

FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



7-16  
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"Before you go on vacation you have to take your mail offline."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



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If you've never owned an SUV, you don't know the joy of having 94.2 cubic feet to stow your 6 cubic feet of groceries.

# Teacher And Heroin Addict Share A 'Crazy Chemistry'

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 24-year-old teacher and graduate student. I have started dating a new man, "Winston," who makes me feel incredible. We have crazy chemistry like I've never had before, and our personalities work perfectly together.

Here's the problem. Winston is a recovering heroin addict with horrible credit and two felony charges related to having stolen money from his parents when he was desperate for drugs.

I know what you're thinking - I'd be an idiot for dating someone like this, right? But Winston and I have had heartfelt talks and he revealed a troubled upbringing that helped me understand where his addiction came from. He's in a rehab program to try to get his life together.

I've dated a lot of guys. All I've ever wanted is someone who will give me "butterflies" for the rest of my life, and Winston may be the guy. He's attentive, affectionate and loving. He treats me like a princess. I understand his past will cause financial strain. Isn't it more important to have a man who treats me right than one with a lot of earning potential? Please give me some advice. - DREAM COME TRUE IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR DREAM: You have been seeing Winston for HOW long? Has he completed his rehab and been able to maintain his sober lifestyle for a long enough time that the chances are it will continue?

Few things are as exciting as infatuation - every one of our senses is heightened. You say you feel "butterflies," but what if you wind up with only a moth-eaten carpet? This is not to say that Winston isn't a wonderful person - many former addicts can be. However, I think it's premature for you to consider a future with him until you are sure about his stability.

DEAR ABBY: My widowed 86-year-old mom was living by herself. My unmarried

sister, "Anne," has become ill and has moved in with Mom. Anne wanted a dog. At first Mom was against it because they both have cats, but she finally gave in and Anne got a year-old beagle mix from the dog rescue.

I have been afraid of dogs since I was little. My family knows this. Usually, once I get to know a dog I'm OK, and I have had several of my own. But this animal has abandonment and abuse issues. He's very aggressive and barks, growls and lunges at anyone who comes into the house. It makes me afraid, so I have quit visiting and hardly ever drop by.

Mom and Anne have very little control over the dog. I worry that in an emergency - whether for Mom or Anne - the EMTs would not be able to get past the animal. What can I do? - SCARED IN IOWA

DEAR SCARED: Explain to them that not all emergency medical technicians (EMTs) have been formally trained to handle unruly or vicious animals, and precious time might be lost. If your sister or mother wasn't around to control the dog and the EMTs were unable to lure it to another room, animal control would have to be summoned or a neighbor found who could assist, and the consequences could be serious. Then cross your fingers that nothing bad happens.



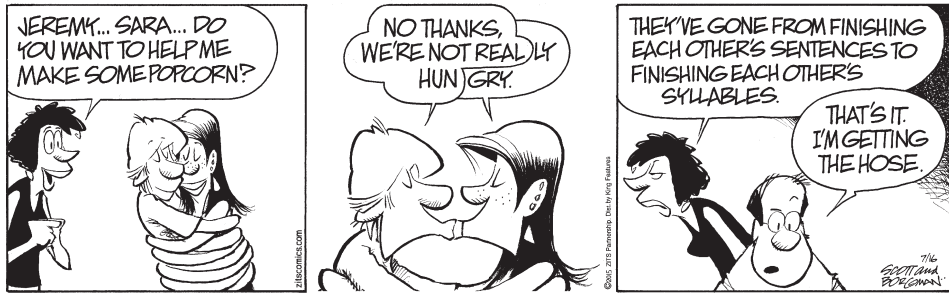
DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

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

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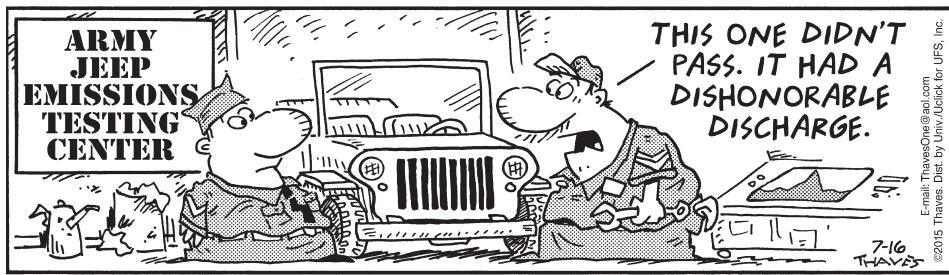
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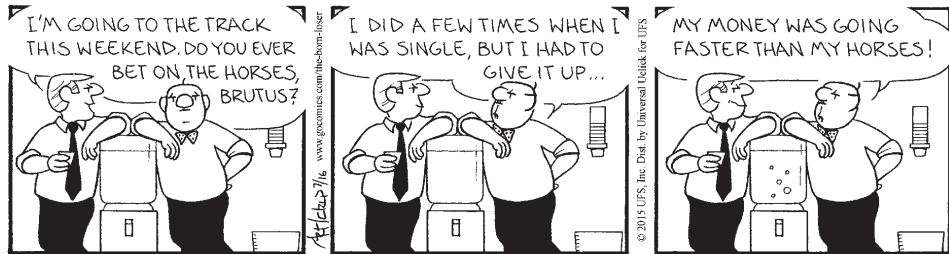
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FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



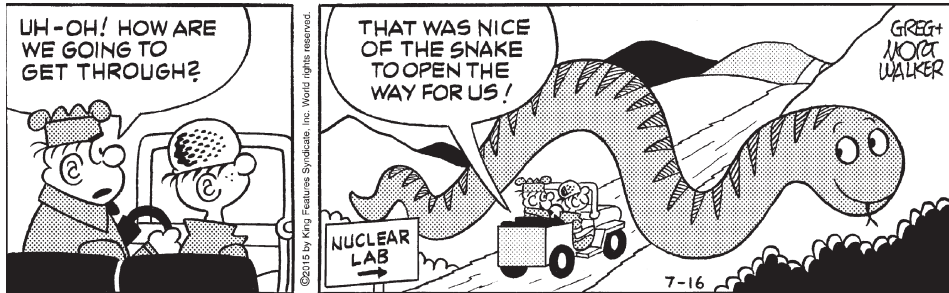
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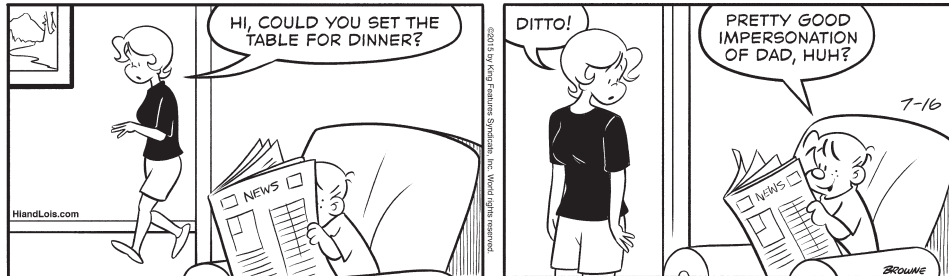
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



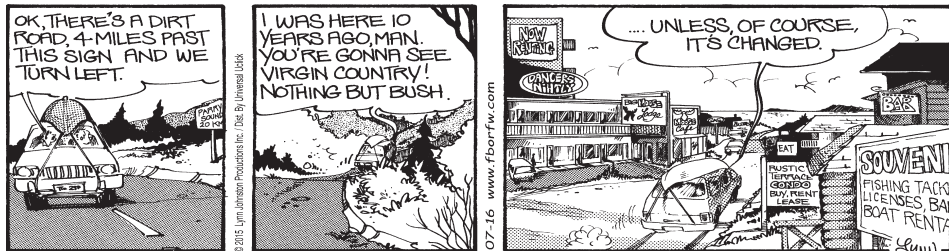
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



## 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 Cancer if born before 10:15 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Leo.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2015:

This year you express a very sensitive, emotional and caring personality. However, you will have periods where you evolve into a real party person. One side of you is introverted, whereas the other is extroverted. If you are single, others find you to be naturally seductive. Your multifaceted personality could intrigue many potential suitors, but only a few will actually be able to deal with it. If you are attached, you add so much fun to your sweetie's life that he or she won't want to be separated from you for any length of time. When LEO exposes his or her vulnerabilities, your relationship benefits.

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 wake up wishing you were a kid again and did not have to work. Your instincts will be right-on with regard to drawing in a loved one. Schedule some time off in the near future. Tonight: Make nice. Don't forget to make weekend plans.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

\*\*\*\* You could be exhausted. How you manage to keep going seems to amaze many people. A problem involving your home is likely to arise. You would much prefer to be dealing with other matters today. Your instincts will be right-on with a loved one. Tonight: Order in.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

\*\*\*\*\* You are likely to say exactly what you mean. If you have a hunch, especially involving your day-to-day life, follow through on it. You could be delighted by the results. Curb a tendency to spend too much, and be sure to count your change. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

\*\*\*\*\* You'll smile, and it will encourage others to be more joyful as well. Your fiery side emerges when dealing with a child or loved one. Your creativity peaks no matter what the situation is. You will find that unique solutions come naturally. Tonight: Be more playful.

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

\*\*\* Others sense that you have a lot on your

mind. Nevertheless, you appear to be smiling and open. You will proceed with caution, as you sense that something is off. Out-of-sorts friends seem to appear from out of nowhere. Be willing to close your door. Tonight: Retreat quickly.

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

\*\*\*\* You might have felt as though you could make an offer so enticing that someone couldn't say "no." However, this probably won't be the case. How you proceed will reveal your true character. Speak your mind, but avoid using negativity. Tonight: Visit with a neighbor.

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

\*\*\*\* A meeting is likely to occupy a good part of your day. You could feel pressured by a boss about something that is important to you. Be more of an observer, and you will know what to do. Happily go along for the ride. Tonight: Meet up with friends at a favorite spot.

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

\*\*\* Pressure builds for you to take charge, and you will. You could be overwhelmed by what you see. It is important to distance yourself in order to see the big picture. You will be reluctant to follow any other path but your chosen one. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

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

\*\*\*\* Be careful, as you could be suppressing a lot of your feelings and overspending. Follow your intuition with a partner, but only if you are willing to be vulnerable. The results might be more pleasing than you realize. Tonight: Consider taking off early for the weekend.

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

\*\*\*\* Reach out to someone you care about, and make plans to get together. A friend is likely to add to the quality of your day, as long as he or she is willing to be flexible with your schedule. Postpone getting together until the end of the day. Tonight: Cruise into the weekend.

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

\*\*\*\*\* As you look around, you'll see that there is a lot you need to complete today. Clear out as much as possible. A new friend will notice how thorough you are. Before absorbing any more responsibilities, think carefully. Work more social time into your life. Tonight: All smiles.

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

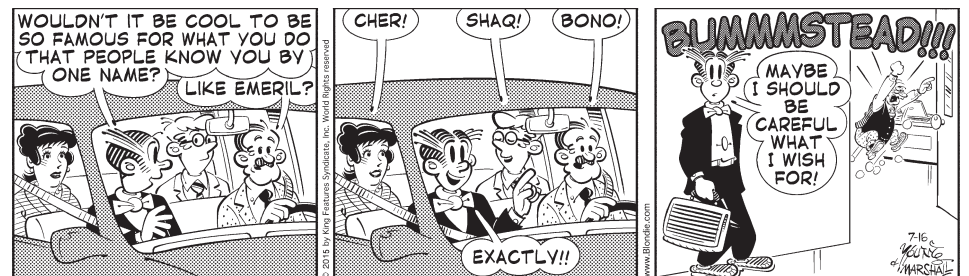
\*\*\*\* You might want to experience an easy day, as the tone of the weekend is likely to be seeping in. Others might take off early, which could result in more work for you. Funnel your high energy appropriately. Lighten up. Tonight: Head home early if you can.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

