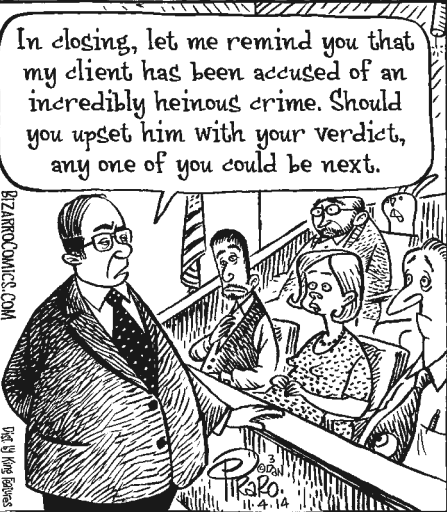


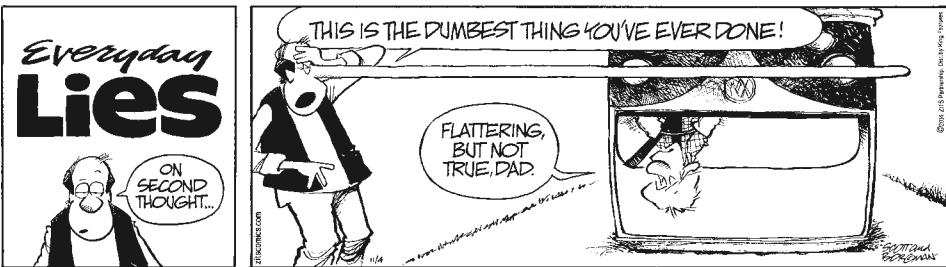
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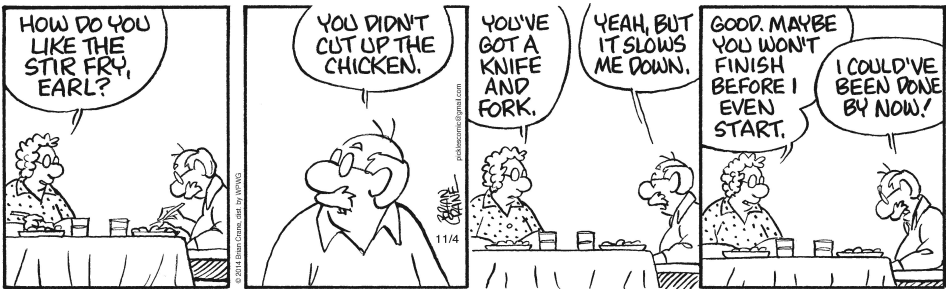
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ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



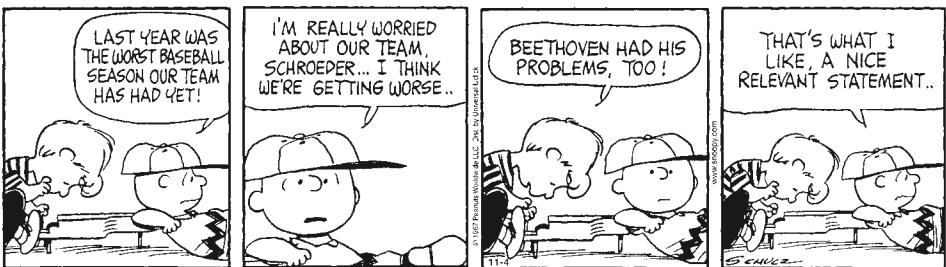
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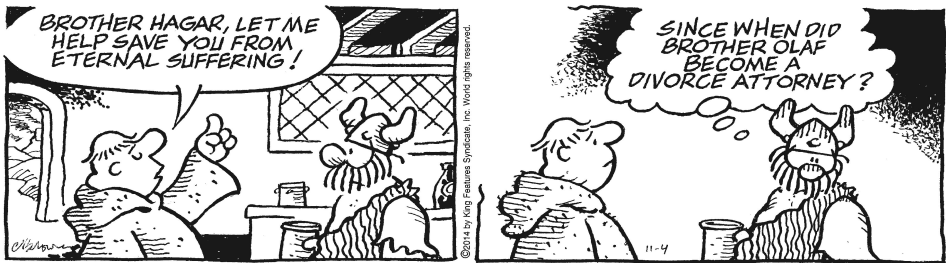
THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



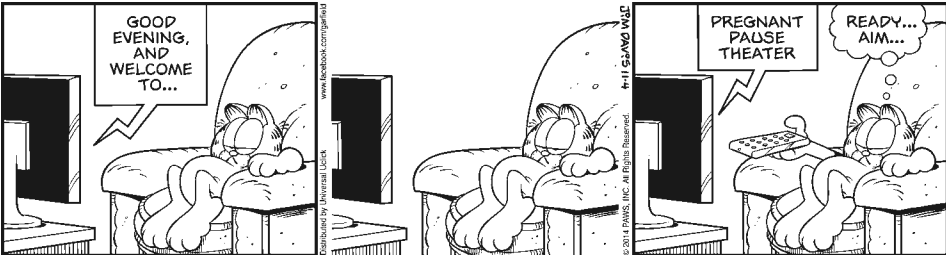
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



# Woman's Childhood Boyfriend Is Plagued By Checkered Past

DEAR ABBY: I'm in love with a man with a big heart. He was my boyfriend when we were both 6 years old. We lost touch for many years, but when I ran into him again we reconnected with a vengeance. We are great together, and I can't imagine spending my life with anyone else.

We come from a small town, and he remained there until a year ago when he moved in with me. We now live in a major city and things are very different here. Applying for jobs requires a background check. In the small town we are from, it wasn't a common practice. He was, to put it gently, quite "mischievous" when he was younger. He has a couple of DUIs, plus a few other things.

During the past year he has turned things around, but despite his efforts he has been unable to find work. (He has no felonies.) There are websites to assist felons, but none to assist people like him. He has been to unemployment and temp agencies — nothing. I'm getting desperate. How does someone with a criminal history find employment? — FEELING HELPLESS IN VIRGINIA

DEAR FEELING HELPLESS: That's a good question, and it's one that legislators have been looking into. Some laws in certain jurisdictions limit an employer's ability to look at criminal records. It might be worth your while to discuss this with a labor lawyer in your state to find out what the statutes are, because it is not the same in all states. While it might not solve your problem, it will give you a realistic idea of what the two of you are facing in the future.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my dear husband for 20 years. Several years after our wedding, I found out he was dipping chewing tobacco. I was very upset because I realized he had been keeping a major secret

from me. He has tried to quit several times, but starts up again.

It makes me furious every time I see proof of this disgusting habit. I have had to lie to my kids when evidence was left in his truck. I'm at my wits' end. I know he will quit only when he is ready, but how do I live with it? — UNHAPPY ABOUT IT IN TEXAS

DEAR UNHAPPY: People who are addicted to chewing tobacco are at risk for cancers of the mouth, tongue and throat. I would be shocked if your husband's dentist hasn't discussed this with him more than once, because these cancers can be not only disfiguring but also life-threatening, IF the patient can be saved.

There are medical interventions to help people who are hooked on tobacco — but only if they WANT to be tobacco-free. An online community, TheQuit.org, offers information on helping someone stop chewing tobacco. Check it out.

My advice for living with an addict is to join a support group. It will help you recognize that you can't "fix" your husband. He and he alone is responsible for his own fate.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen 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.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, NOV. 4, 2014:

This year you blaze a new path, and you feel much better as the months go by. You often worry or try to second-guess situations. Work on ending that pattern. Try some meditation in order to calm your overactive mind. If you are single, meeting a potential sweetie could occur at any point in your day-to-day life; just be yourself. Toward your next birthday, a friendship might become more. If you are attached, the two of you will become involved in a community project or a new hobby. Return to the days of having more fun as a couple. ARIES can annoy you more than most signs!

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 fiery side tends to conflict with what you want to achieve. You will have to either throw water on your volatile energy or use a lot of self-discipline. Touch base with a dear friend or a trusted loved one who can give you some much-needed insight. Tonight: In the moment.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Know that something is going on behind the scenes that you might not have control over. You could be overwhelmed as a result. Reach out to someone who probably can make better sense of what is going on. Tonight: Get some much-needed R and R.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You might want to see a situation differently. How you deal with someone could determine the outcome. You'll know when you have done enough, but make sure you let others know, too. Tonight: All smiles around a friend.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ You'll see the light at the end of the tunnel and know full well what is possible here. You might want to try a different approach or find another way of initiating an important conversation. Perhaps this situation needs to be left alone for now. Tonight: A must appearance.

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

★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone at a distance. You'll sense that this conversation will be unusually interesting and will have positive results. You know what has to happen, so do it. You might

consider taking a different approach. Tonight: Relax with a good movie.

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

★★★★ You might trigger someone else, and vice versa. Fortunately, this situation is temporary, but it still will affect you. Think in terms of gains and a change of pace. Allow your creativity to emerge. Say "yes" to trying something new. Tonight: Go with the moment.

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

★★★★ You might decide to let someone else run with the ball. You'll see that this person wants to demonstrate his or her ability and willingness to lead. You could be delighted by the results, and by how this frees you up. Tonight: Do exactly what you want.

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

★★★★ You could be in a predicament that forces you to rethink your decisions. You might be overwhelmed by everything you need to do in order to get a personal matter under control. Stay on top of communication, but know when to pull back. Tonight: Keep smiling.

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

★★★★ Your suggestions seem endless, and you're more willing to take risks. Make sure that your impulsiveness doesn't take you down a road you might regret later. You'll have the energy needed to change direction, if need be. Tonight: Tap into a resourceful friend's mind.

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

★★★★ Recognize what is happening within your immediate circle. You might want to cocoon or say little until someone one has made up his or her mind. You won't want to be responsible for influencing this person's decision. Touch base with a loved one. Tonight: Stay close to home.

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

★★★★ You might wonder about a choice that seems uncertain yet doable. Keep asking questions, especially if you feel hesitant about taking action. An undiscovered alternative could be waiting just around the corner. Tonight: Catch up on calls, and answer emails.

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

★★★ Remain as direct as possible when dealing with a friend. A money issue could be the source of the problem. Be aware of your spending and how you are allocating your funds. A more upbeat attitude might help you get past a hassle. Tonight: Run some errands.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

