

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



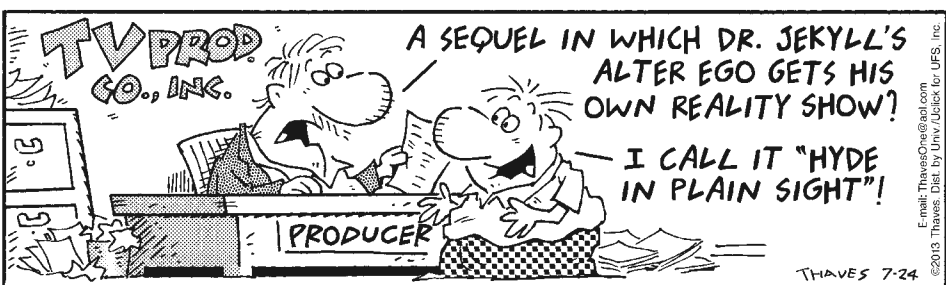
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



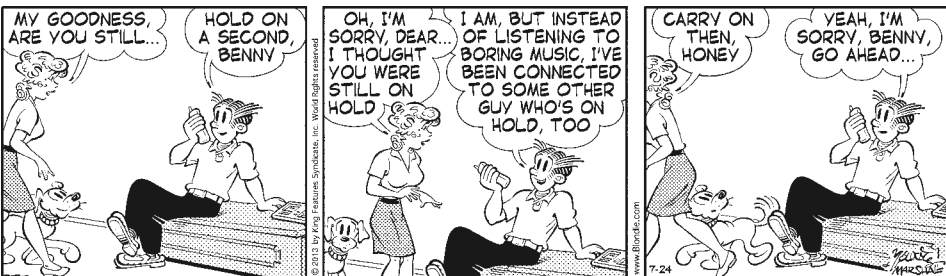
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



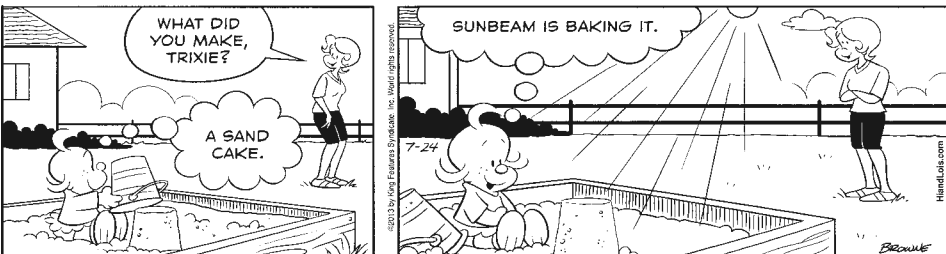
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Woman Looking For Good Man Won't Find Him Cruising Online

DEAR ABBY: I have an awful time meeting men. I'm not considered beautiful by any means, so that means meeting any good guys won't happen. I use Craigslist a lot to meet sexual partners. I am so tired of giving up my body for a few minutes of pleasure and then feeling empty on the inside. Please tell me what to do. — WHERE ARE THE GOOD GUYS?

DEAR WHERE: I'll try, but first let me tell you where the good guys AREN'T. They are not on Craigslist trolling for sex partners. As my grandfather used to say, "If you're looking for trout, don't go fishing in a herring barrel."

Your problem isn't your looks; it is your extremely low level of self-esteem. It's important that you discuss this with a psychologist who can help you recognize the positive qualities you have to offer, because until you do, you will only repeat these empty, depressing encounters. Please don't wait.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 17-year-old girl who was raised to be polite. When I meet someone, I offer a handshake and a smile and make eye contact. However, I have found that because I'm female, adults — especially men — will go in for a hug even when I offer my hand to shake. This is followed by comments like, "You're too sweet to just shake hands," or, "Girls don't shake hands."

I like hugs, but they make me uncomfortable when they're from someone I don't know well, and I find the comments insulting. How do I avoid this awkward moment and respond to the comments? — TEEN IN NEW YORK

DEAR TEEN: The next time someone lunges forward, take a step back and say, "I prefer to shake hands!" Say it with a smile and don't be confrontational, but DO defend your personal space if you feel it is being invaded. It is not impolite to do so.

DEAR ABBY: I'm single, have no kids and I'm about to turn 62. I own my own home and have no debts. After years of earning a modest but steady income and watching my expenses, I have saved enough and I am eligible for good retirement benefits. So what's my problem?

Friends and family insist I'm crazy to leave a job at which I could work for another five to 10 years. I know retirement is practical for me because I have gotten professional financial planning advice. There are many things I really want to do — classes, hobbies, volunteer work and travel before I'm too old.

My friends need to work to support their extravagant lifestyles, lavish vacations, expensive restaurants, plus their new cars, clothing and electronics. I did things my way and can afford to retire now, so why can't my friends keep their mouths shut and let me enjoy what I have worked for? — READY TO RETIRE

DEAR READY: They may be jealous, or they may be genuinely concerned about you. Not knowing them, I can't answer for them. I can, however, suggest this: Before quitting your job and the steady, modest income it provides, talk with another financial planner and get a second opinion. You'd do that with a doctor if you had a serious question about your physical health, and I'm recommending you do it because this decision will affect your financial health for the rest of your life. If you wait a few more years, you won't be over the hill, and you will have even more money to enjoy in your retirement.

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

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

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 Leo and a Moon in Pisces if born after 12:41 a.m. (PDT). Prior to that time, the Moon is in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2013:

This year you'll rely on your intuition, and you'll land well. An associate understands the requirement of responding to this feeling, and he or she will encourage you. If you are single, you are likely to meet many people on your path. Check out each person with care, and make sure that he or she is emotionally available. Be willing to walk away from what doesn't work. If you are attached, be aware of what is motivating you, and understand the role your significant other plays. Give this person as much acknowledgment as possible. PISCES is a dreamer, but he or she can sort reality from fiction.

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 might have pushed the limits with a close associate. Your ability to manifest your ideas allows greater adaptability, and it also gives you the strength to deal with problems. How you see a situation could change because of a partner's feeling. Tonight: Keep it light and easy.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Dealing with someone who is as stubborn as you are could be difficult. You will stand your ground, but so will he or she. Involve a third person to help both of you get off your positions. Friends or associates will pitch in and try to point to the solution. Tonight: Tilt the wee hours.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Decide how much confidence you have in someone's mental processes. If you become triggered, detach. A serious discussion could point to a more effective way of handling an issue. Be responsive to an elder or a boss who needs extra time. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Use your creativity. You have the ability to visualize a different solution or outcome based on a new type of thinking. Break past any personal limitations. You will be able to make the correct decision if you are able to tune in to your intuitive side. Tonight: Whatever feels right.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Someone around you will be inspiring. Brainstorming together unleashes unusual creati-

ity, and one-on-one relating takes you to the next level. This person is very different. Please note his or her vagueness in certain matters. Tonight: Happiest out of the house.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ Others seek you out, but you might opt to close your door and screen your calls. You can deal with only so much energy right now. Realize what could happen without sufficient structure and time. You might find that to be a scary thought, on some level. Tonight: As you wish.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Emphasize the structure of your day-to-day lifestyle. As you evolve to a new level of understanding, you'll come to terms with other possibilities. Consider making a change to your environment in order to get yourself out of a rut. Use caution with funds. Tonight: Out late.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ What soon will be evident is how shut down you have been as of late. Your intuition could take you down a new path, if you simply learn to go with the flow. Tap into your intellectual side, but do not deny the power of your feelings. Tonight: Add more romance to your life.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Stay close to home, and honor your bottom line when dealing with others. You have a way of looking at a situation that remains unique. If you need to get past a problem, the time to do so is now. Recognize what is happening with a close family member. Tonight: Head home.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Be discreet in handling a personal matter. Return calls, and schedule a meeting if possible. It appears that an associate or friend wants to head off on his or her own crusade. Emphasize what is important to you in a long-overdue talk with this person. Tonight: Feeling let down.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

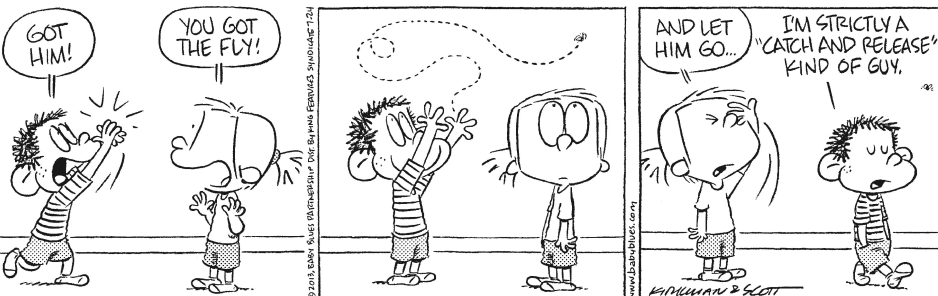
★★★★ Use the morning to finish extra work, but try not to get too caught up in a project. You might be concerned about a financial matter, as you can't seem to get enough clarity. Don't take a risk if a money offer feels unusually dicey. Tonight: Work within your budget, and set limits.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Let your personality melt barriers, especially with someone at a distance. An ongoing problem needs to come to a conclusion, so have a long-overdue discussion. Be open to feedback, even if you feel as though the person has a rigid point of view. Tonight: A favorite pastime.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

