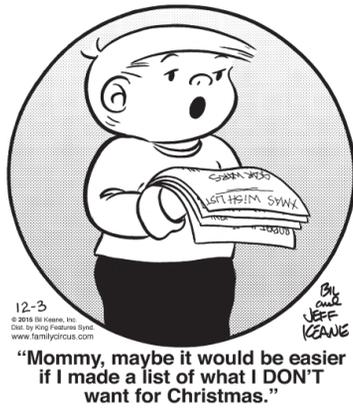


FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



12-3
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"Mommy, maybe it would be easier if I made a list of what I DON'T want for Christmas."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



Well then maybe you should change the name of the room.

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



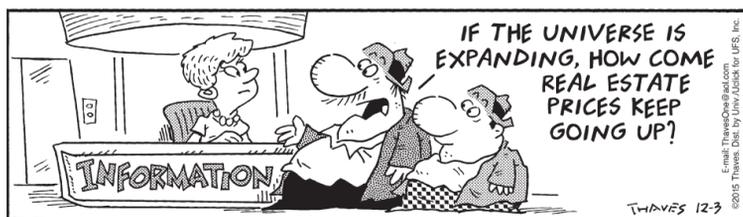
WELL, WE TOOK FORTY-SEVEN HOLIDAY CARD PHOTOS...
...AND JEREMY SCOWLED IN FORTY-SIX OF THEM.
AND THEN THERE'S THIS ONE...
OOH... THAT IS NOT A HOLIDAY GESTURE!

PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



WHAT THE...?
CHRISTMAS MUST BE NEAR.
THE TIME OF YEAR WHEN I FIND CANDY CANES STUCK TO THE SEAT OF MY PANTS.
AND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE CANDY CANES IN THE HOUSE YET!

FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



IF THE UNIVERSE IS EXPANDING, HOW COME REAL ESTATE PRICES KEEP GOING UP?

BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



A WHOLE BOX OF DONUTS, GLADYS? WHAT ABOUT YOUR DIET?
WELL, I JUST ATE ONE DONUT AND I FELT GUILTY ABOUT IT...
THEN I FIGURED IF I HAVE ALREADY BLOWN MY DIET, I MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT IN STYLE!

PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



IT SNOWED LAST NIGHT.
MY DAD SAYS THAT WHEN IT SNOWS, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS TAKE A SLICE OF BREAD OUT FOR THE BIRDS...
HERE YOU ARE, BIRD...
HOW COULD YOU LET HIM CARRY THAT ALL THE WAY BACK?
I KNOW HOW SENSITIVE HAGAR IS ABOUT NOT BEING ABLE TO READ!

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



I'M BACK FROM LOOTING SCOTLAND, HELGA...
...AND I GOT THIS BARREL OF WHISKEY!
HOW COULD YOU LET HIM CARRY THAT ALL THE WAY BACK?
I KNOW HOW SENSITIVE HAGAR IS ABOUT NOT BEING ABLE TO READ!

BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON A DIET
I AM
THAT'S MY DIET
I EAT IT AFTER I EAT THIS OTHER STUFF

HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



WE DISCOVERED WE HAVE A LOT IN COMMON.
WE SURE DO.
HE SAID THAT?!
THAT'S NOT ALL!
IT'S NOT GOOD WHEN TWO OF YOUR FORMER GIRLFRIENDS BECOME BEST FRIENDS.

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



KNOW WHAT I GOT FOR LUNCH, LIZBETH? A WHITE BREAD AN' HONEY SANDWICH!
KNOW WHAT THE BEST THING ABOUT A WHITE BREAD AN' HONEY SANDWICH IS?
MMMMMMHHH!!!
YOU CAN FLATTEN IT!
GOSH!

GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!
RUN, EVERYONE!
RATS...
BIGFOOT CAN NEVER SNEAK UP ON ANYBODY

Dad With Rockin' Lifestyle Rolls In And Out Of Son's Life

DEAR ABBY: When I was 19 and played bass in a rock band, I fell in love with a guy I'll call "Brian." He was three years older and also a musician. We had the best times together - we were young and wild without a care in the world.

But the years rolled on and we got older. After six years together, I got pregnant. I thought Brian would be thrilled, but he wasn't. It changed how I felt about him. I was heartbroken and lost respect for him.

I grew up fast, and put our son, "Ricky," first. Brian, on the other hand, has refused to give up his rock 'n' roll lifestyle. He shows up to see Ricky two or three times a month, but doesn't even look at him. I can't stand the way he ignores our son. Brian says I can't alter who and how he is. I say, if we mattered to him, he would change on his own. This leads to arguments.

Which is worse - having my son grow up with an absent father who's not "present" even when he's here? Or Ricky seeing us fight all the time, but leaving the option for Brian to be a part of his life? Or should I get my ex out of our lives for good, and risk resentment from Ricky because I moved on with our lives? - FULLY FORMED ADULT IN L.A.

DEAR FULLY FORMED: If Brian didn't care about Ricky, he wouldn't show up two or three times a month. What strikes me as sad, however, is that he apparently doesn't know how to relate to his son.

Rather than exclude him entirely, stop the arguing and suggest that he and Ricky would both get more out of the visitations if he enrolled in a parenting class for fathers. Tell him that for the sake of Ricky's emotional well-being, you would be glad to help facilitate it any way you can, including helping him to research some of them online.

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old son, "Todd," has started seeing a girl he goes to school with. "Winona" seems to be a nice girl from a

good family. However, my son confided that her parents (mostly the mom) have started asking him all sorts of questions like, "I thought you were a good student. Why aren't you on the honor roll?" "Do you keep your room clean?" "Would you change for our daughter?"

Todd is a good kid and a good student (A's and B's mostly). He has strong morals, lots of friends and is a typical teen. He isn't asking for that girl's hand in marriage! It's their first "boyfriend/girlfriend" relationship. They just like each other.

Is the mom out of line, or am I being too sensitive? - DUMBFOUNDED DAD IN ILLINOIS

DEAR DAD: Because this is her daughter's first boyfriend, the mother may ask these questions because she's protective, and it's her way of trying to get to know your son better. Please try not to take what's happening so seriously, because she'd probably ask the same questions if Prince Harry were seeing her precious daughter. That's how some mothers are - until enough boys become so uncomfortable that they disappear and the daughter finds it so embarrassing she puts a stop to it.

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

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding 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 Sagittarius and a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, DEC. 3, 2015:

This year new doors open and present many unexpected professional opportunities. You will be noticed. A pay raise or promotion won't be surprising, as you will work very hard to achieve the results you desire. If you are single, someone in your immediate environment will notice you, and could become a secret admirer, or perhaps more. If you are attached, the two of you might become more involved in one of your mutual work or community projects. You enjoy interacting on this level as well on a personal level. VIRGO seems to be unusually lucky around 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 have the ability to change a situation with your ideas and attentiveness. You are likely to surprise others by acting in a most unexpected way. Communication between you and someone at a distance is confusing at best. Tonight: All's well that ends well.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You'll gain an insight that might make you uncomfortable. A child or loved one could be quite distracting, despite your efforts to accomplish certain tasks throughout the day. A partner simply can't seem to leave you alone! Tonight: Give up. Give in. Have a great time.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Stay anchored, and know what you want from a situation. The unexpected is likely to occur in a meeting. You could be fired up and react too quickly. Ask questions before you make judgments. You know where you are heading. Tonight: Good vibes surround your home.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Keep reaching out to others before you make a decision. A boss might shake up the status quo. The unexpected will have you floundering for a short period. Avoid having a knee-jerk reaction, and ask questions for a better understanding. Tonight: Optimism saves the day.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You need to be more careful when dealing with your finances. Pressure builds be-

tween you and a loved one. You can talk until you're blue in the face, but you'll still need to keep your finances separate from those of this person. Tonight: Decide if you can afford an indulgence.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Others will want to listen, but the unexpected continues to throw a situation into chaos. Communication at home could be confusing and not particularly beneficial. Opportunities will emerge from out of the blue. Tonight: You call the shots. Others are willing to go along.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Think through a problem before discussing it. You need to know what your limits are and what seems workable. Confusion surrounds a conversation, no matter which way you decide to go. Be reasonable in a request you make. Tonight: Make it a personal night.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Zero in on your priorities. You could find others to be full of ideas, some of which you have toyed with yourself. An animated conversation points to a new approach. Know that you will get what you want, but through an odd sequence of events. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Someone who has clout holds a very different view from yours. Find out which direction would be best to head in. You have a lot going on. Do not fight city hall. Sooner or later, things will work out as you would like them to. Tonight: Out till the wee hours again.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Try to see the big picture. You might not agree with others, and perhaps you don't know what would be best to do. Recognize your limits right now. State your boundaries so that others know what to expect. Unusually good news heads your way. Tonight: Take a risk.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ One-on-one relating might be difficult at first, especially as you and someone else attempt to work out a financial situation. This person has a greater understanding of the matter than you do, and he or she will create the type of money flow you desire. Tonight: The decision is yours.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You could be very tired of hearing the same story over and over again without seeing any growth or resolution. You might not see eye to eye with a higher-up right now. Why not kick back and let others see the results of their plans and thinking? Tonight: A must appearance.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



I WISH PEOPLE AT SCHOOL THOUGHT I WAS COOL.
IT'S BETTER TO BE THOUGHT OF AS SMART AND KIND.
YEAH, RIGHT. OKAY, MY MOM COULDN'T SEW THAT, EITHER.

BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



BUMSTEAD, I JUST OVERHEARD SOMEONE IN THE BREAK ROOM SAY I WAS "CRUSTY!"
"CRUSTY"? HA! HA! THAT'S A NEW ONE ON ME, BOSS!
PERMISSION TO REPHRASE MY RESPONSE, BOSS
PERMISSION DENIED

MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



DOG THERAPY GROUP
FIRST I STARTED OFF INNOCENTLY WITH HOUSE SLIPPERS... THEN I GOT INTO THE HARD STUFF, SNIFFING BOWLING SHOES