

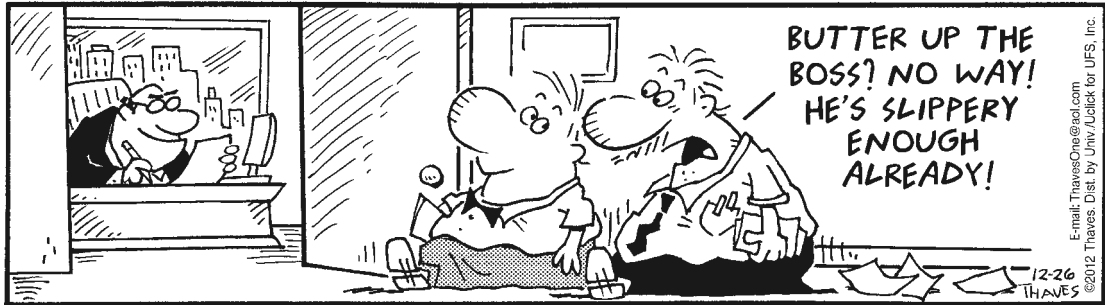
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



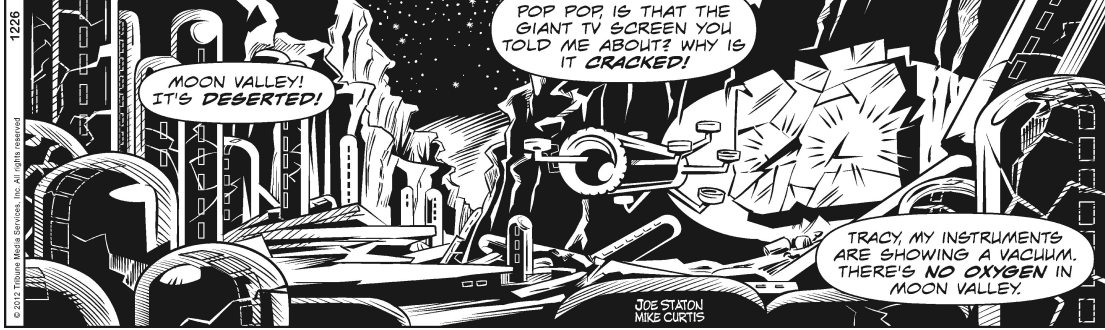
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



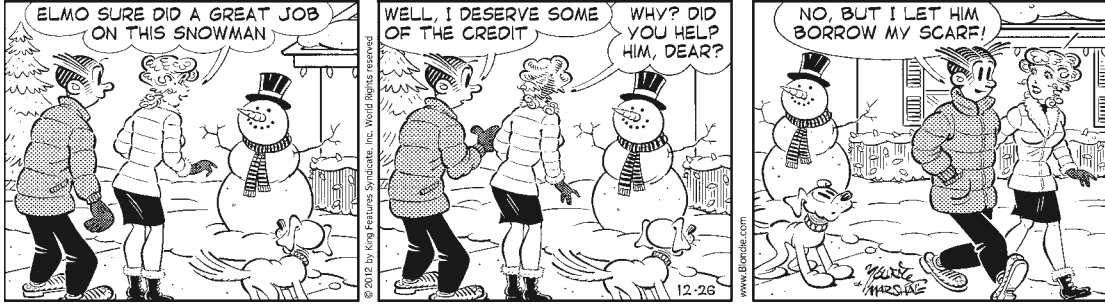
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



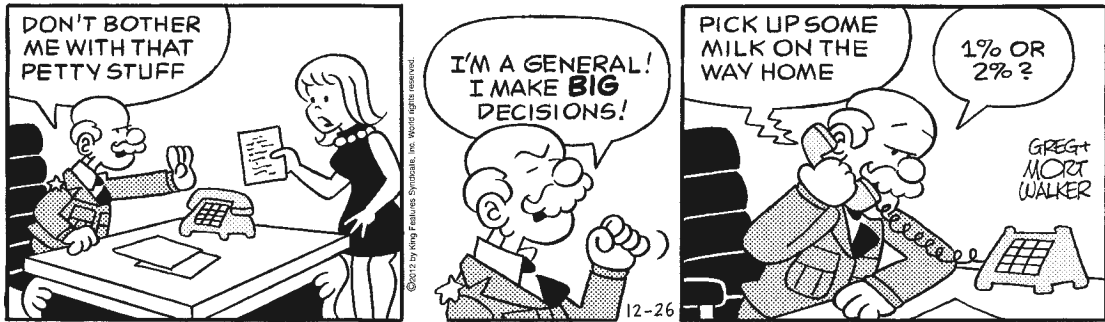
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Wife Has A Few Choice Words On Man's Love For Sexy Lips

DEAR ABBY: Please help save my marriage. My wife of five years discovered an Internet browser history of 13 Web pages I had clicked on the previous day. The pages were of women's sexy lips. My wife is calling it "porn" and a "gateway to porn." I feel guilty about it, but I told her it isn't pornography. I think it's a fetish. She says I'm using that word to get off the hook.

Will you please tell her that this probably is a fetish? Our sex life has not been the same since she discovered the images on the computer. What can we do about it in a way that will strengthen our marriage? — NOT GUILTY AS CHARGED

DEAR NOT GUILTY: It's a shame you and your wife hadn't discussed what turns you on before she checked your browser history. A fetish is any object that turns someone on, and it can range from large breasts, to stiletto heels, to leather or rubber items of clothing, to full red lips. It is NOT pornography.

A way to strengthen your marriage would be for you to buy her a tube of bright red lipstick. And a way for her to improve your sex life would be to put it on.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old girl with a sister and a brother. I was recently told by my dad that I have to teach my brother how to read, but the problem is he has a learning disability and a behavior disorder. I don't know how I'm supposed to teach him to read, and it scares me.

On top of that, my dad got mad at my sister and me and said that when we were younger we were just like my brother, only worse. He said he was close to giving up on us. Sometimes Dad says we're worthless, stupid and asks why we're even in this world. He says we're not good for anything.

I have a slight form of autism, so I'm sort of slow doing certain things other kids do at my age. I feel like I'll never be as smart as anyone else, and I have no clue how I'm going to teach my disabled brother to read. Help! — LOST, ALONE AND WORRIED IN URBANA, ILL.

DEAR LOST: It would be wonderful if you could teach your learning disabled brother how to read, but you are not equipped to do that. Your brother should be in a special education class with a teacher who has the specialized training — and, possibly, a tutor.

Sometimes, when parents are extremely stressed or angry they can say things they don't mean without thinking of the lasting effect their words can have on a child. You are neither worthless nor stupid. You are an intelligent girl. Frankly, your father appears to be in need of some help, and I hope you will share with a counselor at your school what you have told me.

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old son is refusing to wear a bicycle helmet because he has decided it's "uncool." My husband and I have always worn them, but here in Texas many people don't. There's no state law requiring it.

I know how devastating the effects of a head injury can be and I want to prevent my son from getting one. How can I help my teenager see that protecting his brain is more important than looking "cool" to his friends who don't wear them? My son insists I am ... AN OVERPROTECTIVE MOM

DEAR OVERPROTECTIVE MOM: Contact your son's pediatrician and ask if he or she can facilitate a tour of a rehabilitation facility that treats people with traumatic brain injuries. If that doesn't convince your son, nothing will.

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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 Capricorn and a Moon in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26, 2012:

This year you often view effectiveness as a goal. Sometimes you could glide right over the deeper meaning of a situation. Emotions will dominate your day-to-day routine. More often than not, they will be positive feelings; however, sometimes they point you in the direction of overindulgence. Be open. If you are single, you could meet someone important through your work. It could take a while to recognize this person, though -- perhaps even until the second half of the year. If you are attached, the two of you make an excellent team when it comes to practical matters. Allow this excellence to float into your emotional bond. GEMINI often irks you, as he or she seems to miss profound issues.

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 still might be going to extremes and might find yourself floating on the wave of excitement left over from all the celebrating. Work with a loved one who feels stressed financially. Help this person see the light at the end of the tunnel. Tonight: Avoid a fight at all costs.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Curb a tendency to want everything to go your way. This need for control could distance others. Do you really want that to happen? Trying to dictate to others seems nearly impossible, yet some people might decide to go along with your wishes. Tonight: Make calls.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Your smile attracts many people. A conversation could make someone feel misunderstood on some level. Allow heavy issues to float over you. You know that there is much more going on here than meets the eye. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Much is going on behind the scenes. You might not be ready to discuss these issues. A child or loved one might reflect your mood. Do not attribute this person's behavior to control games. He or she simply is echoing your energy. Tonight: How about some extra sleep?

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★★ Do not hesitate to ask for what you want,

even if you already feel indulged. Listen to your instincts with a family member. This person needs someone to pitch in. You can make quite a difference; you know what to do. Let go of a misunderstanding. Tonight: Where people are.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Take charge of a situation. Others simply have a hard time moving in and handling difficult matters. Adjust your schedule. A loved one could be miffed that you are not spending more time with him or her. Explanations might not work, either. Tonight: Could be late.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Return calls, and focus on plans for a potential trip. Go with your feelings, even if you believe yourself to be rather vulnerable. The reception you receive might be much different from what you expected, and in a sense, it will be calming. Tonight: Let your mind relax to a movie.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Deal with a partner directly. Yes, there might be an inherent misunderstanding, but right now, it might be best to let it go; otherwise, it could become worse. Let your feelings be known in a nonconfrontational manner rather than hold them back. Tonight: Be half of a duo.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Defer to others, and you might be surprised at what happens as a result. You could be more negative than you realize, and it will affect your relationships. Be willing to get in touch with your vulnerable feelings rather than get defensive. Tonight: Let bygones be bygones.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ You might be thinking about tomorrow already. You have, on some level, made an important decision that you are anxious to act on. Time is your ally. You might want to see if you feel the same way in a couple of days. Tonight: Do for you.

AQUARIUS (JAN.20-FEB.18)

★★★★★ Your mischievous personality emerges once more. You might have had a difficult realization about someone in your life, but try to think positively. You could feel differently on a deeper level. The situation could be less challenging than you think. Tonight: Lighten up!

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

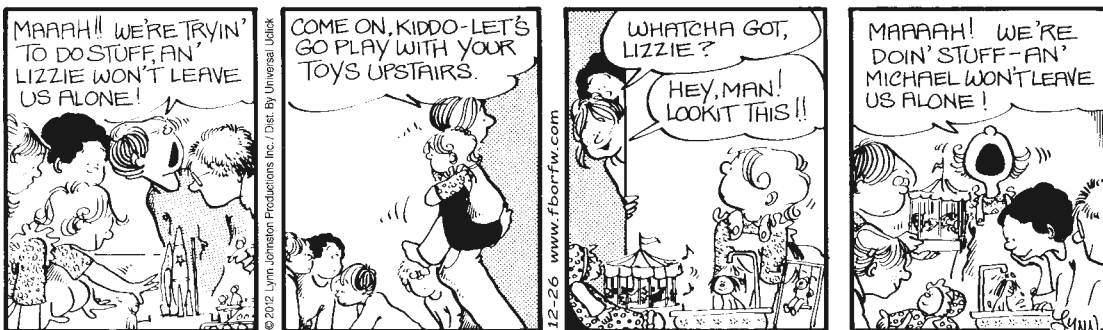
★★★★ You might want to slow down after the recent hectic pace of the holidays. A friend could decide to breeze right in through your door. The end result will be a change of plans. Go for what you want. Be careful, as confusion marks a relationship. Tonight: Make it early.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

