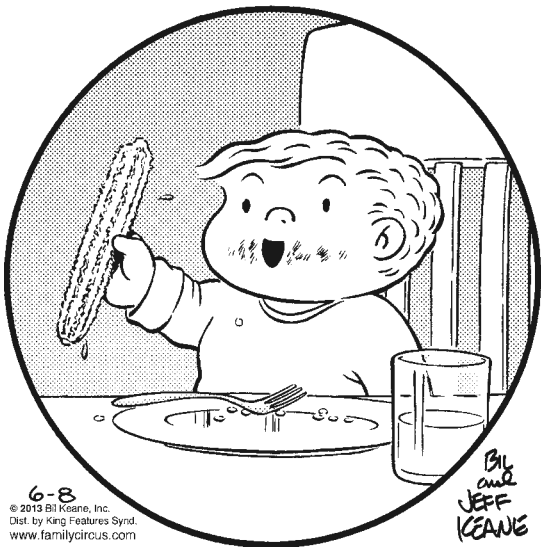
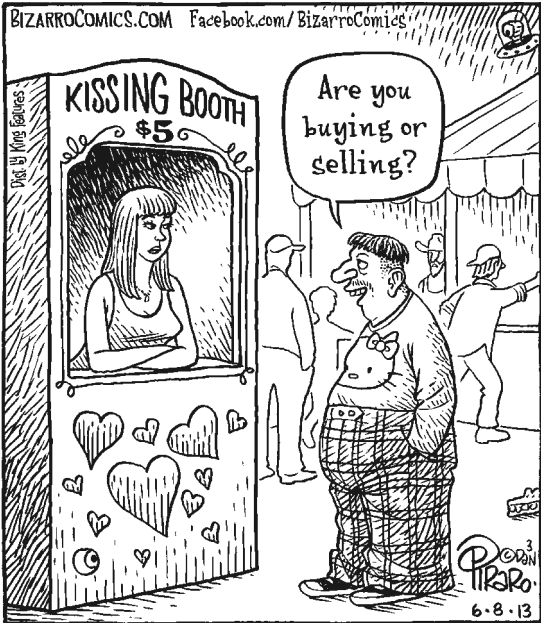


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6-8
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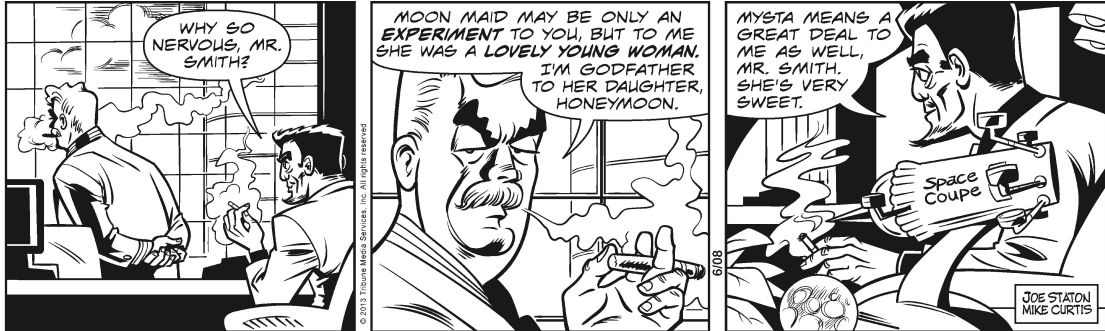
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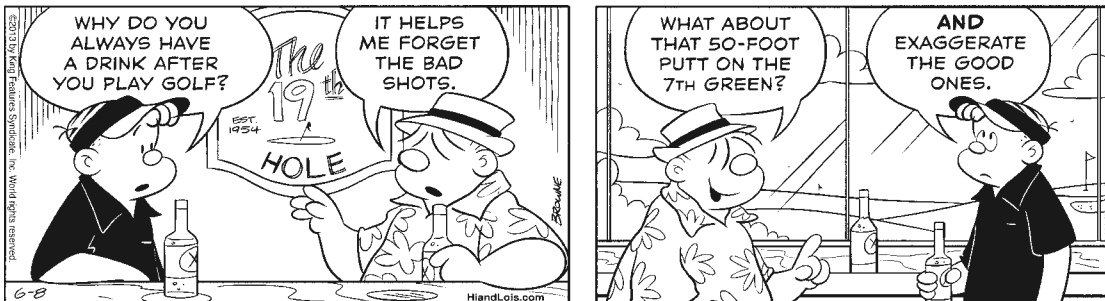
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Woman Not Ready For Marriage Looks For Nice Way To Say No

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my boyfriend, "Ned," for almost two years. I'm 19 and we have lived together since we started dating. I love Ned, but I feel like we moved too fast into our relationship and now he's trying to keep it moving as quickly as possible.

He brings the subject up a lot, and I never have much to say because I'm afraid of hurting his feelings. What should I say if he pops the question? I'm not ready for that kind of commitment, but I don't want him to be angry with me if I say no. — TORN IN OHIO

DEAR TORN: Honesty is the best policy. Not wanting to upset someone would be a very poor reason for getting married. If Ned pops the question, it is perfectly all right to tell him exactly what you have shared with me — that you are not ready for that kind of commitment because you are only 19. It's the truth.

If Ned becomes angry, do not allow him to stampede you into saying yes. That kind of reaction could be a warning sign of someone who is a potential abuser.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 14 and haven't had a girlfriend yet, but I'm curious about something. When I do have one, will it mean I can't love other girls?

Lots of girls tell me I'm nice, friendly and helpful. I love them. When I have a girlfriend or get married, I won't be able to stop loving others. Is this wrong, Abby? — CARLOS IN DONNA, TEXAS

DEAR CARLOS: There are varying degrees of love. There is nothing wrong with loving women, as long as you don't love them all at the same time. If you do, it may upset your girlfriend or wife.

When you are ready for a permanent relationship, the feelings you will have for the woman you're involved with will be stronger than those you are feeling now. However, if that doesn't happen, consider it an indication that you either aren't ready to settle down or you were meant to be a bachelor.



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.

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing in response to "Hates the Crunching in New Mexico" (April 21), the wife who was annoyed about her husband's chewing ice during breakfast and dinner. There is a possibility that he may have pagophagia (craving and chewing ice), which is often associated with iron deficiency anemia. It could also indicate other nutritional problems that can be manifested by various "picas" (craving substances that have no nutritional value, such as dirt).

"Hates the Crunching" should encourage her husband to schedule an appointment with his physician ASAP for a simple blood test, which can show whether or not he has anemia. — HOLLY PHELPS, BELLFLOWER, CALIF.

DEAR HOLLY: Thank you for your letter. Some readers felt the ice crunching was just a bad habit, but the majority echoed your concern that the crunching could be a sign of anemia. I hope your letter will encourage "Hates the Crunching's" husband to contact his doctor and ask to be evaluated.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, who is graduating from college, received a gift card from her aunt. The gift card is for the shop that the aunt owns. I think this was tacky. Am I wrong? — PROUD MAMA IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR PROUD MAMA: If your daughter likes the merchandise her aunt carries, I see nothing tacky about it. However, for you to criticize the gift is ungracious. AND tacky.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity 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 and Moon in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2013:

This year a new beginning becomes possible that will have big impact on your life. You easily connect with others. If you are single, there is a strong chance that your status will change. You even could meet your soul mate. If you are attached, you will rekindle your romance and start acting like newlyweds. Whether your concern is financial or emotional, you will have a chance to head in a new direction. A fellow GEMINI echoes many of your thoughts.

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)

★★★★ A new beginning involving a close associate could become possible, which will affect the way you communicate with this person. You might feel as if you have everything under control, until an event or misunderstanding points out that you don't! Stay calm. Tonight: Hang out.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Be aware of what is going on with your finances. You might want to adjust your budget or vary some of your ground rules about funds. Focus on the positive instead of the negative regarding this situation. Remember, you only need to answer to yourself. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Your innate magnetism attracts many different types of people. Hopefully your plans don't come across as too exclusive, as you will want to ask one or two more people to join you. A misunderstanding could be quite surprising and also very upsetting. Tonight: Where the action is.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You could choose not to discuss so much with others. Honor a change that is happening within you. You might not be as sure of a situation as you would like to be. You will know when the time is right for a conversation. Tonight: Head to bed early, and get a good night's sleep.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ You will become full of energy when you think about your friends and your desire to join them. When making plans, make sure that you know where, how and

when. You won't want to have everyone feeling scattered. Tonight: You are the ringmaster of your personal life.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ While others joyfully seem to go off and enjoy themselves, you feel saddled with responsibilities. You are the grease that makes everything work, and you need to recognize your importance. Know that others will catch on eventually. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You'll be more in tune with a situation than you might want to be. Sometimes when you empathize you become too involved. Know that just because you understand a person, it doesn't mean that he or she is morally correct. Tonight: Opt for a different type of experience.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You have the unique ability to relate to others on a one-on-one level. Though you always appreciate a nice and easy pace, you also enjoy the excitement of some chaos. As the afternoon becomes the evening, it is unlikely that you will be bored. Tonight: Get physical.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Defer to others, and know full well what direction you need to head. Maintain a sense of humor, as others seem to have very different ideas from you. You might want to be open to trying a new hobby. Let go of prejudgments. Tonight: At least you have great company!

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You could be overtired and withdrawn. You also might not understand why you need to proceed in the same direction you have been. Fatigue plays a strong role in your decision-making process; perhaps you'll want to incorporate a nap at some point. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Once you start to let go, you could have difficulty reeling yourself back in. Use care if plans change or if you experience an upset, as suddenly you could go way overboard and spend too much. Recognize that you need to deal with this issue. Tonight: Put on your dancing shoes.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

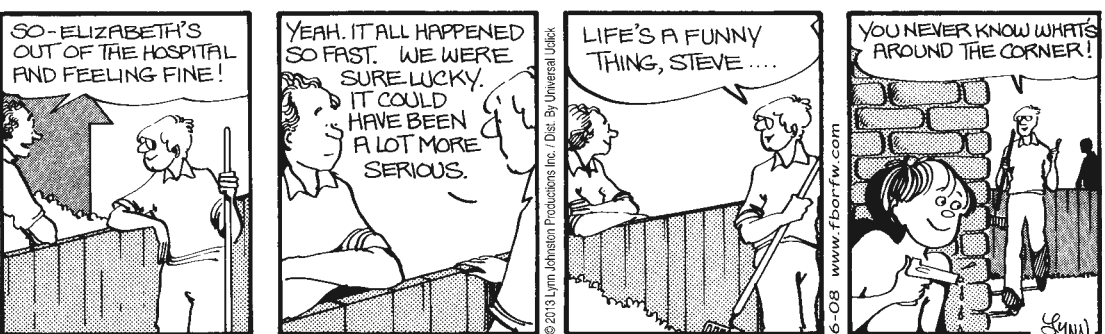
★★★ You could be taken aback by a problem. You'll see a matter very differently because of new information that comes in. Your reaction might be over the top. Take a deep breath, and realize that you will be able to sort through this issue. Tonight: Entertain loved ones at home.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

