. This young man could be dangerous to the adults in your family, as well as to your granddaughter unless there is an intervention NOW.

DEAR ABBY: I have been feeling super alone lately. I'm a full-time, stay-at-home mom. My fiancé and I have an 11-month-old son. Before he was born, I worked and my fiancé didn't. Then we moved away from my family to where his family is — a town of about 400 people — and he works while I stay home with the baby.

This is a small town, and I have no friends here. I have been feeling extremely stir-crazy and trapped in my head. I don't know how to handle it. I spoke to a psychiatrist. She said it'll pass, but it hasn't.

Please, if you have any advice, I need some badly. — STUCK IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR STUCK: In many small Southern towns, the social life revolves around the church. If you and your fiancé haven't joined one, you should consider it. If you do, your chances of making friends — possibly with some other young couples — will be improved. Also consider volunteering or going to a nearby larger town to look for activities. I hope this will help to relieve your sense of isolation.

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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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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 Leo and a Moon in Cancer if born before 4:39 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Leo.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, AUG. 22, 2014:

You are unusually stubborn and determined, even more so than many other Leos. You have endurance. You could see a change in your domestic situation or a change of residence. Decide that this transformation will be positive. If you are single, the opportunity remains high to meet someone who might travel a lot. You will find this person to be very exciting, especially as he or she could live an offbeat lifestyle. If you are attached, resist getting into petty arguments, as they only will create distance between you and your sweetie. Accept your differences, and you will find that your bond evolves. A fellow LEO seems very different from you.

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 dealing with someone's anger that seems to be directed at you. You might not be in the right place to talk, or perhaps you just don't have time to deal with this issue. You might surprise yourself with how fast you are able to avoid this problem. Tonight: Get intense.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You might want to screen your calls, but it will be better to answer the phone and handle an awkward issue. You could see someone's anger evolve into rage. Try not to react, as today won't be the best time to express your feelings. Tonight: Happiest at home.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You could be at the point of losing your patience most of the day. You'll want to clear up a money matter, but the other parties involved seem to be relatively uninterested in achieving the same goal. Let go of this issue for now. Tonight: Accept an invitation to join your pals.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You might want to act quickly in order to complete an important matter before the situation becomes even more difficult. Be aware of what needs to happen between you and a loved one. An older person could be unpredictable. Tonight: Make it your treat.

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

★★★★ Whatever ails you early in the day will

be long gone by this evening. Try to clear up a personal issue, no matter what it takes; otherwise, you could find it difficult to detach and see things clearly. Tonight: Get into the moment with a loved one.

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

★★★★ You might feel out of sorts at first, but you'll relax once you start dealing with friends. Settle an issue with a loved one. This person is likely to become erratic if you don't find the time to relate or make the right decision. Tonight: Not to be found!

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

★★★ Someone close to you whom you deal with regularly could shake up the status quo. This person would like you to gain a better grasp on your finances. The problems that arise could play a major role in preventing greater closeness between you. Tonight: Christen the weekend well.

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

★★★★ Your anger might be quick to surface. Be careful if sarcasm becomes the norm. Pull back and see what your expectations are with a certain situation that seems to be out of your control. Discipline this behavior and use it more positively. Tonight: All eyes turn to you.

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

★★★★ You'll be able to feel the need to have a private chat with you. Consider how much you value this relationship before you decide whether to follow through. Emphasize what is positive for you as well. Tonight: Meet a favorite person at a new spot.

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

★★★★ Others could be more challenging and independent than usual. Let them do their thing. You might have the opportunity to start your weekend early. Make spontaneous plans to drop in on a dear friend. Tonight: Do whatever will make you smile from ear to ear.

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

★★★★ You'll be able to move through your errands and to-dos with ease. You also will need to return a call to an irate elder or boss. Stay open-minded. At some point, this person will be able to hear how ridiculous his or her words sound. Tonight: The only place to be is out.

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

★★★★ Your feelings might slow you down. You might encounter someone and suddenly realize that he or she seems to be very angry. This person might direct this frustration at you, but try to engage this person in conversation anyway. Tonight: Stay easygoing.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

