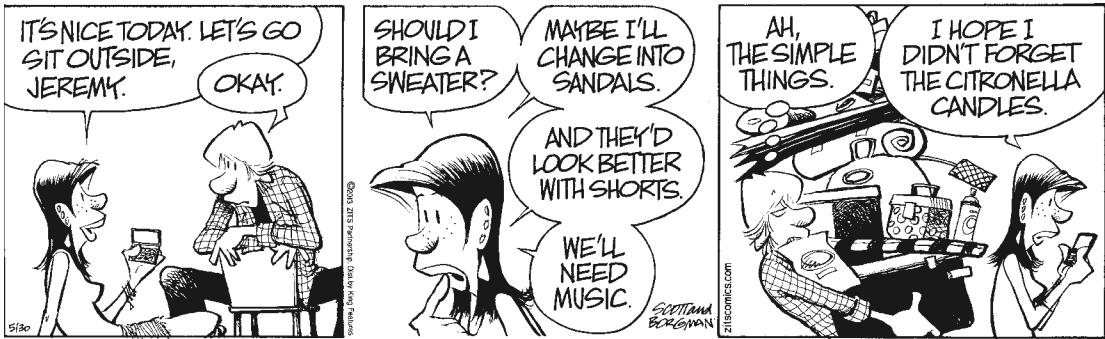


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



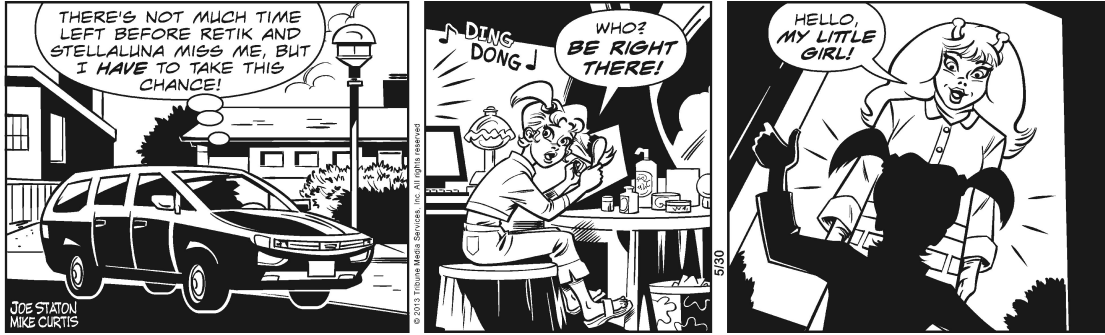
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



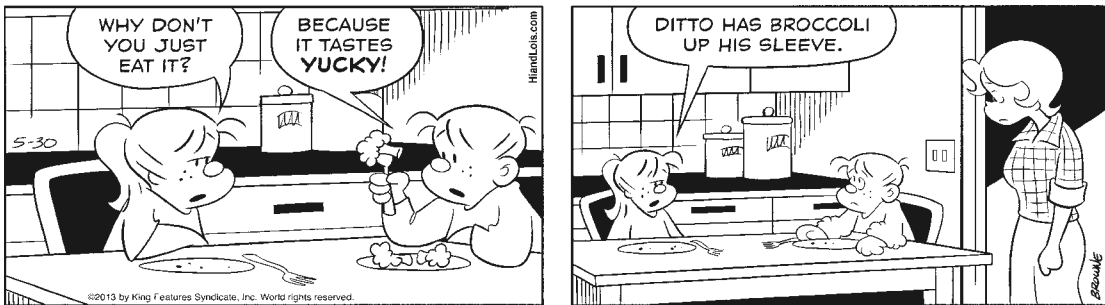
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



Friend Keeping Confidences Feels He's About To Crack

DEAR ABBY: I am friendly with a married couple. The husband, "Grant," is my best friend and we talk about everything. His wife, "Sharon," and I are equally close. Their wedding date was last summer.

I have known for a while that Grant didn't want to get married. He did it to please everyone around him. Sharon, however, was elated. He hoped that after the wedding his feelings would change. Now they have been married for nine months Grant tells me he can't continue on, that he is unhappy and no longer wants to be married.

I have begged and pleaded with him to level with Sharon. He keeps making excuses about why he hasn't told her yet. He says he'll do it — but each day he moves the discussion further and further back. When I talk with her, she tells me she has the feeling he doesn't want to be married anymore.

Please help. This is stressing me out. I want to let Grant tell her, but I feel I should say something because he hasn't. At the same time, I don't want to have anyone mad at me. What should I do? — CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE

DEAR CAUGHT: Step back and keep your mouth shut. You are in a no-win situation.

It is Grant's job to find the courage to tell his wife he made a mistake by marrying her. While it may be painful for her to hear, it probably won't come as a shock, from what she's telling you.

You help neither of them by letting them discuss their marital problems with you instead of with each other. So do them both a favor and remove yourself from the middle.

DEAR ABBY: When I was 15, I was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder, severe anxiety and social phobia. I am now 20 and have been on countless medications and tried different forms of therapy. I wish for nothing more than to be a fully functioning adult, but I am ex-

hausted from trying my hardest to feel better internally only to find myself where I started.

What's your best advice for young adults dealing with crippling mental illness? How can we live our

lives without fear of being rejected or shunned for our illness? — FRUSTRATED IN WASHINGTON

DEAR FRUSTRATED: There is still ignorance, stigma and fear about mental illness mostly because it is misunderstood. However, 50 percent of adults will have a diagnosable mental illness at some time in their lives — including the ones you have.

I discussed your letter with Dr. David Baron, psychiatrist in chief at the University of Southern California hospital. He suggested that I stress to you the importance of finding a mental health professional you can trust and confide in, and have another thorough evaluation done.

In recent years newer drugs and therapies are being used which may help you, so you shouldn't give up. In a case like yours, a combination of medication and talk therapy can be helpful.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 7-year-old boy in the second grade. There is a girl named "Kate" in my class and she wants to marry me. She sits next to me and she is really annoying. What should I do? — NOT READY TO SETTLE DOWN

DEAR NOT READY: Start running. And if she appeals to you when you're about 14, slow down.

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 Aquarius if born before 5:30 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2013:

This year you enter a period where your intensity comes across both positively and negatively. Many people want to be around your highly magnetic energy; however, you will note how people back away from you when you get angry. If you are single, your biggest problem will be trying to stay single, if that is what you want. If you are attached, work on expressing your anger before you lose control. Developing a new pattern initially might feel difficult, but it will be worthwhile. PISCES knows how to impress you.

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)

★★★★ Try to assume a more laid-back attitude. Consolidate recent successes. Your listening skills will emerge while you're in a discussion with a sibling or neighbor. You need to know what you are hearing in order to evaluate what is going on. Tonight: Take some much-needed downtime.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Meetings and networking point to success. You will instill your support systems with new energy and knowledge. You understand your desires, and you know where you are heading. Others can follow you if they want. Tonight: Make weekend plans if you have not already.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone at a distance. You could feel overwhelmed by everything that is happening around you. If you assume responsibility, you will like the outcome. Only you can control certain demons or issues. Tonight: Be available for a late-night discussion.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Your ability to deal with the many people around you will make a substantial difference. Allow greater give-and-take between you and someone else. You laugh, and others relax. You naturally lead with your heightened sense of direction. Tonight: It's a piece of cake.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You'll wonder what might be the best way to pro-

ceed, as a partner seems more open to possibilities. You could be amazed by what occurs. Remain laid-back, and be willing to change direction. Allow this person to be more dominant. Tonight: Enjoy the conversation.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Listen to feedback. How you handle a situation depends on your ability to flex with others. At the moment, you need to incorporate more of what others desire when making plans. You will have your way soon enough -- don't worry. Tonight: Listen to suggestions, then decide.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You could be in a situation where you want to say exactly what you think, and want to be encouraged to do so as well. Know that you might get a very strong -- maybe even negative -- reaction if you reveal your true thoughts. Tonight: Run errands. Free up the weekend.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Your ability to make headway and say what you feel when you want adds tremendous dimension to a relationship. Your imagination flourishes in this situation. Focus on a child or a new love interest. This person needs your time and attention. Tonight: Ever playful.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ You could be out of energy when it comes to dealing with a difficult family member. You understand this person more than you might want to. Maintain your boundaries without causing uproar or a fight. Tonight: Head home. Start thinking about the weekend.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Make calls and seek out different opinions before scheduling a meeting. You'll want to have a sense of direction about where this group is heading. You are a natural leader, and you don't need to press a point. Others tend to defer to you. Tonight: Hang out with a favorite person.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

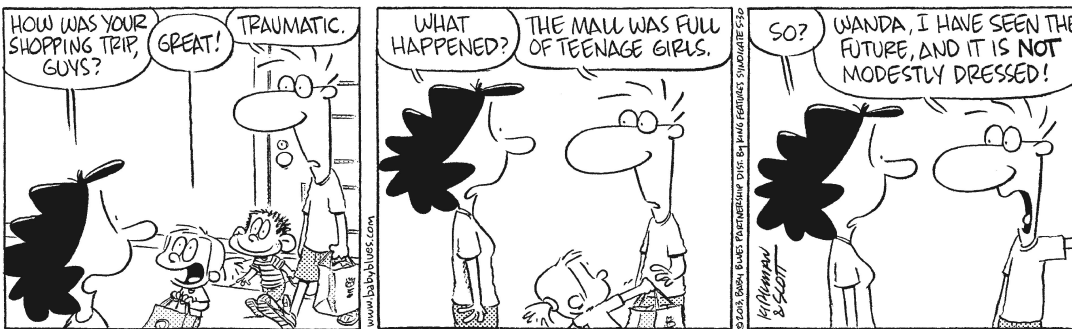
★★★★ You suddenly could be weighing the pros and cons of a particular situation. You might want to say that you have had enough, so be prepared to act on this verbalization. Check out a purchase with care. Don't spend what you don't have. Tonight: Treat a friend to dinner.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ You are very much in the moment. You might not even bother to investigate some important information you heard through the grapevine. Try to be more alert, especially if a boss or some other authority figure heads your way. Tonight: Finally, it's time for your whims!

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

