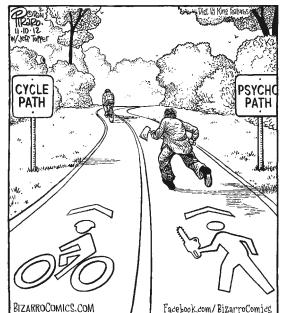


"Mommy, is this shirt in my drawer on purpose or by mistake?"

## **BIZARRO** | DAN PIRARO



**ZITS** | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN







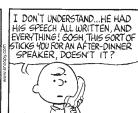
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



## **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 SANSOM







# **Daughter And Boyfriend Are Slow To Embrace Their Future**

Jeanne Phillips

■ Dear Abby is written by

known as Jeanne Phillips,

Abigail Van Buren, also

and was founded by her

mother, Pauline Phillips.

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DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Renee," is 25 and is an intelligent and independent woman with a good job. She has been in a relationship with her boyfriend, "Bryan," for 6 1/2 years. They have been living together for the past two years.

Bryan is nice and has a decent job, and I like him. However, there is virtually no conversation between them about what their future together holds. Renee would like to get engaged, but she refuses to bring anything up to Bryan for fear that he will feel "pushed." She wants it to happen with no prodding. I maintain that it's perfectly acceptable to ask where he sees their relationship going.

At this point, I'd like to take Bryan aside and say that I love my daughter and would like to know what his intentions are. Is that totally inappropriate in this day and age? I worry she may be throwing away her best years on a dead-end relationship.

I know Renee would not be happy if I approached Bryan with this. Should I just keep my mouth shut and let her handle it? — MAMA ON A MISSION

DEAR MAMA: You are well-meaning, but this is one mission your daughter must complete for herself. Please tell her that after a relationship of six years

- and living together for two of them — having a rational discussion with Bryan would not be "pushy." In fact, it's the intelligent thing to do. He may have commitment issues. Or he may need the "nudge." And frankly, if the romance is leading nowhere, Renee needs to know that an engagement to him is not in her future before she invests any more time.

DEAR ABBY: My niece is engaged to a really nice guy who is obviously gay and in denial because of his religion. My brother and his wife ignore it because, according to them, being gay is a "sin." This couple has been out of high school for two years.

They are also both virgins, which is unusual.

I had a gathering at my home, and some gay friends attended. They noticed that he was gay and mentioned it to me. Should I just stand by and keep

my mouth shut? — UNSURĚ IN NEW

DEAR UNSURE: Yes, you should. Unless you are 100 percent sure the man is, in fact, gay, you should keep your feelings to yourself. Your niece's fiance may be an effeminate straight man. And your gay friends' "gaydar" may have given them a false reading at your gath-

DEAR ABBY: I have developed a horrible crush on my kids' tennis instructor. I am very happily married and would never, ever cheat on my husband, but this man makes my heart race. My kids and I spend a fair amount of time with him, and I'm afraid it's starting to show.

By the way, I'm pretty sure my feelings are reciprocated. What to do? — CRUSHING MOM IN THE SOUTH

DEAR CRUSHING MOM: It's not a question of what you should do, but rather what you should NOT do. Do not act on your feelings, do not spend time alone with him and do not tell anyone

about it. Enjoy feeling like you are 16, and take your kids home after their lesson. In time, the feeling will fade - particularly if they develop an interest in an-

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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## ACQUELINE 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 Scorpio and a Moon in Libra if born after 1:35 a.m. (PDT). Before that time, the

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 10, 2012:

This year you have a tendency to keep a lot to yourself. Others find it difficult to get you to open up. You are like a clam, unless you choose to share what's on your mind. If you are single, you might have difficulty meeting Mr. or Ms. Right. In fact, you could meet someone who is emotionally unavailable. Use care when deciding whom to date. If you are attached, try to share more with your sweetie, or else you could create considerable distance

between you. LIBRA makes a great healer for you. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dy-

#### namic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult **ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)**

★★★★ Dive into a few social days and make plans with others. You might become a background player, but only for a short period of time. That role is not for you, and you'll break out of it with only a little agitation. Resist getting involved in a heavy situátion. Tonight: Say "yes.'

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

★★ Remain sensitive to your responsibilities. You have certain details and projects to complete before you can relax. The sooner you accomplish them, the happier you will be. Your insights and feelings merge, which exposes you to new revelations. Tonight: Put your feet up.

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

★★★★ You know when you no longer can work in the same way. Let go and enjoy yourself. A loved one absolutely would adore spending some more time with you. Be present in the moment, and release what has been an issue for you in the past. Tonight: In the whirlwind of living.

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

★★★ Catch up on a family member's news. A loved one might be exhibiting distress through his or her unusually sour mood. Know your limits and realize what is possible. You cannot open someone up who has decided to be a clam, no matter what. An older friend surprises you. Tonight: Choose a favorite pastime.

# LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

\* ★ \* \* ★ Make spontaneous plans. You will enjoy hearing someone else's good news. A surprise visit or an

impromptu phone call heads in your direction. An invitation also could appear out of the blue. You will try to squeeze everything in. Tonight: Invite others to join you for dinner.

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

★★★★ It seems as though you have the upcoming holiday season in mind, as you toy with your budget and consider different options for holiday gifts. You could be taken aback by an unexpected development, but know that you can handle it. Tonight: Join a loved one for dinner.

## LIBRA (SEPT. 23-0CT. 22)

 $\star\star\star\star\star$  You are on top of your game. How you see a situation and your ability to move in a new direction are marked by someone's unpredictability. Sometimes you enjoy this person's erratic behavior, but right now you might not. Tonight: Walk away from a cold shoulder.

#### SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21) $\star\star\star$ Much is happening around you, but others think

you are not picking up on it. Truth be told, you are, and you know exactly what is going on. Until you are sure about how you want to handle this issue, do nothing. Indulge in a leisurely walk for now. Tonight: Observe and SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

## \*\*\*\* Make a point of doing something you really

want to do. Your upbeat attitude goes far when dealing with a child or loved one who usually can be quite touchy. A disagreement about a money matter is OK; everyone can do what he or she wants. Tonight: Happy wherever

# CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Consider doing something different, but know that others might invite you to join them in what has become a ritual among you. The unexpected plays into your plans, no matter which way you turn. Avoid being controlling or difficult. Tonight: A must appearance.

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

★★★ Make an important call to someone at a distance. Unexpected developments could interfere with your plans as you head in a new direction. Go with the flow rather than try to control someone else. Unexpected developments point to a new idea. Tonight: Where there is

# PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★ Relate to a friend or loved one directly. You might want to rethink plans, especially if they involve one key person. Know which side your bread is buttered on. You pull the wild card financially. Be careful when taking any risks. Tonight: Visit with a loved one.

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# **BABY BLUES** | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON









**MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM** | MIKE PETERS

