

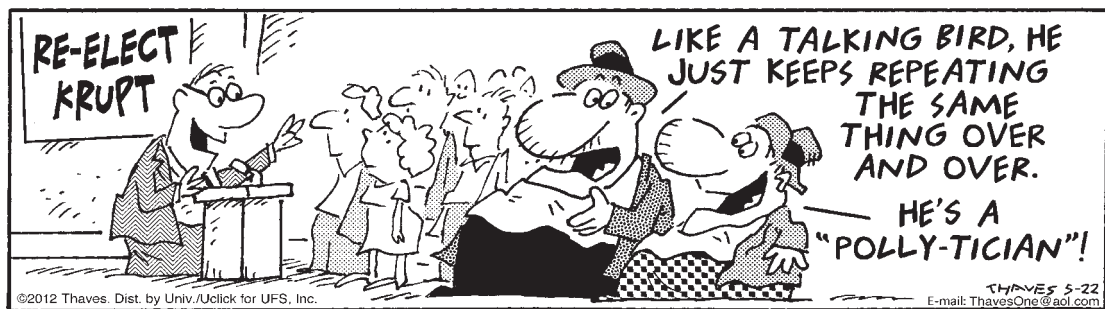
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE


5-22
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"Wait a minute, I hadn't even asked the question yet!"

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

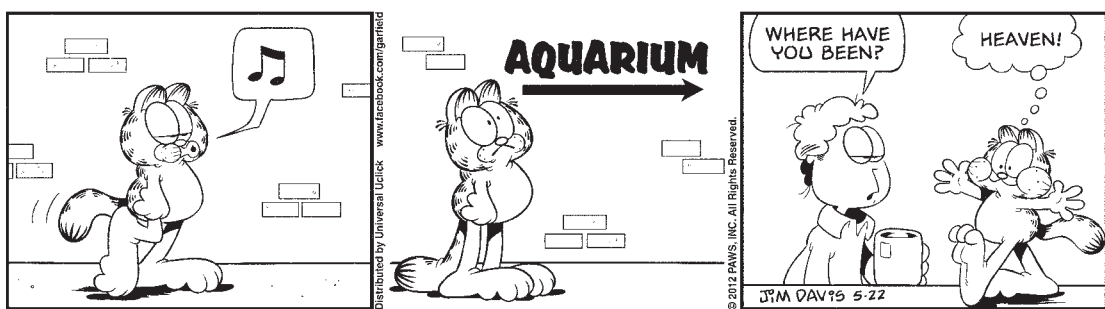

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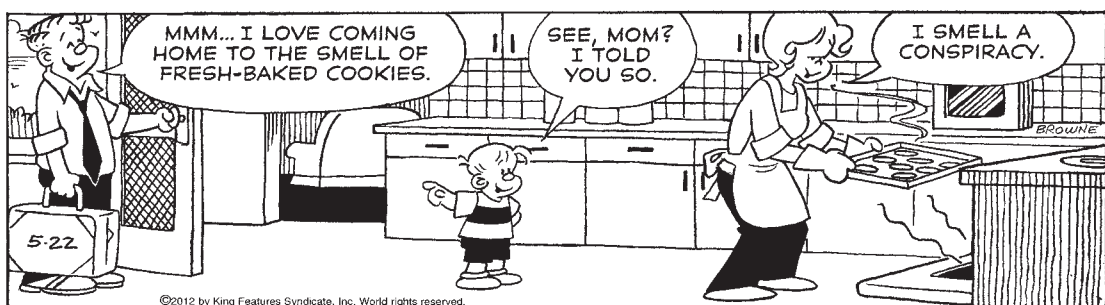
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN

FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES

PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ

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THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON


Proposal From Married Man Is Little Cause For Celebration

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 42-year-old woman who has been living with my boyfriend, "Matt." He has asked me to marry him, and I said yes. The problem is, Matt is still married.

Matt and his wife have been separated for eight years. I keep telling him to get in touch with her and see if she filed for divorce, but he keeps putting it off.

I really do love this man, Abby. Matt is good to me and to my children and grandchildren, but sometimes I don't know what to think or do. I want us to buy a house, but I'm scared that if we do, she'll try to take it from us. He says she wouldn't. Please give me some advice. — LADY IN WAITING IN LOUISIANA

DEAR LADY IN WAITING: I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but a marriage proposal from a man who is still married means nothing. I urge you to PLEASE consult a lawyer before putting money into any joint financial ventures with this man. He may be "good" to you, your children and grandchildren, but he hasn't been completely forthright.

Your concerns are justified. Listen to your woman's intuition. It's sending you an important message.

DEAR ABBY: Two years ago, I adopted a dog from my local Humane Society. "Brandy's" approximate age at the time of adoption was 16 years. I had two wonderful years with Brandy before he died.

What I would like to share with your readers is, when you consider adopting a pet, please don't rule out an animal based strictly on age. Older animals can make excellent additions to a family. They deserve our love and kindness, too. — MISSING BRANDY IN JUNEAU, ALASKA

DEAR MISSING: I'm sorry that you and Brandy were not able to have more years together, but bless

you for sharing your heart and home with a pet that many might have overlooked.

Older animals can provide a great deal of love and joy. They also are usually housebroken — something to consider for anyone for whom puppyhood and adolescence might prove too destructive.

The local shelter is an excellent place to find a mature companion.

DEAR ABBY: The letters that have appeared in your column about safe driving prompt this one. I hope you will consider my experience worth sharing.

I have poor depth perception. I make adjustments for this problem and check the distance between me and the car in front of me by looking at the distance on the road and not at the car.

I began to notice that the cars coming at me were "fuzzy" and that I had to close one eye to have a clear image of them. Then I realized I was doing the same thing while watching television. I mentioned it to my optometrist, and she checked my eyes and found that I had double vision. The adjustment to my prescription was so slight that you would not notice it, but I can now see clearly with my new glasses. — CLEARLY FOCUSED IN MINNESOTA

DEAR CLEARLY FOCUSED: Your letter was an eye-opener. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to remind readers to have their vision checked every year — and to report any changes in vision to the doctor immediately.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, 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 all day long.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2012:

You express a kinder, more feeling quality this year, but you are no one's fool. You will establish strong boundaries. Your relationships will benefit as a result. Communication allows greater flexibility and trust. Friends, family and loved ones love being with you. Your charisma soars. If you are single, you attract someone who could be quite significant to your life's history. If you are attached, with so much going on this year, you could be a touch self-centered. Be sensitive to your sweetie. He or she might have a strong reaction to the new you. You might be surprised at how different each GEMINI you meet is.

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 make a strong effort to keep or make peace. You still could get the cold shoulder. Remember that there are other fish in the sea. Postpone any interactions for a while. Check out a purchase that could make your daily life easier. Tonight: Do some price comparison first.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You are likely to go overboard in anything you do. You cannot help yourself right now. You spread a lot of caring around, which allows many people to feel more comfortable with you. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★★ You simply know what to do. Your very nature expresses your caring to others. Yet at the same time, you cannot force a child or loved one to open up. This person is going to be the way he or she is. A hunch could pay off. Tonight: Your wish is someone's command.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Continue your low profile, and you'll get results. Others will be forced to come forward and express their feelings. You know what you are doing and why. Still, others are confused. A domestic matter cannot continue as it has. It needs to be handled. Tonight: Do your thing.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, especially if they

involve others. Meetings work well today, and others are highly responsive. Tomorrow it might not be the same story. Touch base with a dear friend who always gives you key feedback. Tonight: Continue with friends and crowds.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ You might want to take a stand and handle an issue. By making a call or doing some research, you might find out how right-on you are about an instinct. Someone really does care about you, and lets you know it. Tonight: Don't get uptight about money. It won't help.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You could be more negative than you realize. Others try to help you break out of this mold. Soon you will walk back out into a world with more sunshine. Let your friends help. Tonight: Break past self-imposed restrictions.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Though you are comfortable with one-on-one relating, you might need to pull back some and get a different perspective. You most likely feel uncomfortable with a key person you deal with often. Tonight: Talk and chat over dinner.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Others keep coming to you, and you might be sure that your door is a revolving one today. Know that you might need to establish limits, as your friends and others continue to interrupt you. You can say nicely what you need to. Tonight: Now you're available.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ Get your errands and other such matters done quickly. You find that you would appreciate a long lunch with a friend or going out midday to do something you have wanted to do. A parent, older friend or boss could be difficult. Be nice. Tonight: Take care of yourself first.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

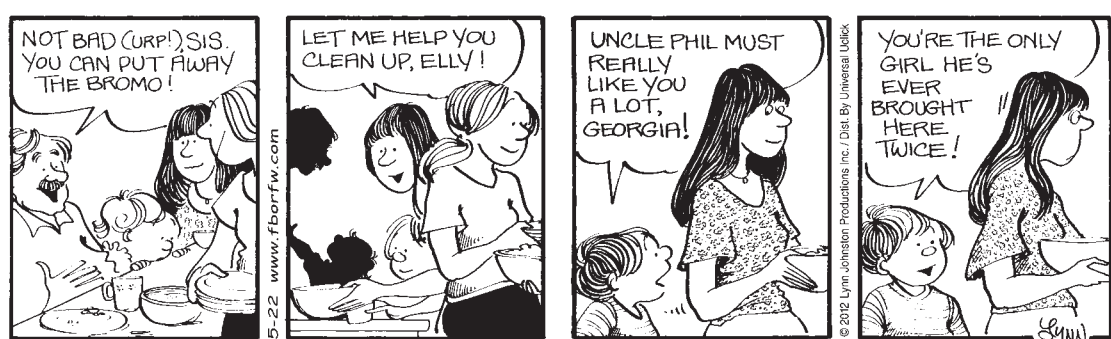
★★★★★ You aren't always as playful as today, which might be good. On the other hand, holding yourself back would be a mistake. Build fun plans into the day; get together with a favorite person. Tonight: As if there were no tomorrow.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ Stay centered and know when to pull back and relax. Others are unusually demanding and encourage you to cocoon and not get caught up in the uproar that surrounds you. Stay on top of calls. Good news could be heading your way. Tonight: Stay close to 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
