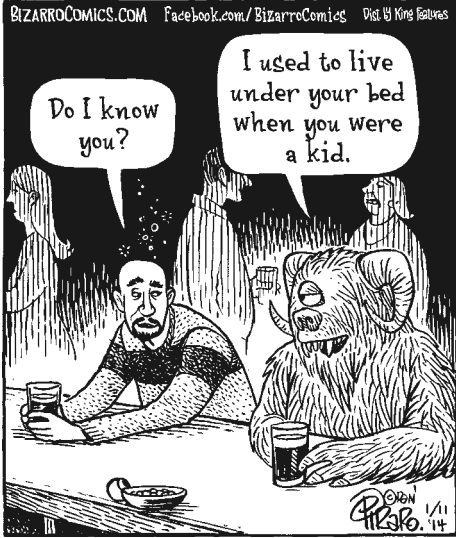


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



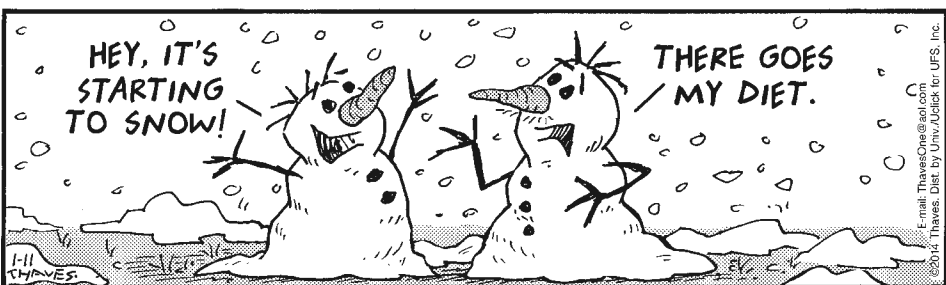
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



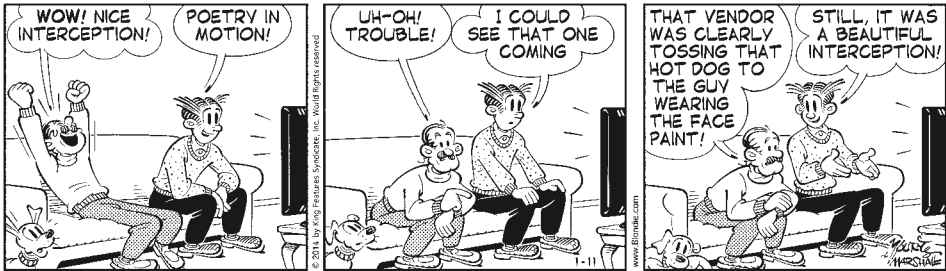
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



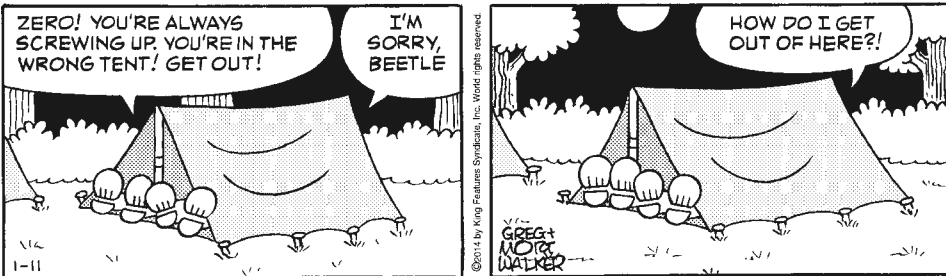
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



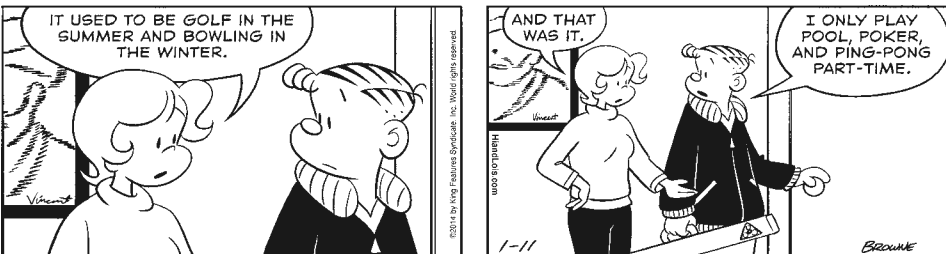
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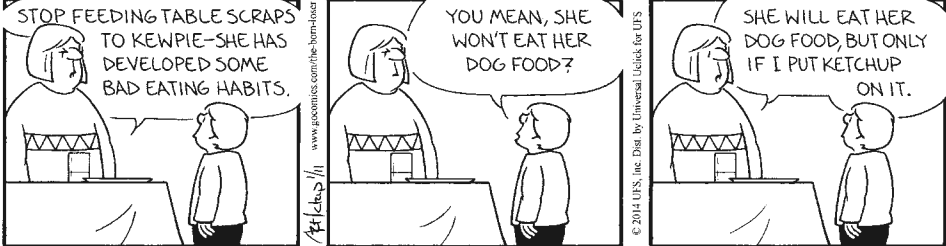
BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Young Mom Must Keep Her Wits As Husband Considers Leaving

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are a young couple, married almost two years. He recently told me he isn't happy with me anymore and that he may want to leave. He won't tell me why. He says he doesn't know why.

It was a complete shock to me. He refuses to seek marriage counseling and has dealt with a lot of depression for which he won't seek help, either. We have a child, and I am now pregnant again. It hasn't changed his thoughts about leaving.

What should I do for myself and our children? What can I do to help my husband change his mind? I'm still deeply in love with him. — CONFUSED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR CONFUSED: I can only imagine how painful this must be for you. Because your husband won't see a counselor about your marriage or do anything about his depression, then YOU should. And when you do, start figuring out a "plan B" for how you will support your children if it becomes necessary. You should also consult an attorney who can help you ensure that your husband lives up to his responsibilities if he does decide to leave.

The reason for your husband's ambivalence will become apparent in time. You may love him deeply, but for your sake and that of your children, it's important you stay calm and rational.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 17-year-old girl, turning 18 soon. Ever since I started high school, my family has pressured me to do my best in everything I do. Some examples: my grades, having the perfect boyfriend and being first in sports.

I know they want the best for me. But I'm a human being. I sometimes make mistakes. At the same time, I don't want to disappoint them. What should I do? Should I tell them to

get off my back or continue to accept their pressure? — TEEN IN TURMOIL, TULSA, OKLA.

DEAR TEEN: Your parents probably push you because they want you to get a college education. Good grades, various activities and a talent for sports can make you a more attractive candidate.

There are ways to tell your parents to ease up without saying, "Get off my back." Your message might be better received if you said to them what you wrote to me: "I know you want what's best for me. I don't want to disappoint you. But I'm a human being and I sometimes make mistakes. I love you, but the pressure is getting to me." It's not hostile, and they may hear what you're saying without becoming defensive.

DEAR ABBY: My brother-in-law is a registered sex offender. I am uncomfortable having him stay at our house with my husband and me and our children. My mother-in-law insists we need to forgive him and let him stay. I hate putting my husband in the middle (it is his sister's husband), but I do not want him

under our roof overnight. Am I right to refuse, or do I let him stay and be on major guard? — MOMMY IN MEMPHIS

DEAR MOMMY: As a mother, it is your job to protect your children. Because you feel your brother-in-law might be a danger to them, he should sleep elsewhere — and "forgiveness" has nothing to do with it.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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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 Taurus if born before 4:29 a.m. (PST). Afterward, the Moon will be in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 11, 2014:

This year you will be more active in your day-to-day life, either by getting into a new hobby or by learning about a new facet of your work. You also will identify more closely with a friend. You both are becoming more like the other. If you are single, you are in a period where you will meet people with ease. You will know when you meet the right person. If you are attached, the two of you will enjoy relating more than you have in a while. GEMINI could seem flaky or distracted.

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)

★★★★ Round up your friends and get together for an event you have been discussing. Apply any seriousness to winning a bet or to a fun game you enjoy with your pals. An unexpected conversation might leave you giggling. Tonight: Hang out with a loved one and pals.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You'll need to ride a wave of spending with caution. A partner or someone involved with a joint financial matter would like you to employ more self-discipline. Go where you can enjoy yourself. Take a drive and meet a friend halfway. Tonight: Opt to try a new spot.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You feel energized and no longer can deny the child within. No matter how judgmental a partner might be, you will discover how much he or she really enjoys this side of you. Allow more laughter into your relationship. Tonight: Let the lighter side of life emerge.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You might choose to spend some time by yourself. You tend to be unusually gregarious during the holiday season, and feeling worn down is normal. You could discover just how tired you are once you let go. A friend encourages you to take action. Tonight: Not to be found.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ A partner seems to cast a haze or an attractive aura wherever he or she is. Make plans to get together with friends, and enjoy wherever you are. You have the right words to draw some-

one else out of his or her shell. News could be surprising. Tonight: Paint the town red.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ You'll bring others together, and you even may host a spontaneous party. Perhaps you asked a friend to come over and help you paint a room, and everything evolved from that request. Discuss what is on your mind, yet remain open to other approaches. Tonight: Take the lead.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You might not be able to suppress your desire to take off. Make a point of going where you want, even if it's only for a few days. Trust that your yearning to get away is for a good reason. Tonight: Try a new spot or a new type of cuisine.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★★ Make time for a special person in your life. Taking a walk or going to a favorite spot will help both of you clear the air. You can be over-serious and demanding at times. Try to relax, and let go of that dimension of your personality. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You often make the first move, but at present there is little reason to do that, as a certain admirer will be seeking you out. You might be too involved or concerned with a personal matter to notice. Tonight: Sort through your many invitations.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ You might decide to play it low-key during the next few days. Understand that you have a lot of little projects and errands to take care of. Consider how you would feel if they were completed. With that in mind, proceed. Tonight: Don't make a fuss.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

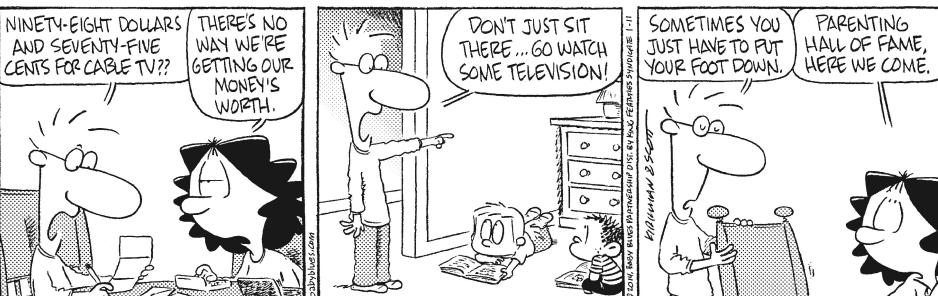
★★★★★ Your idea to get a potential loved one involved in what you would like to do could be executed with ease. Realize that you might not have considered the ramifications. Just go with the moment, especially if plans are going to be launched. Tonight: Be the intriguing Aquarian.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ Hang close to home. You need to do some resting up, as you have been pushing yourself very hard. Know that there is nothing you can't accomplish, but you do need to have adequate sleep. Keep it low-key, and be with your immediate loved ones. Tonight: Order out.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

