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HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Boyfriend's 'Man Of Mystery' Act Causes Woman To Wonder

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been dating for a year, and it has been wonderful. He's amazing and sweet.

We went to the movies for our anniversary and about 50 minutes into it, he turned to me, said he didn't like the movie and he wanted to leave. I was enjoying it, but I didn't want to force him to watch it, so we left. When we were out of the theater I asked him why he didn't like it, and he told me he didn't want to discuss it. I pressured him for an answer a little bit, but he told me to forget it.

This has been bugging me. Should I leave it alone? I understand it's not that big a deal, but he has done this a few times before — not explaining things when I ask. I am confused about why he won't tell me. — PUZZLED IN THE MULTIPLEX

DEAR PUZZLED: There may have been something in the movie that made your boyfriend uncomfortable. Perhaps it triggered a memory of something in his past that he didn't want to be reminded of. Or, he may have been bored by the film and so centered on himself that he didn't care that you were enjoying it.

Your boyfriend may be wonderful and amazing, but he also appears to be a poor communicator. This would be a deal-breaker with some women. Only he can tell you why he's this way, but if he hasn't opened up in the year you have been seeing each other, it isn't likely to change.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has erectile dysfunction for which he takes medication. He gets it from a friend. I have discovered he takes the medication with him when he travels. He swears he isn't cheating on me and that he's faithful. Should I believe him? — SUSPICIOUS IN ARIZONA

DEAR SUSPICIOUS: I confess, my knee-jerk reaction after reading your letter was, “Uh-oh!” Then I picked up the phone and called

Bruce Landres, M.D., in Los Angeles. His first words were, “That's an interesting question.” He then went on to say that if your husband has prostate problems in addition to his erectile dysfunction, you should believe him, because last October the FDA approved a low dose of one particular E.D. drug for the treatment of benign prostate hypertrophy (BPH). (This low dose is not enough to assist in infidelity.)

You should discuss this further with your husband because it would be much safer for him to get this kind of medication from his physician, who knows his medical history, since E.D. drugs can sometimes cause serious side effects.

P.S. Another thought: It's also possible your husband watches adult videos when he travels and needs “the pill” for his own entertainment. You'll never know unless you ask him.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law passed away five months ago. I was given the option of taking a winter coat of hers, which I gladly accepted. When would it be appropriate to wear it around my husband's family? — STILL

MOURNING IN WISCONSIN
DEAR STILL MOURNING: I'm sorry for your loss. The time to wear the coat would be when the temperature drops enough that you feel you need it. And when you do, if someone should recognize it and comment, just say you are wearing her coat because it helps you feel closer to her; it's like a warm hug from heaven.

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 Leo and a Moon in Aries.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2013:

This year you have an unusually strong drive that allows you to break past restrictions. You might not want to travel much, but you will show a tremendous interest in different people and cultures. Many of you could opt to go back to school. You are one year away from starting a positive, new life cycle. You will want to begin the new cycle as open-minded as possible. If you are single, you are likely to attract someone who might not be the person who he or she initially portrays. Take your time getting to know this person. If you are attached, the two of you will spend many happy hours away together. ARIES is feisty.

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 will be too fiery and direct for most people. You'll discover that an older relative could have quite a strong reaction to this. Even the family pet could appear to be out of sorts. Take a step back for now. Tonight: Making plans might take an inordinate amount of effort.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Know that a lot is going on behind the scenes. You have a good hunch about what is happening, and you know the best way to proceed. Keep your opinions to yourself, but remain sensitive when someone is ready to talk. Be willing to share, too. Tonight: Play it low-key.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Honor your priorities, and plan your day accordingly. Groups and friends will play an important role in what happens. An older relative could be difficult. Though you might feel accommodating, others will not; in fact, they could be quite controlling. Tonight: Loosen up.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You don't hesitate to step up to the plate. Many people -- too many -- will count on you to take the reins. For your own well-being, it might be necessary to say “no” more often. You deserve some time off, as does everyone. Tonight: Be aware that you are in the spotlight.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ If you feel like taking off for a day drive, do. Others also might want to join you for the

trip. Be adventuresome, but make sure that the other parties are on the same page; otherwise, you could be overwhelmed. Tonight: Try a new type of cuisine or listen to some new music.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Deal with each person in your life directly and with care. Feelings will arise that could make you uncomfortable. Though someone often opens up, nothing seems to change for you; however, this time might be different. Tonight: Make sure everyone is meeting at the right place.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You might want to go along with others, especially if you don't want to deal with too much uproar. It will be a good way of getting to know someone better. You are easygoing for the most part, and you could enjoy this change of pace. Tonight: Listen to someone's request.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You could be overtired. Don't let your fatigue seep into your weekend plans. Try to incorporate a nap into your schedule. You must make time for yourself in order to enjoy the weekend. Even if you have a serious moment, know that it soon will pass. Tonight: Make it easy.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Note how you limit yourself. Understand how and why you prevent yourself from meeting your potential. Be careful with a financial discussion. Conversations could be challenging, but don't be uptight. Enjoy every moment of the weekend. Tonight: Be naughty and nice!

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Express your concerns to a family member, as you could be rather tired and withdrawn. Make today about you, and you'll like the results. You need some time off from all of your concerns. Lighten up and be a little silly with a roommate. Tonight: Do not push yourself.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You are likely to say exactly what you think and feel. Others could be equally as open, which is a trait that they have learned from you. Be as receptive as possible, even with a difficult person. You can't slam the door on him or her, even if you want to. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Whether you intend to or not, you might overspend. You also could be preparing for a major purchase. Do some price comparison first; time is your ally. You might have difficulty getting a call through to someone at a distance. Tonight: Treat others to a movie and/or dinner.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

