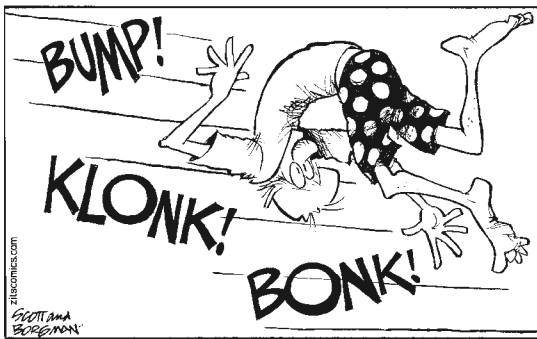


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



Little Billy continues to be a substitute cartoonist so Daddy can have the week off.

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



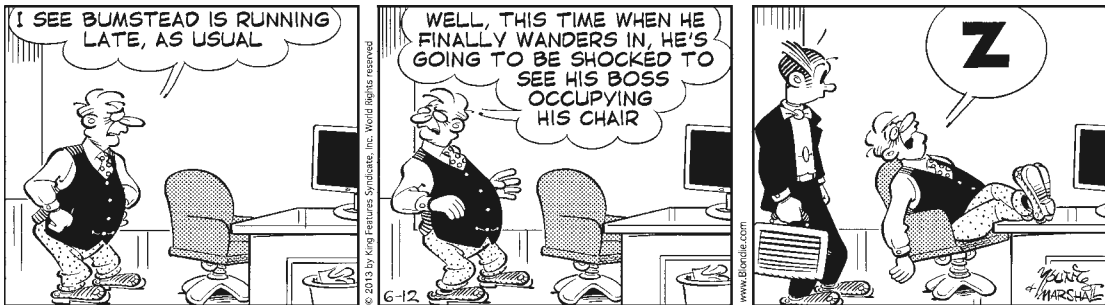
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



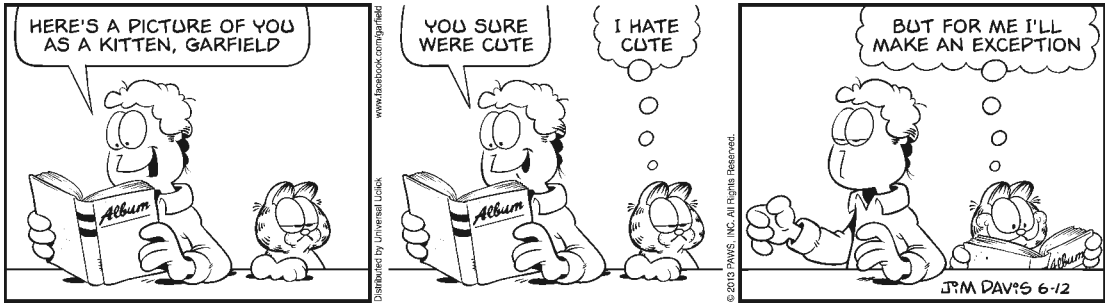
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



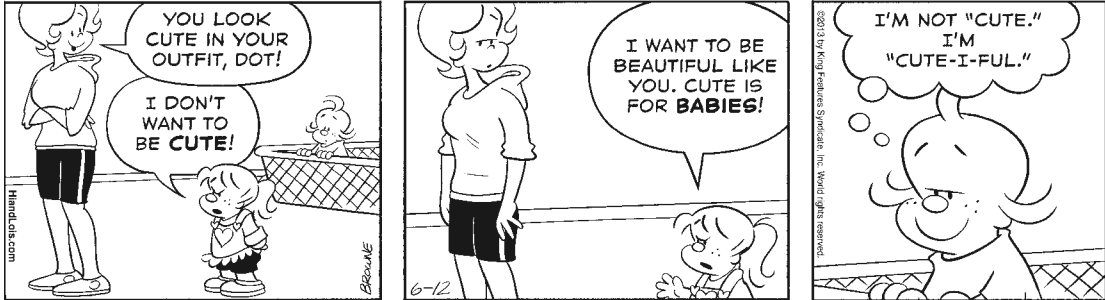
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



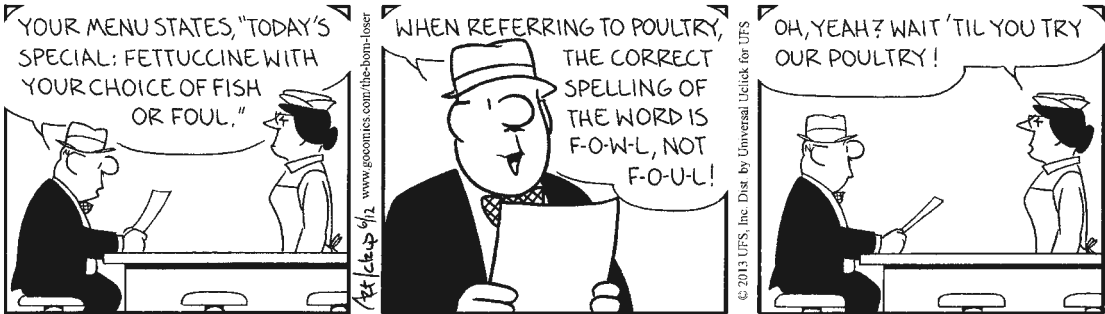
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



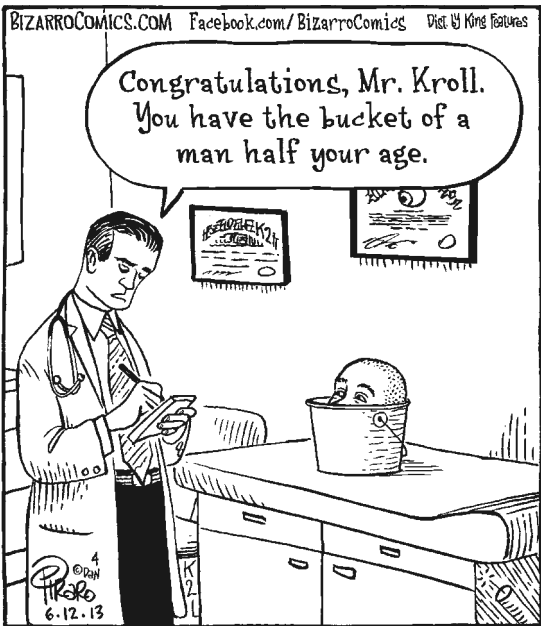
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



# Snooping Mom Feels Shut Out By Son's Insistence On Privacy

DEAR ABBY: My partner of 12 years and I are well-educated, successful career men. Every few months my mom comes to visit, and we all enjoy spending time together.

The last few visits were not so great. We caught Mom snooping in our bedroom and our home office. When we confronted her, she got upset and stormed out of the room in tears. I have asked her to respect our privacy, but her response is that she — as the mother — is the one who deserves respect.

We recently had some renovations done to the house that included locks on our bedroom and office doors. When neither of us are home, the doors stay locked. Nothing was said about it during Mom's last visit, but last week we received a note from her telling us not to come for our usual summer visit. I tried to call her, but she won't answer.

Today I talked with my aunt (Mom's sister), who told me Mom is furious over the locks. My aunt also expressed disappointment in me or "shutting Mom out." I don't understand how I could be in the wrong, but it seems my whole family feels I am. Please advise.

— IN A JAM IN ST. PETE

DEAR IN A JAM: Although your mother deserves respect, it is hard to respect someone who goes through one's bedroom and office after having been asked not to. You may be her son, but you are also an adult and have the right to some privacy. What Mom is doing is the equivalent of throwing a tantrum. You were not shutting her out; you were drawing the line. Regardless of what your aunt said, you owe no one an apology.

Let's hope this storm blows over soon. And as to your summer holiday plans, an Alaskan cruise might be a lovely change from the humidity of

Florida and the steam coming from wherever your mother lives.

DEAR ABBY: My grandmother was very poor, but she was generous with what she had. As a child, I noticed that most of the gifts she received were regifted to others. At first, it upset me because I spent a lot of time choosing a "perfect" gift for her. Then I realized she was enjoying the gift twice. She loved receiving it, but it gave her even more pleasure to pass it on to someone else to enjoy when she couldn't afford to buy a present on her limited income.

I get so tired of people whining about "regifting." Instead of being happy that someone gave them something, people worry about how much was spent. (I'm willing to bet the real reason for the upset is that the regift can't be returned or exchanged.) People who don't want to receive regifts should let the givers know so they won't waste their generosity on them in the future. — THE JOY OF GIVING

DEAR JOY: I see the issue differently, because I suspect that some complainers may have confused the monetary value of the item with how much they — the recipients — are valued in the relationship. As you point out — and I agree — it really IS the spirit in which a gift is given that counts.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers 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 Gemini and a Moon in Leo.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013:

This year you experience your share of ups and downs. Make it a point to take good care of yourself. Stay active and follow an exercise routine. Share your feelings more often. If you are single, you might go from being alone one minute to meeting the love of your life the next! You are likely to meet someone who often puts a smile on your face. If you are attached, the two of you could develop a new hobby together. Count on LEO for fun and laughter.

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)

★★★★ Let your wilder ideas float up into your consciousness. You might choose to jot them down, but share only one or two. Use your high energy and business acumen to push a project forward. A new friend or potential suitor could enter your life. Tonight: Pretend that it's Friday!

#### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You might want to revise your plans. A domestic matter takes priority, which could result in additional spending. Listen to different takes on the issue before making a decision. Costs could play a large role in your choice, but just go with your sixth sense. Tonight: Your treat.

#### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Recognize your goals, and make a plan for how to achieve them. Remain sensitive to an unpredictable friend, as he or she could give you some powerful feedback. Listen, even if you would prefer not to. Both of you have the same interests in mind. Tonight: Hang out.

#### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Listen to forthcoming news that has the potential to change a financial issue. Your intuition will tell you what you need to do in order to maximize the situation. Honor what is going on between you and a boss or an older relative. Tonight: It just gets better and better.

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

★★★ You might not realize how much you can accomplish when you hit your power days. A friend could push you to act on something that is very important to

you. Recognize your limits. You'll want to approach a personal matter differently. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

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

★★★★ Try not to push yourself too hard. If you suddenly find that your feelings are hurt, stop and detach. You could be emotionally vulnerable. Postpone thinking about this matter. Perhaps at a different time, the same actions will get a different reaction. Tonight: Get some R and R.

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

★★★★ Be spontaneous, especially when dealing with matters involving friends. You might get a new perspective because of what an associate says. Once you identify or understand someone's viewpoint, you can go along with his or her ideas more easily. Tonight: Zero in on a goal.

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

HHHH You might want to lighten up about a situation involving a boss or someone else you must answer to. An associate or close friend might be able to tap into this person's mindset far better than you can. Adjust your plans when a responsibility appears. Tonight: In the limelight.

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

★★★★ Your perspective is constantly evolving, which allows for more neutrality; however, it does not deter your impulsiveness. A partner or loved one keeps pushing you very hard. Be smart, and let this person's attempts wash right over you. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

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

★★★★ Deal directly with matters involving business, money or feelings. You cannot imagine how much your complete attention means to others, but know that your energy might be a little overwhelming. An unexpected development could shake you up. Tonight: Call a friend.

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

★★★★ Others seek you out, and you might have some difficulty juggling all the different demands that land on your shoulders. A child or new love interest could be on the verge of throwing a tantrum if he or she doesn't get what he or she wants. Tonight: Among the crowds.

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

★★★ You could be easily irritated, and that frustration might come out in your interactions with those who are close to you. Take a deep breath. Indulge yourself, and buy a new item or two for your wardrobe. Consider taking a walk if that's what it takes. Tonight: Run an errand or two.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

