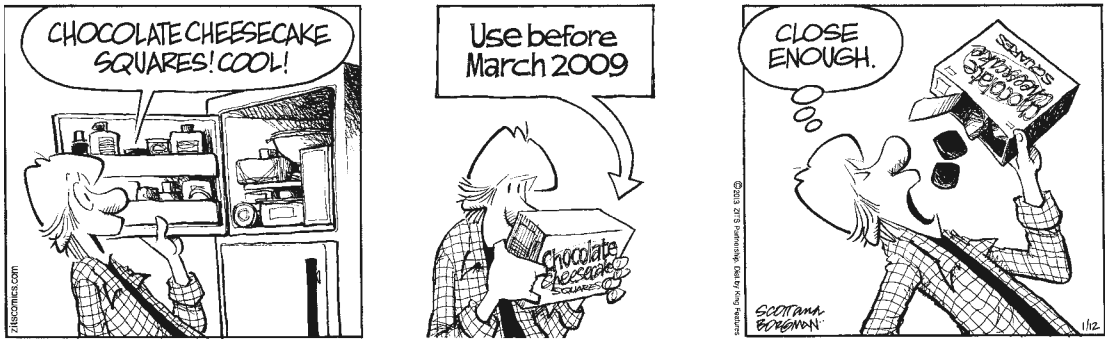


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



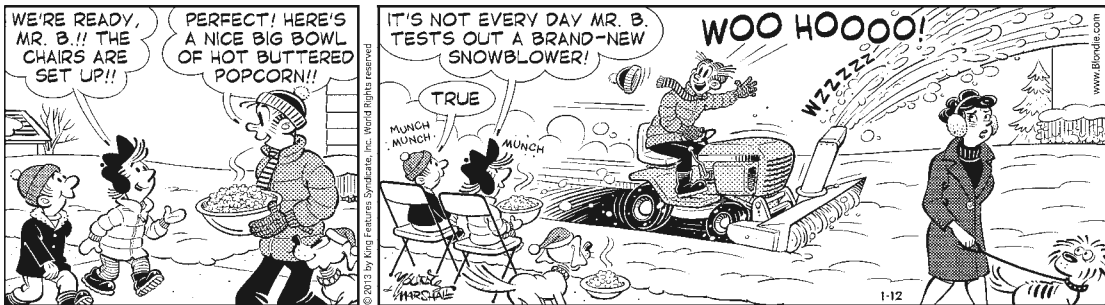
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



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



Newly Chaste Teen Feels Guilty Deceiving Innocent Boy

DEAR ABBY: I am in high school and have always been able to get whatever guy I wanted. My reputation at school is sort of "loose and easy."

I haven't had sex in eight months because I met a sweet, amazing guy who I want to marry. He's a virgin, and I think he thinks I'm one, too. He doesn't go to my school, so he doesn't know about my old reputation.

Should I let him keep thinking I'm still innocent? I feel like a worthless used rag. When I'm with him, I am worth something — I'm the whole world to him. I want it to stay like that. But I know that by not telling him, I'm lying. He doesn't deserve that — and I feel I don't deserve him. Please help. — NEW "ME" IN ARIZONA

DEAR NEW YOU: Before I answer your question, there are some things I would like you to understand. First, you ARE "worth something" whether you are with this boy or not. It is dangerous to judge yourself through the eyes of another person. It is far more important that you can look at yourself in a mirror and know you are a good person because you try every day to do what is moral and right. Practice that, and no one will ever again make you feel like a used rag.

You are still in high school, and that's early to be thinking about marriage. I'm advising you to tell this boy the truth because if you don't, there is a good chance that eventually he will hear it from someone else. If he drops you because of it, it will not be because you don't deserve him, but because he doesn't deserve you.

DEAR ABBY: I'm wondering if you can help me. I have been friendly with couples, and when an argument arises I have been caught in the middle. Some-

times I have felt forced to take sides. Then what happened was, they wound up mending fences and repeating to the other what I said during their split. It has put me in an awkward position when we're together. How should I handle this in the future? — TORN IN DALLAS

DEAR TORN: In the future, when your friends have a spat with a spouse or significant other and start to dump on you, politely decline to listen. Say, "If you have a complaint about (), you should work it out with him/her because I'm not comfortable hearing this." Either that, or do a lot of listening and comment, "Oh, that must be painful." Period. That way you're saying nothing you won't later regret.

The exception would be if you were told about an abusive relationship, in which case you should recommend a domestic-violence hotline.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 30 years is easily startled. If I enter a room without a warning, he reacts as though he is in danger. He yells, "Don't do that, or you'll give me a heart attack!"

Since our retirements, this has become an issue. I don't understand his reaction — he wasn't in the military, didn't have a dangerous job and hasn't been in a disaster. I feel like an intruder in my own home. He doesn't think he has a problem. Your thoughts? — WIFE OF A JUMPY HUBBY

DEAR WIFE: Has your husband always been this way, or is this new behavior? If it's new behavior, it should be discussed with his doctor. He may suffer from a hearing loss or some other problem. And because he finds being "surprised" upsetting, try to accommodate him and not take it personally.

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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 Capricorn if born before 1:01 a.m. (PST). Afterward, the Moon will be in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 12, 2013:

This year you often think that all is well, only to discover later that controversy surrounds you. You'll find that exterior events do not matter if you stay grounded. Your strong personality will attract what you need and want. If you are single, you have many potential sweeties, but it might not be the easiest year for you to develop a strong bond with someone. If you are attached, the two of you could become involved in power plays if you choose not to respect each other's differences. A fellow CAPRICORN is a tough opponent and/or a difficult friend.

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)

★★★★ The unexpected continues to be a prevalent theme, and you seem to be the common denominator. If you are unhappy with recent trends, ask yourself what your role is in each situation. Your love life could take an interesting twist. Tonight: Only where the action is.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Putting in overtime or dealing with a major project, the love of the good life is put on the back burner for the moment. You'll gain insight into someone's attitude, which could set you back some. Tonight: Check in with an older family member.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Reach out to others, and know full well what is going on behind the scenes. You don't need to verbalize your thoughts. Your acceptance and lack of scrutiny is welcomed. Push less. Tonight: If someone suggests going to an odd place, consider going along.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ A partner takes a strong stance on an issue, which could cause some abrupt changes in the near future. A trip suddenly might become the topic of conversation. The quality of this voyage depends on its spontaneity. Do not ruin that. Tonight: With a special person.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You could be a little off-kilter with all of the ex-

citement happening around you. You like feeling as if you have some control over your life. You might have that for yourself, but it is unlikely that you can control others.

Tonight: Sort through suggestions before responding.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Approach life with a one-step-at-a-time attitude; otherwise, you could find yourself running around in a chaotic frenzy. Someone in your immediate environment seems closed down. If you step back and think about it, this behavior has been a long time coming. Tonight: Easy works.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Your playfulness cannot be curbed. You might choose not to verbalize everything that passes through your mind. Use caution with your finances and also with a personal matter, but remain lighthearted. You don't need to be serious every day! Tonight: Instigate a party.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Be aware of what is going on with yourself, and try not to project your feelings onto others. If you're feeling down, try to think about what would change your mood ... or better yet, what would remedy the situation. You will know how to proceed. Tonight: Out and about.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Take a hint from Scorpio. You might be able to move through some negativity just by getting out and going for a walk. Do not stay put. You'll see a situation differently because of your unpredictability. Think positively when facing the unknown. Tonight: With friends.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ How you deal with a troubled friend might affect your finances more than you realize. Your tendency to indulge others has more to do with you than what they need. Remember, everyone is different. A family member might be touchy. Tonight: You do not always need to treat.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ The Moon shines on you and highlights your charisma. Lose the word "no" from your vocabulary. An older person in your life might be very difficult. Avoid dealing with this person's issues for now. You can't always be there for everyone. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★ You might not feel up to snuff, and others can tell. You might decide to switch gears and head home to take care of yourself. You are a very loving sign with a lot of get-up-and-go. Though you might be missed, others will understand. Tonight: Vanish.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

