

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



12-18
Dear Abby, Inc.
"I'll have my mommy email you if I think of anything else."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

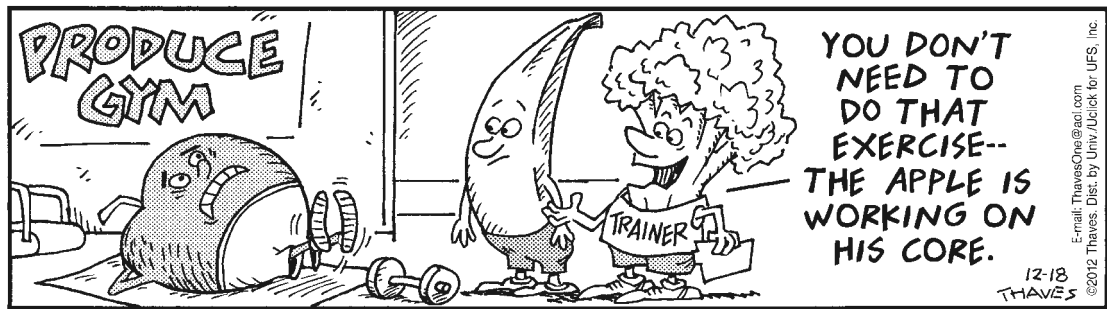


It's the perfect gift, everyone's wearing them: Frenchmen, pirates, mimes, burglars...

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



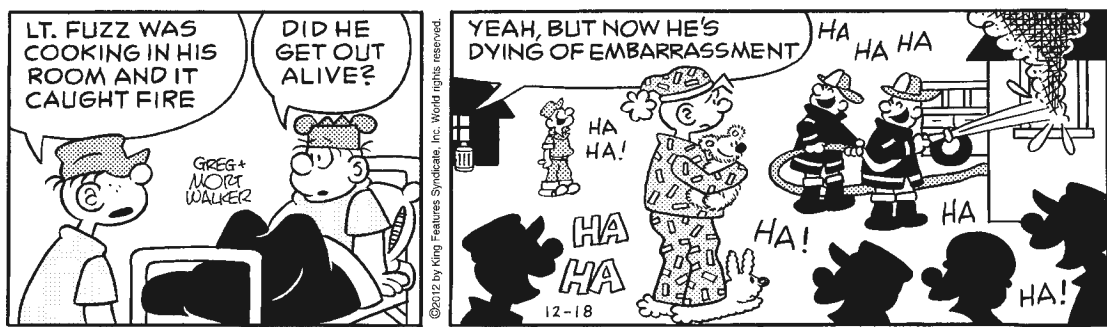
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



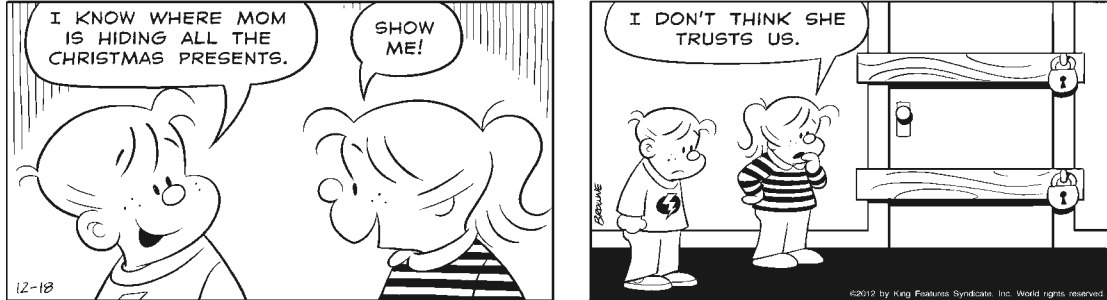
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSONO



Woman Looking Ahead Wants Boyfriend To Adopt Her View

DEAR ABBY: I am 20 and have been with my boyfriend, "Griffin," for five years. He recently gave me a beautiful promise ring. I would like to spend the rest of my life with him, but I think I have a problem.

I am going to become an adoption professional, and I plan on adopting one day. Griffin knows I'm pursuing this career and that I want to adopt, but I don't think he understands how serious I am about it.

How do I let him know I'm serious about this? I don't want to wait five more years and find he's not on the same page and that I wasted my time. When I try to discuss it, Griffin says we're "too young to think about it."

DEAR ABBY: It appears you are more mature than your boyfriend. Because you are determined to eventually adopt a child, I agree that it's important for you to know whether Griffin has any negative feelings about adoption because some people are unable to accept a child who is not their own.

DEAR MAPPING: There is a vast difference between a "promise ring" and a little gold band. Because Griffin presented you with a promise ring is no guarantee that in five years the two of you will make it to the altar together.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Annie," is a single mother, holds a full-time job and trains for triathlons. Her son, "Cooper," is 3. Annie has him enrolled in day care from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. every day while she's at work.

I have offered to pick my grandson up from day

care once a week and keep him until Annie finishes her workout. My other daughter has offered to pick him up twice a week so he can play with his cousin at her house.

Annie has become defensive. She says we're offering because we think she's neglecting him. Actually, I DO think so. It breaks my heart that my grandson spends 12 hours a day in day care.



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

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

DEAR WORRIED GRANNY: Annie may be defensive because she feels some guilt, or because you need to become a better actress and transmit less disapproval.

Apologize to her if that will smooth things over. Explain that you would like Cooper to spend time with you because you love him and want him to develop warm childhood memories of his grandmother.

DEAR ABBY: What is your definition of a committed relationship? — TRYING FOR ONE IN TEXAS

DEAR TRYING: A committed relationship is one in which both parties agree that it will remain mutually exclusive.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby."

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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.

A baby born today has a Sun in Sagittarius and a Moon in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 18, 2012:

This year you often encounter challenging people with very different ideas. Take the best of those suggestions and use them to strengthen your life. Use care with your finances, as you frequently are a risk-taker; otherwise, you could be unhappy with the results.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

Pull back, and new insights will emerge. Incorporate them once you are sure that they are applicable. With so much on your plate, tension could soar.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Zero in on your priorities. Others need to know them if you want to have their support. A respected person in your life might be cynical no matter what you say.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

A boss or older friend pushes you to such an extent that you might want to ditch him or her and leave the scene. A control game might be running amok because you are not OK with it.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Savor the music, the people and even today's shopping frenzy. Remain optimistic and detached. Enjoy yourself and those around you.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

You are encouraged to be kinder and more understanding in general by a key person in your life.

late to each individual directly in order to achieve better results. Pressure comes from someone's attitude.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Others seek you out. You will enjoy this popularity, both professionally and personally. An opportunity enters your life, though you might want to review what is being offered first.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

Your mind is full of creative ideas and solutions, but you might not be demonstrating and applying them. As a result, an opportunity could be lost.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

Allow your imagination to freely wander, but be careful. If you burst into laughter, everyone will want more information than you choose to give.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Comparing you with a stick in the mud generally does not apply, but today is different. When you're out, you want to be in. When you're in, you want to be curled up.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

No one can say that you aren't expressive in letting others know what's on your mind. Nevertheless, someone just does not get it.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

Know that you aren't the only one trying to stretch a dollar. Talk to friends if you are in a jam, and get suggestions on how to complete your holiday shopping.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

You could be surfing the wave of life, as you feel content and valued. Take a second to enjoy these feelings. Remember these moments, and know that they can happen again.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

