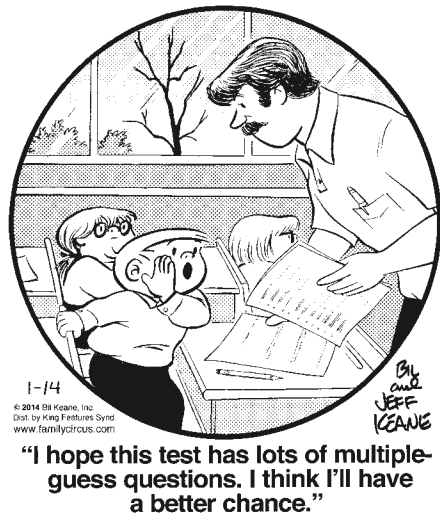
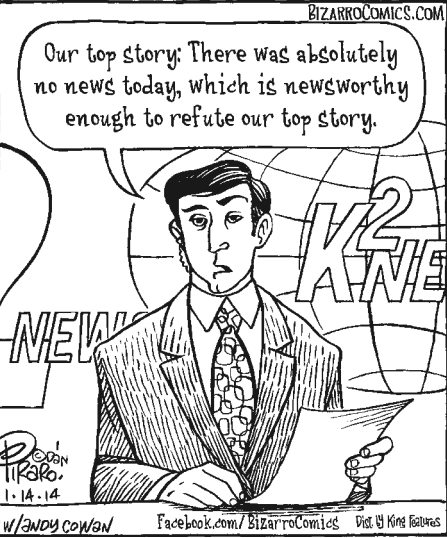


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



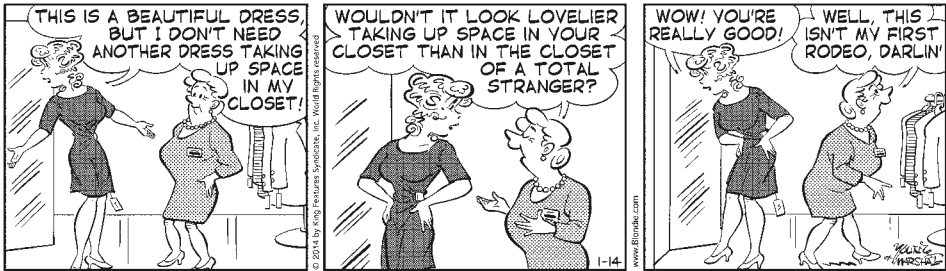
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



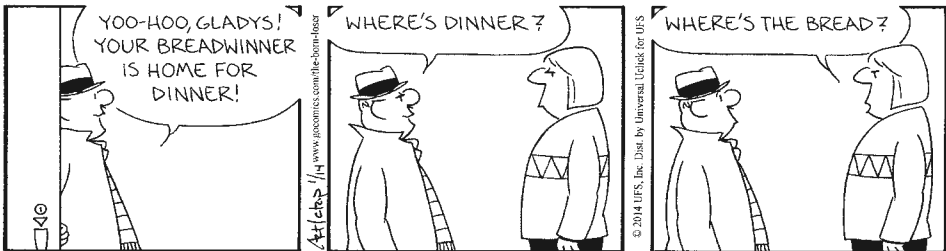
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



# Grandmother Deserves To Know Her Secret Great-Granddaughter

DEAR ABBY: My family has been keeping a secret from my grandmother. I have a 17-month-old daughter that she doesn't know exists. I wanted to tell my grandma from the start about her great-granddaughter (her first), but I am afraid to. My family thinks that telling her will cause too much stress on her. NO one in the family takes my feelings into consideration.

I think my grandmother should know she's a great-grandma. The problem is, I don't know how to tell her. She's 90 years old. I'm afraid if I say something now, it really MIGHT be too stressful for her. Also, I'm afraid that if I reveal this secret, it will start a family feud.

I want a relationship with my grandma like I used to have. I cry every time I talk to her on the phone because I have to lie to her about my day-to-day life and why I can't come to see her. I am really starting to resent my family. Please help. — SECRET MOMMY IN NEVADA

DEAR SECRET MOMMY: Your grandmother wasn't born yesterday; she's 90. I'm sure that in her decades of living she has seen plenty of life.

While she will probably be shocked that she was kept in the dark this long, I agree she should know the truth. She should also know that you love her, which is why you are telling her the news. She may or may not want to see her great-grandchild, but the choice should be hers.

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my 70s, married for 50 years. I worked outside the home for many years and earned retirement benefits. There have been many ups and downs in my life, for me personally as well as for members of my family. Of course, there have been good times, too. I feel blessed.

All my life I have been the "go-to girl" for my family as a daughter, sister, wife, mother and aunt for help or advice. I love them, but I'm tired. How do I retire my "crown" — which has been overwhelming at times —

without hurting or alienating anyone?

There seem to be so many problems and only one of me. Many times I have felt stretched too thin, but now my health and energy are no longer what they once were. I'm reasonably healthy, but I'm very tired.

I value my Judeo/Christian belief of "doing unto others." Am I being selfish?

— GO-TO GIRL IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR GO-TO GIRL: Your mind and body are trying to tell you something important. I hope you will pay attention before your health suffers because it could if you don't start drawing the line.

There is nothing selfish or wrong about saying: "I love you, but I can't help you. I can't because I'm at a point in my life where I can't handle stress like I used to." And if the person doesn't get it, you should repeat it.

DEAR ABBY: I have a dear friend who I have been friends with for years. However, there is one thing I can't stand about her. It's her vulgar language. Every sentence that comes out of her mouth includes the F-word. She's not a soft-spoken individual, so others can hear her. It embarrasses me and makes me not want to be around her in public.

How can I tell her she embarrasses me when she talks that way? — SOFT-SPOKEN FRIEND

DEAR FRIEND: Tell her in exactly the way you told me. It is kind, helpful and the truth. And please don't feel bad about doing so because you'll be doing your friend a favor.

*What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen 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 Cancer.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 14, 2014:

This year you often see others in a new light. Your ability to empathize increases, thus you understand others better. A boss or someone you answer to could act in an unexpected manner. Learn to expect spontaneity from this person. If you are single, you could find that you like the person you are dating much more than you thought possible. Try not to panic; instead, learn to enjoy this feeling. If you are attached, the two of you juggle a lot of concerns, yet you both manage to put aside your differences in order to keep your bond viable and rewarding. Your sweetie could be quite endearing this year. **CANCER** respects your attitude about what is appropriate.

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)

★★★ Pressure's tendrils will find their way into the best of situations. As a result, many people might act in an odd or divisive manner. If you step back and observe what is happening, you could start laughing at everything that is going on. Tonight: Happy at home.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You might decide to head down a certain path only to discover that it is fraught with boulders. Rethink your choices. Make calls, and get feedback. Luck seems to appear just as certain issues dissolve. Tonight: Move quickly. Touch base with a loved one.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ Be smart when handling funds. Someone could make an appealing offer. This person's words will mean nothing until you check out their validity. A friend who often shares some unique ideas could surprise you. Tonight: Take a hard look at your budget. Is it working?

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by someone's childish behavior. You often put this person on a pedestal, but today he or she could fall off. Perhaps you have been projecting your own ideals instead of seeing reality. Take off your rose-colored glasses. Tonight: Make a caring gesture.

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

★★★ Continue to do your share of listening.

Understand what your expectations are regarding someone you admire. This person could give you quite a jolt. Recognize what is happening below the surface, and act on those feelings. Tonight: Hopefully not to be found.

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

★★★★ Move forward, and understand what a meeting and its message are really about. You know you can count on certain supporters; brainstorm with them more often. You might want to indulge a close loved one, but a partner could become jealous. Tonight: Where the action is.

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

★★★ Think twice before assuming the helm of the ship. Remember that many responsibilities come with this position. Recognize your limits. Know what can be done in order to salvage a rapidly deteriorating situation. Changes might profoundly affect you. Tonight: Start a project.

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

★★★★ Reach out for a different perspective. Step back and take a look at the big picture. You will see matters in a new light after some reflection. Your decisions also will mirror a new and unique quality. Give yourself the luxury of choice. Tonight: Try a new type of cuisine.

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

★★★★ You might believe all is well under the advisement of a partner, but you will discover otherwise. A child could become quite rebellious and difficult all of a sudden. Be more in touch with what your limits are. Tonight: Go along with a loved one's suggestion.

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

★★★ Someone might want to do things his or her way. Hand this person the reins and see what happens. Sometimes people just instinctively react to your position and determination. Let them walk in your shoes, and they will learn a lot. Tonight: Juggle different invitations.

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

★★★ Your decision to accomplish certain tasks demands focus. Some of you might want to screen your calls. Unfortunately, someone might misread your lack of availability and take it personally. Have a conversation, hopefully to cool this person down. Tonight: Head home.

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

★★★★ Your imagination comes to the rescue, no matter what you do or where you are. You could find it difficult to convince a loved one, friend or associate of your solution. This person might be too into the drama to let go. Don't worry so much. Tonight: Act as if there were no tomorrow.

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## BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

