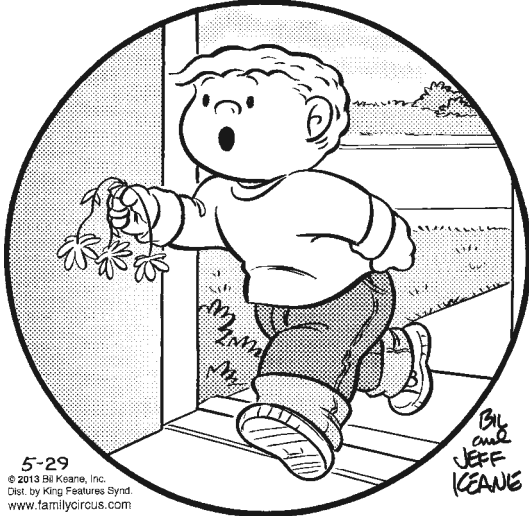


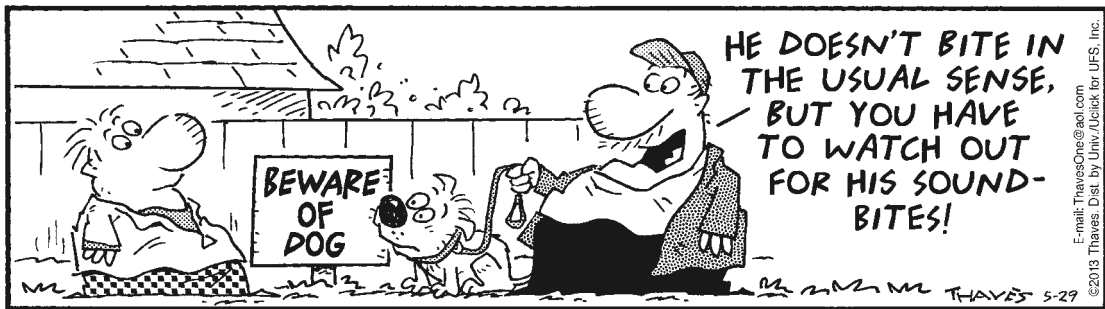
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



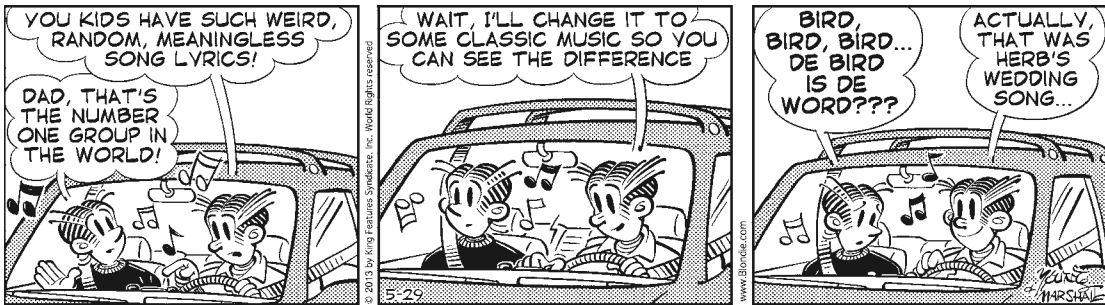
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



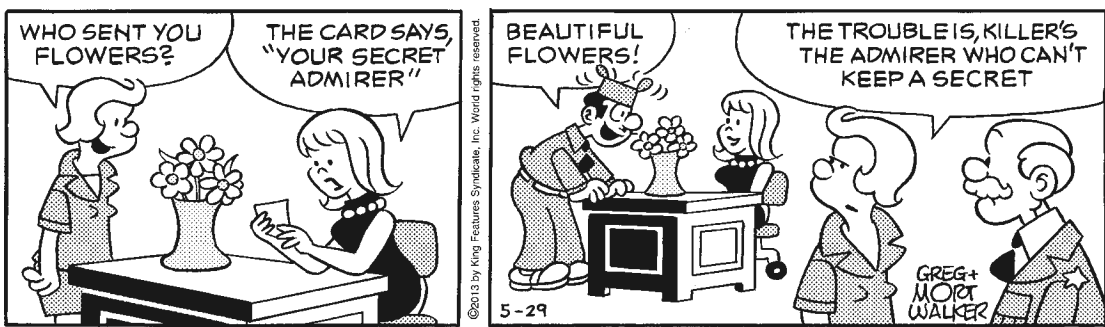
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



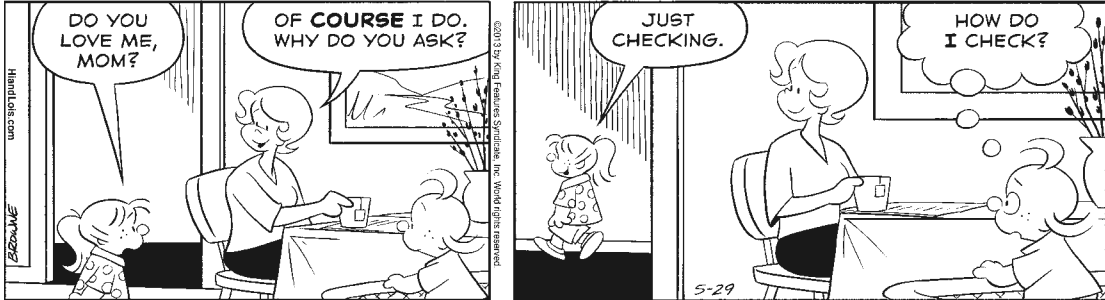
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Confused Teen Who Had Sex Now Regrets That She Did

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 14-year-old girl who recently had sex with my boyfriend. It was the first time for both of us. A week and a half later, we had a big fight.

Another problem is I am having a lot of feelings for his best friend, and he has feelings for me, too. I don't want to tell my boyfriend because I love him and don't want to lose him. I also don't want to ruin his friendship with the other guy.

My boyfriend wants to have sex again, but I don't. I wish I could take it back. What can I do? — LOST AND CONFUSED

DEAR LOST AND CONFUSED: Because you had sex once does not mean you are compelled to do it again. Feeling as you do about the best friend is a strong sign that as much as you care for your boyfriend, you are not in love with him.

If you are being pressured to have sex, it's important for YOUR sake that you tell your boyfriend you feel it happened too soon, you're sorry you did it, and you have decided to wait until you are older to start again. It would be an intelligent move for you because your affections appear to be all over the map right now.

I am also concerned because you didn't mention whether you both used birth control. It's a sign of maturity when couples plan ahead and take precautions to avoid an unwanted pregnancy. (And yes, a girl CAN get pregnant the first time.) In fact, there's a word for teens who have sex on the spur of the moment and don't use birth control: It's PARENTS.

DEAR ABBY: My friend is a compulsive talker. "Chatty Cathy" draws detailed descriptions of people I don't know and don't care about and lingers over past and current tribulations. I tolerate her behavior because she's a kind person, but she is oblivious to how much she dominates a conversa-

tion. It's like something compels her to fill every silence with monologue.

Her personal and work relationships suffer because of it. It's hard for her to hold a job, and she often becomes upset over this co-worker's or that family member's behavior. It is always the other person's failure, yet she is always in the center of the commotion.

She has had a tough life, partly of her own making. If I try to send subtle cues of uninterest, she doesn't pick up on them and keeps talking and talking. I feel sorry for her. Is there anything I can do to help her, without seeming critical? — EXHAUSTED LISTENER IN HAWAII

DEAR EXHAUSTED: Not knowing your friend, I can only guess what drives her to talk compulsively. Some people do it because they feel the need to prove to others how smart they are. Others do it out of nervousness or insecurity because they are uncomfortable with silence — even if it is a momentary pause in conversation.

Because her behavior has had a negative impact on her employability, the next time she mentions problems at work, it would be a kindness to suggest to her that, because it's happening repeatedly, she discuss it with a psychologist. That's not hurtful; it's helpful.

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 in Gemini and a Moon in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2013:

This year you display a very positive attitude in most areas of your life; however, you also become too focused on your work or health, which eliminates some spontaneity. If you are single, your desirability and openness to different lifestyles makes relating easier. Be sure you know what you want before committing. If you are attached, the two of you opt to go on a special trip together. AQUARIUS provokes interesting reactions.

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)

★★★★ Zero in on what you want, and others will pitch in and help. This sense of hospitality and camaraderie makes your day. You might wonder how you could create an atmosphere like this long term. Assume that it will exist as long as you want it to. Tonight: Whatever you want.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Others will wait for your instructions. How often does that happen? Seize the moment and run with it. You could be shocked by everything that comes up. Let your ethics and strong sense of responsibility guide you. Others will like what they see. Tonight: In the limelight.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You may want to step back and be an observer. What you see by not participating on such an active level might surprise you. You will use this knowledge in many ways. A conversation with a person whom you feel is stuck will enlighten you. Tonight: Easy works.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Allow greater give-and-take with a child or loved one. You might need to follow through on what needs to happen. Listen to your inner voice regarding a friend at a distance. It is easy to forget this person, as he or she isn't a part of your daily life. Tonight: Go to a movie or concert.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Someone will jump in and take control before you even can say "yes" or "no." You have two choices; you either can be annoyed, or you can decide just to sit back and relax.

A domestic matter or real-estate issue remains complicated. Tonight: Think through a decision.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ Act as if there were no tomorrow as far as work or a project is concerned, and you could be delighted by the results. You might want to repeat this kind of intensity again. Return calls later in the day when you can chat and catch up on news. Tonight: In the thick of things.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You might want to listen to a loved one carefully, as there could be nuggets of truth to be heard. A serious conversation about your funds needs to happen. Do not hesitate to say "no," especially when it comes to taking risks. Seek feedback from others. Tonight: Fun and games.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ Your seriousness speaks for itself when dealing with a security issue. Others clearly get your message. Still, you might need to resolve a situation that appears to be a stand-off. Try to initiate a conversation using a lighter tone. The response likely will be a good one. Tonight: At home.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You have a unique way of saying things that opens up possibilities in others' minds. You might be surprised at the feedback you get. You could want to take someone's suggestion and work with that person. Do not hesitate to ask for what you need. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★ You might need to push someone whom you admire. Getting your point across could be exhausting, but know that it's important. There always is a solution. Perhaps you need to let go so that the other party can see the outcome of how he or she is proceeding. Tonight: Your treat.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ Enjoy all of the activity that is going on around you. People are taking their cues from you. A boss demands your attention. You won't be able to lighten this person up, so don't even try. Remember that you are a role model in some form. Tonight: Be a star in your own universe.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

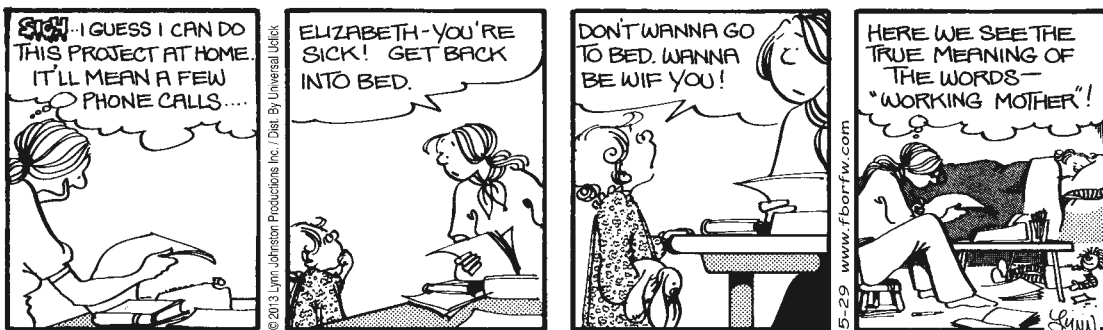
★★★ Be wary of someone who continues to close the door on you instead of opening it. You could be taken aback by this person's actions. Learn to expect this behavior, and you will be much happier as a result. Tonight: Get plenty of R and R -- you are going to need it soon!

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

