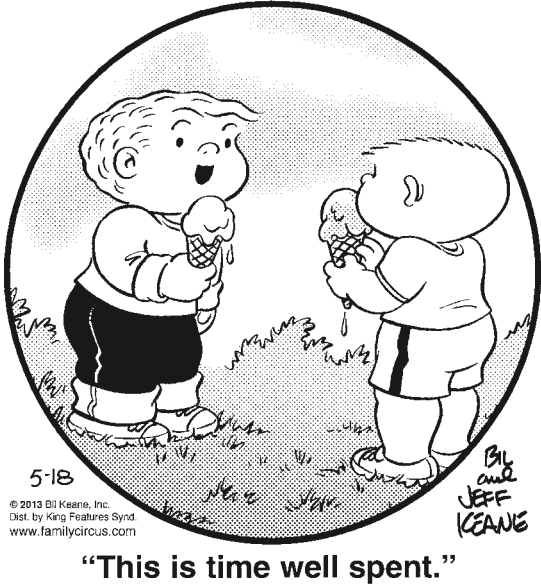
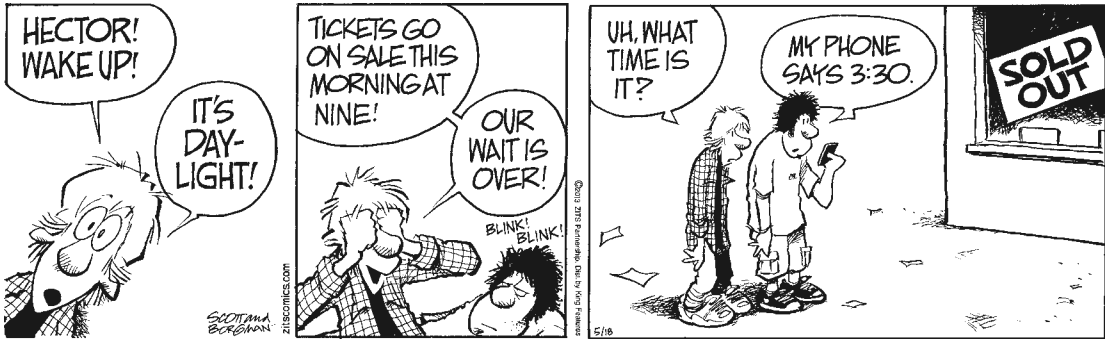


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



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



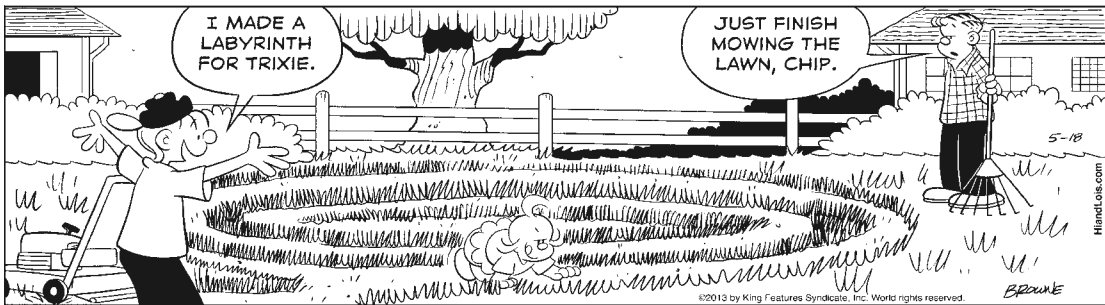
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



# Mom Dreads Rivalry Between Daughter And Her New Sibling

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of a 5-year-old daughter I'll call Mandy. Her father and I separated when she was 16 months old and now we are divorced. I am newly engaged to a wonderful man and very happy.

I have just learned that my ex is having a baby boy with a woman he has stated he does not love and isn't even in a committed relationship with. I would like to protect Mandy from any pain this might cause her because she is a Daddy's girl.

How should I deal with this and maintain my composure regarding the sibling who will now forever be a part of my daughter's life (and mine)? — STRESSED OUT IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR STRESSED OUT: It is not appropriate to show your disgust with this situation to your daughter. Because your ex has gone on record that he doesn't love the woman he impregnated, and he is not in a committed relationship with her, you may be worrying needlessly. He will have a financial obligation to his son, but whether he's willing to be a father in the best sense of the word we don't know.

If Mandy interacts with her half brother she will have to learn to SHARE, which is an important life lesson every child must learn sooner or later.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 40-something divorced female. After my divorce I met a man I enjoyed being with. He led me to believe he cared for me and I bought into it. It was a vulnerable time for me and, unfortunately, I let my guard down. I did something stupid and co-signed for a student loan for him. He has stopped making payments, has blocked my calls, moved, etc., and now I'm stuck with the financial burden.

I have learned that he had a fiancée while we

were involved and they are now married. Abby, he was bilking me the whole time.

I need to know what legal recourse I have. I know where he lives and possibly where he works, so if he needs to be served with papers, he can be found. I regret that I didn't keep my guard up, and I don't feel he should get away with this. What should I do now? — LET MY GUARD DOWN IN OHIO

DEAR LET YOUR GUARD DOWN: It appears you have been the victim of a fraud. If I were you, the first thing I'd do is share his address with the loan company. Then I'd discuss this matter with the police to find out if he has a history of bilking women and if I could file charges. If that isn't possible, the next thing I'd do is talk with a lawyer about any legal remedies available to me. And that's what I'm advising you to do.



## 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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I work in the media and meet a lot of people. I have arthritis in my hands. I have always believed in a firm handshake, but I'm finding that receiving one is crippling my hand. I don't want to appear unfriendly by not reciprocating a handshake, but I don't want my hand to ache for hours on end after meeting someone. Any suggestions? — HURTING IN DOVER, DEL.

DEAR HURTING: It would not be unfriendly to simply say, "It's nice to meet you, but I can't shake hands because I have arthritis." Many people do, and it's the truth.

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 in Taurus and a Moon in Leo if born before 2:33 a.m. (PDT). Afterward the Moon will be in Virgo.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2013:

This year you have an opportunity to unleash unusual creativity and flow. This surge of imagination could be triggered from a class or some organization of interest. Your dynamic and resourceful abilities will start to flow into nearly every aspect of your life. If you are single, you could meet someone while pursuing a new hobby or interest. Be open to this person's feedback. If you are attached, your sweetie might not believe all of the changes that are occurring. Do keep him or her in the loop. VIRGO knows how to spark your imagination.

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 could run the gamut of different feelings and energy levels. What you make of a misunderstanding is your call. Be willing to adjust to an older friend or relative's schedule. This person will appreciate your efforts. Tonight: Do not push -- do only what you want.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You have solutions for nearly everything. Depending on your relationship with someone, this person might be resentful of your ability to come up with such creative ideas. On the other hand, others will appreciate your resourcefulness. Tonight: Make it a romantic night.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You might want to focus on your priorities right now. Confusion might surround your plans, despite your great efforts to keep your schedule clear. Last-minute misunderstandings could disrupt a meeting. Listen to others, and do not stand on ceremony. Tonight: At home.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You'll be more direct, but you still might not be able to get your message across. Someone you are trying to communicate with has his or her mind on something else. Know that you will need to give this person a jolt in order to gain his or her attention. Tonight: Hang out.

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

★★★ You might be starting to see the results of your

hard work. Stay on top of an issue -- you still might not be getting the full story. Confusion could surround your plans. Know that no one is intending to cause a problem. Tonight: Treat a loved one to a nice dinner out.

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

★★★ You unintentionally could be pushing someone away by not getting his or her message. Perhaps you should slow down and see what is happening here. Your laughter and sense of humor comes out when you realize what is going on. Tonight: It is your call.

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

★★★ Know when to play it low-key. You could find yourself in a difficult situation if you don't tune into what someone is saying. You also might be taken back by how confused plans could become. Stay centered, and know what your expectations are. Tonight: Go with the flow.

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

★★★★ You might be confused by someone's display of anger. Rooting out the cause could be more important than you realize. Listen to others' opinions, but don't let them color your plans. Go join your friends for a game of cards. Tonight: Happiest among an admiring crowd.

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

★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter involving a certain responsibility. This situation could be causing problems with a roommate or family member. Perhaps you have been juggling too many other demands. Reach out to others. Tonight: Be willing to revise plans.

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

★★★★ You could be taken back by news. You might want to detach and take a good look at the possibilities. A foreigner or highly educated person could be involved. To be sure, you will not have to do your research. Tonight: Think carefully. What do you want for yourself?

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

★★★★ You will want to approach a situation involving a close relationship very carefully. You might not be exactly sure what the other party is thinking about or asking for. Stay grounded in reality, and you will be far more content. Tonight: If you feel confused, ask questions.

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

★★★★ You have a habit of confusing others, but more often than not, it is because you are not sure of a situation and the details involved. Communication needs to confirm that everyone is on the same page. Give someone the benefit of the doubt. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

