

FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



11-30

"Whenever you're ready to wake up, I'm ready to be read to."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

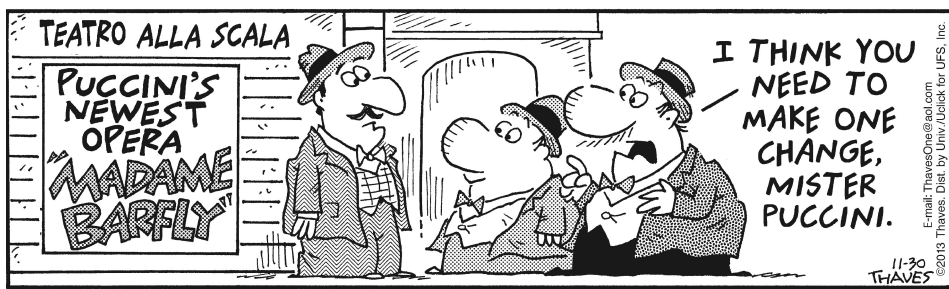


JANE RUSSELL TERRIER

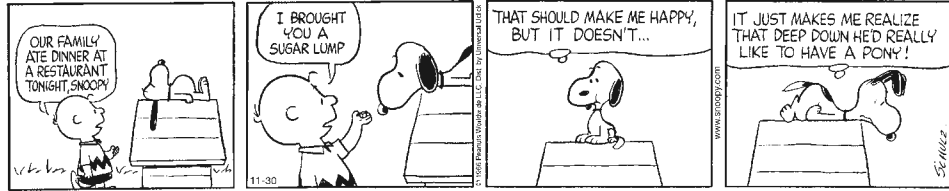
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



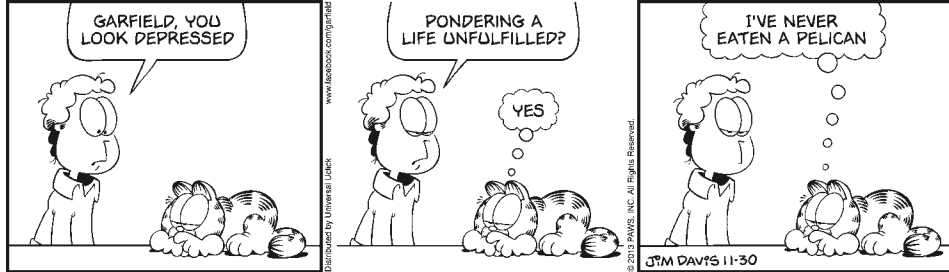
DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



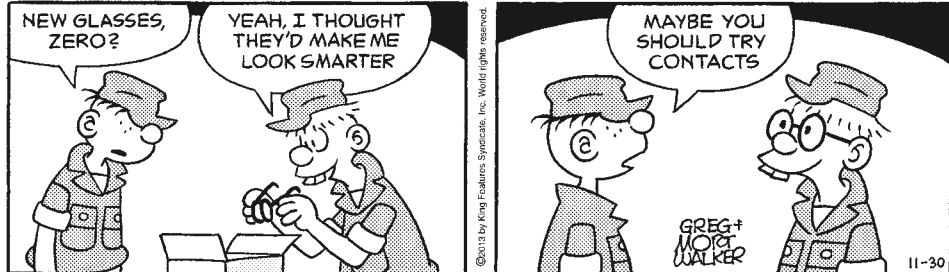
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



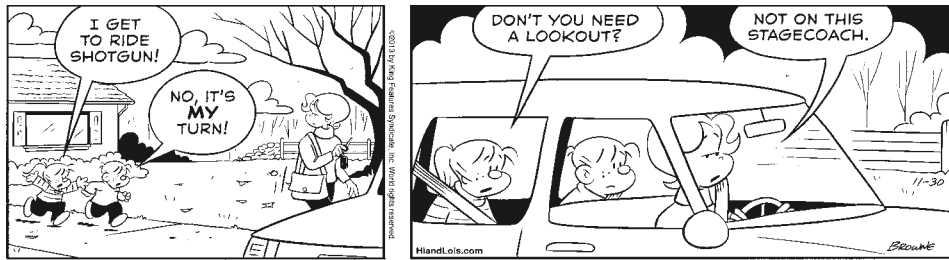
GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



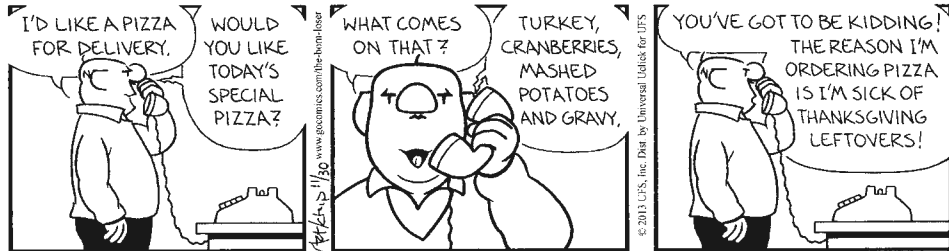
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



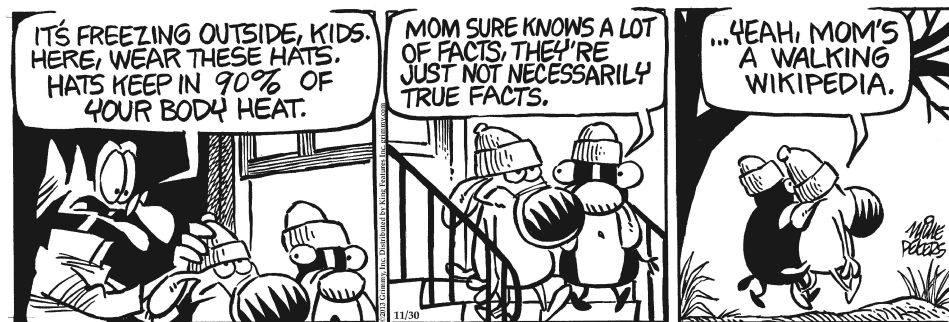
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Four-Hour Commute Is Iffy Investment In Relationship

DEAR ABBY: I have been seeing my boyfriend, "Casey," for a year. He has said throughout our courtship that we could get married in four to five years.

Over the past couple of months, he has become distant and less romantic. I drive four hours to see him almost every week, and he seems fine then, but when we're apart, he rarely texts me and seems disinterested.

On one of my recent visits, Casey said he NEVER wants to get married! When I asked what had changed his mind, his response was that he has decided that marriage is a trap. When I asked if he still wanted to be with me, he said yes.

I know I don't want to be Casey's girlfriend forever. I don't want to waste my time if he's not going to marry me, but I really want to be with him. Do you think he'll change his mind again, or is it time for me to end things? — WAITING AND HOPING IN MARYLAND

DEAR WAITING AND HOPING: If you're doing all of the four-hour commuting, you're not only waiting and hoping, you're also doing most of the work in your relationship with Casey. From your description of his attention span, when you're out of sight, you are not on his mind.

You didn't mention how old you both are, but it appears Casey has some growing up to do. Marriage isn't a trap; it's a partnership. And like any strong partnership there is commitment involved. If Casey isn't up to making a commitment and marriage is what you're after, you should save the wear and tear on your car and the expense of the gas and find a man who is less gun-shy.

DEAR ABBY: We live near my wife's sister "Bree" and her husband, "Joe." We socialize often at one of our homes or at a restaurant. They have recently become good friends with another couple, the "Russells," who are delightful.

Bree and Joe sometimes invite us over when the Russells are there. The problem is, when I try to carry on a conversation with Mr. Russell,

Joe gets bent out of shape. He interrupts and changes the subject or says something to make me look bad. If that doesn't stop the discussion, Joe walks off in a huff. I think he's acting like an immature middle-schooler. (It also triggers memories I have of being bullied and excluded as a child.)

I'd like to avoid these three-couple get-togethers, but I don't know how many times I can do it without raising questions. An alternative would be to avoid the Russells and converse only with other guests who may be present. Either option, or mentioning it, risks making me look like the jealous 12-year-old instead of Joe. Any ideas? — ODD MAN OUT IN KANSAS

DEAR ODD MAN OUT: It appears that your brother-in-law is insecure, or he wouldn't behave the way he is. How sad — for him.

Start limiting the time you spend as a threesome. Ask your wife to find out in advance if the Russells will be visiting when you are. If Bree asks her why, your wife should tell her that Joe seems upset when you try to carry on a conversation with the husband and you don't want to make him uncomfortable. Perhaps if she tells her husband to knock it off and grow up, he will. However, if the

problem continues, explain to the Russells that as much as you enjoy their company, you'll be seeing them less often, and why.

It isn't necessary to mention to any of them the grief you experienced in middle school because, frankly, it is none of their business. If it's any comfort to you, it appears Joe had insecurities back then, too, but he never outgrew them.

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.)



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 or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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 Sagittarius and a Moon in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 30, 2013:

This year you open up to many new opportunities, though some of them come with quite a few hassles and difficult people. Go for what you want, but be aware that there could be some unwanted trappings. If you are single, you could meet someone who is emotionally unavailable. Unless you desire a situation like this, walk away fast. If you are attached, the two of you often sit down to have a conversation. Look for the best ways to support each other in your life goals. SCORPIO is wilful; avoid arguing with him or her.

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)

Your intuition helps you land on your feet and deal with an unexpected. This situation could involve some travel or encourage a meeting with a very offbeat person. Know that you will have the control you need if you decide to head down that path. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Others come to you before you even pick up the phone to call them. Try not to get uptight about all the invitations you receive. Something you have wished for could become a reality. Refuse to get caught in a war of wills. Tonight: Talk about your path and get feedback.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

You might be back to the humdrum of your daily life, as you have so much on your plate that you need to complete. Work with a partner directly, but understand that this person could change direction at the drop of hat. You can't control this person. Tonight: Watch a movie.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Your naughtiness seems to be contagious. News from a distance might persuade you to hop the next plane. You could find it difficult to change gears as quickly as you might want. A partner or dear friend might not see the situation as you do. Tonight: Let your hair down.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

Realize that you might need a day off from the intense holiday pace that is starting to build. Lounging at home seems like a good day.

You might need to handle a personal issue. Some of you might decide to take a stab at the holiday frivolity. Tonight: Order in.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Take news with a grain of salt, especially if it comes to you from a child or loved one. This person might have heard only what he or she wanted to. You could be surprised by the whole story, once it become readily available to you. Tonight: Partake in some eggnog with friends.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

No one would say anything if you took off and indulged yourself instead of everyone else. Lose any feeling of guilt, and enjoy yourself. Meet a family member or friend for a late lunch. Do not orchestrate the whole day, just go with the flow. Tonight: Swap news with a friend.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

Wherever you are, you shine. It is obvious that you are filled with confidence and are making excellent choices. Call home or check in with an older relative or parent. You might opt to adjust plans after having this conversation. Tonight: Do what pleases you.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

Be discreet, especially if something bothers you. Choose to be an observer and gather more information. You might not be prepared to make a change or walk in a new direction just yet. Use caution with your spending. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

Zero in on what you want. You might not feel as if your desires can be realized. Think positively so that you don't jinx yourself. You might not realize just how many friends you have supporting you. Tonight: Where the gang is.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

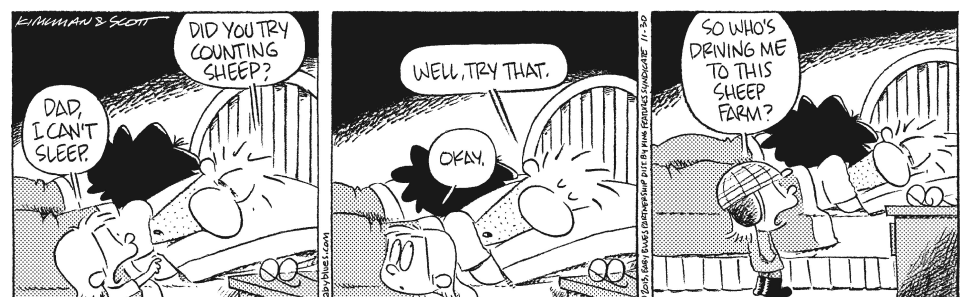
Listen and be more direct when dealing with an older friend who always wants to have it his or her way. When you are too busy to hang out, this person tends to throw tantrums. The time has come to clear the air. Remember to honor your needs first. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

You still might be trying to detach and understand a recent development in a relationship. Try imagining that you are the other party, and let go of your own inner chatter. You might need to set a stronger boundary between you and this person. Tonight: Try a new music spot.

© 2013, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

