

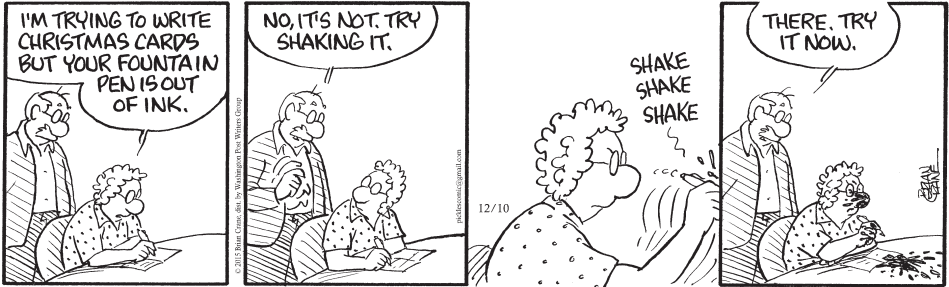
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



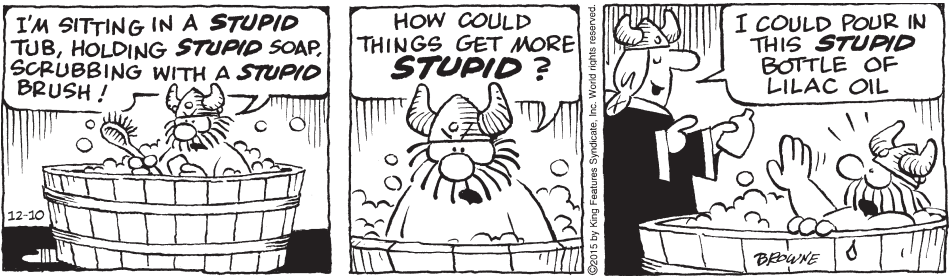
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



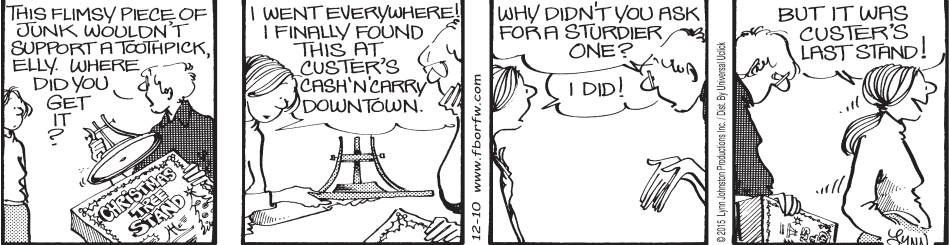
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



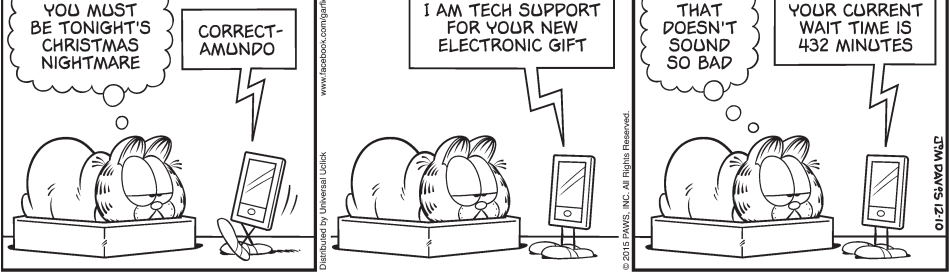
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



# Teen's Serious Relationship Draws Fire From Boy's Mom

DEAR ABBY: I'm 13 and in what I think is a serious relationship with "Josh." The problem is, his mom thinks I'm "mentally abusing" him.

I have never done anything to Josh to make her think that. She and I have had our disagreements and have not spoken for periods of time before, but nothing like this has ever happened.

I'm pretty sure I love Josh, and I don't want to lose him because of what his mom thinks of me. What should I do? — PUZZLED IN INDIANA

DEAR PUZZLED: You didn't mention how old Josh is and how he feels about all the attention you're giving him, but I can offer a couple of suggestions. The first is to slow down. Take a step back so Josh can have some breathing room. The second is to try to make a friend rather than an enemy of Josh's mother, who may be worried about a 13-year-old girl who seems fixated on her son.

DEAR ABBY: I remarried when my son, "Kevin," was 5. He's now 20. My husband has always tried to be a good dad to him even though Kevin was challenging at times.

Kevin is now in the military. Before he left, he adopted a dog, "Leisel," that's a year old. Kevin will be deployed overseas for three years and wants us to take her. We have a dog and cat, a big yard and three teenage daughters who want Leisel, but my husband says no. He says it was a mistake to get the dog in the first place, and Kevin needs to learn a lesson and do the hard thing and give her up.

I agree it was a mistake, and I don't really want another dog, but I'm willing to do it for my son. Lots of parents get "stuck" with their kids' pets. They roll their eyes and just do it. Who is right? — WILLING TO DO IT IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR WILLING: You are. This is no time to teach your son a lesson. With the international situation heating up as it seems to be,

there's no telling where your son could wind up being stationed. Let him go with peace of mind knowing his pet will be well cared for until he returns.

DEAR ABBY: You probably wonder why I think this is a problem, but it is for me. I'm a single male, almost 77, who can easily pass for 50 or 55. The problem is friends, acquaintances and some strangers (in their 40s, 50s and 60s) think that because I look so much younger than my age, I should be able to perform the same physical tasks they do, which I can't. I have the same aches and pains as anyone else my age.

I'm flattered that I look younger, but how do I explain that because I look 50 to 55, doesn't mean I necessarily feel that way. I know, I know. Some people probably wish they had my problem. — YOUNG/OLD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR YOUNG/OLD: I have news for you. There are plenty of people half your age who also have physical problems that prevent them from performing certain tasks — including bad backs, bad knees, rotator cuff injuries and more. Because someone looks great doesn't necessarily mean that the person is 100 percent. If you are asked to do something beyond your ability, be honest about it and say no.

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 and Moon in Sagittarius.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 2015:

This year you often need to deal with your high energy. If you use it well, you can manifest a long-term goal. Be careful, though, as you will need a lot of physical exercise to work out the stresses of daily life. If you are single, attracting someone won't be an issue, but finding the person you want to be with could take time. Anytime from fall 2016 on, you are likely to meet someone who will be very special to you. If you are attached, 2016 will be a passionate year for you and your sweetie. Feelings intensity. Trust yourself and be open. A fellow SAGITTARIUS loves adventure as much as you do!

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'll want to quickly bypass a problem. Life will provide an intervention that helps you accomplish this. You might not have the luxury of acting independently. Your temper could flare, as too much is happening too quickly. Tonight: Read between the lines with a friend.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Defer to others. Your message seems unclear. You get what is happening around you, but you might not understand how it came to be. You could feel exhausted by the whole matter. You probably should let someone more energized deal with it. Tonight: Go with a surprise.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ People around you might add to your present confusion, but they seem to think they are acting with clarity. Stay open and ask questions. Still, you could feel a limitation when speaking to a key person, as he or she won't answer you directly. Tonight: Sharpen your listening skills.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Reach out to someone who tends to be unpredictable. This person might be able to translate what is being said with a work- or health-related matter. Confusion surrounds you, which will make it difficult to respond. Tonight: Laughter goes far in relieving tension.

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

★★★★ You might be willing to jump through hoops for someone, but you won't tolerate being

pushed by him or her. Before you throw your hands in the air in total frustration, tell this person how you feel. Give him or her time to digest what you have said. Tonight: Say "no" if need be.

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

★★★★ You might feel as if you are dealing with a difficult situation and can't seem to handle a family member who is very headstrong. You could be past the point of wanting to be more understanding. Let off some steam. Tonight: Say "yes" to the unpredictable.

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

★★★ Try to figure out what it will take to make a loved one understand your limits. You could be too tired to deal with the issue, and easily might lose your temper. Be careful about what you will say if this should happen. Tonight: Approach a situation from a different perspective.

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

★★★★ How you manage a changing situation could be a lot different from how you initially had intended to. You see matters quite differently from how a loved one does, but you'll be willing to get this person's input. You will like the results. Tonight: Do some holiday shopping.

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

★★★★ You have the energy and willpower to deal with a problem. What a roller coaster ride! Confusion seems to surround communication, but you understand the essence of what needs to happen. Dealing with others will take patience. Tonight: Make it OK to do your own thing!

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

★★ Recognize when a matter is too hot to handle. Do yourself a favor and don't offer to help; instead, go about your business as usual. You also might be concerned that all the facts have yet to be revealed. Tonight: Put on some music, and turn off your phone for a little while.

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

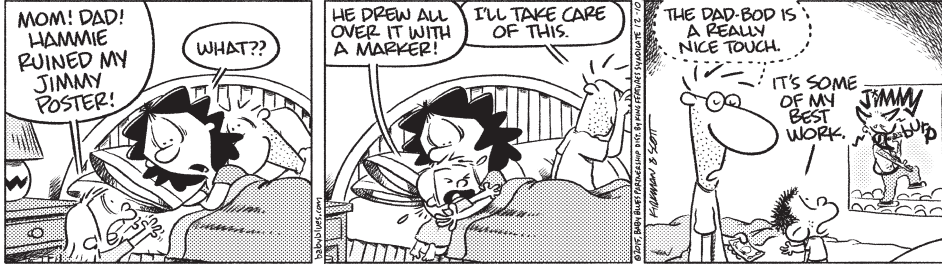
★★★★ Learn how to say "enough is enough." You'll want to be diplomatic yet clear. Understand that you might not be getting the whole story. Stay optimistic. You could be shocked by what some people continue to say over and over. Tonight: Join friends for some holiday cheer.

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

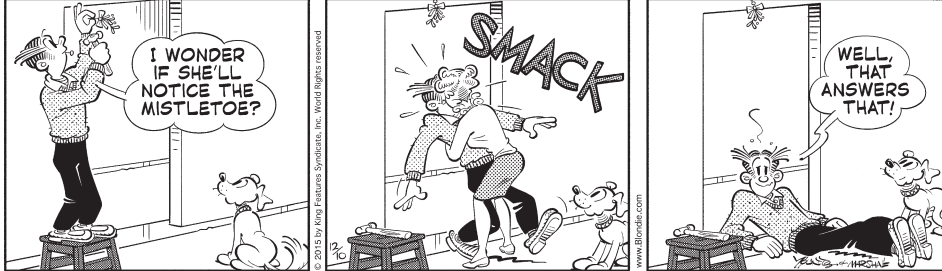
★★★ You might not be aware of the amount of frustration you're sitting on, especially when handling a loved one and making a very important choice. Your ability to come to terms with this person might force you to reassess your position. Tonight: Be a realist first.

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## BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



## BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

