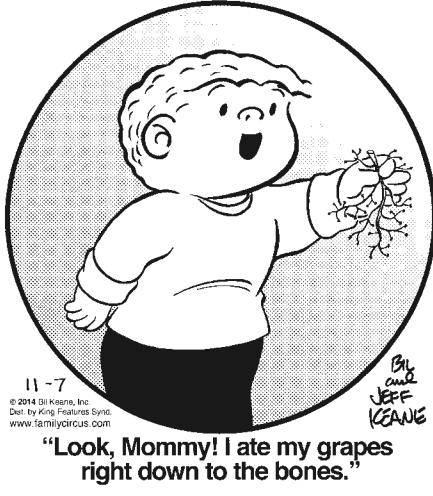


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



11-7 © 2014 by Keane, Inc. All rights reserved. www.familycircus.com "Look, Mommy! I ate my grapes right down to the bones."

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



11-7-14 BIZARROCOMICS.COM Facebook.com/BizarroComics

Territorial Dispute Develops After Daughter Goes To College

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for eight years. We have no children of our own, but he has an 18-year-old daughter from a previous relationship who has been coming over every other weekend and holidays since she was 10. Even though she lives with her mother, she has a dedicated room that's packed to the gills with her clothes, games, toys, etc.



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

It seems like they have decided that coming to our house EVERY DAY to hang out is acceptable, which normally wouldn't be a problem. But they come in, sit on our couch and don't say a word to us. Their eyes are glued to their tablets or cellphones instead. They respond to our attempts at conversation with grunts, never looking up from their entertainment. They'll stay for an hour or so, then leave.

I have the feeling they're using our house as a "smoking room" so they won't have to stand in the cold or be away from their entertainment. My husband is going to say something soon because he's not happy and our "hints" haven't been acknowledged. Is this as rude as I think it is? — PUFFING MAD IN

MAINE

DEAR PUFFING MAD: Yes, it is. Although you and your neighbors are all smokers, it appears you have little else in common. You say your husband is going to say something "soon." I recommend he speak up the next time these people show up and "suggest" that they leave their electronic devices at home. What boors!

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

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

I would like to repurpose her room now that she is off to college. My husband says no. We don't have a guest bedroom, so I feel strongly that it makes no sense to keep her room intact when we could use the extra space. I have made many sacrifices as a stepmother over the years, and feel I deserve to finally stretch out a bit and enjoy the extra space. By the way, all the furniture in her room happens to be mine, and her room used to be my guest room before we got married.

My friends agree with me, but my husband says he needs "time to adjust." I'm really upset and would like an objective opinion. Am I being unreasonable or asking too much too soon? — FRUSTRATED IN FLORIDA

DEAR FRUSTRATED: If you want peace and tranquility under your roof, my advice is to slow down and don't jump the gun. Your husband appears to be suffering from a form of empty nest anxiety right now. Let this play out for another year or two, so he can see how little his daughter will be using that room. It would also be better for her not to feel that the minute she left town you dismantled "her" room. If you'll be patient, and trust me on this, you'll look like a saint. If you don't, you may come across as heavy-handed and be labeled a wicked stepmother.

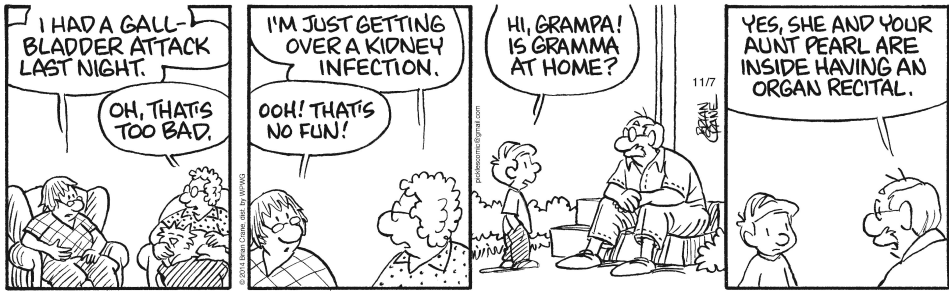
DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are friendly with our neighbors. We're all smokers, but they don't smoke inside and we do.

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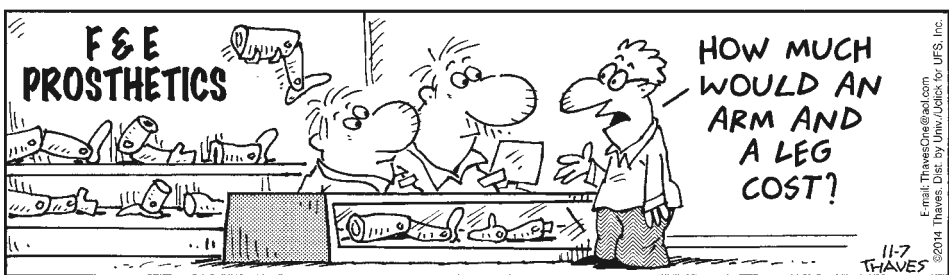
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



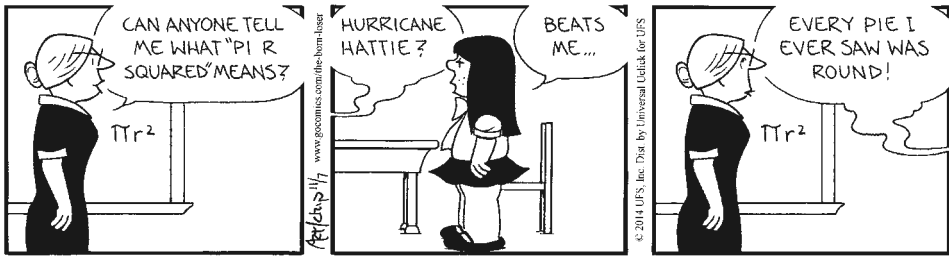
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



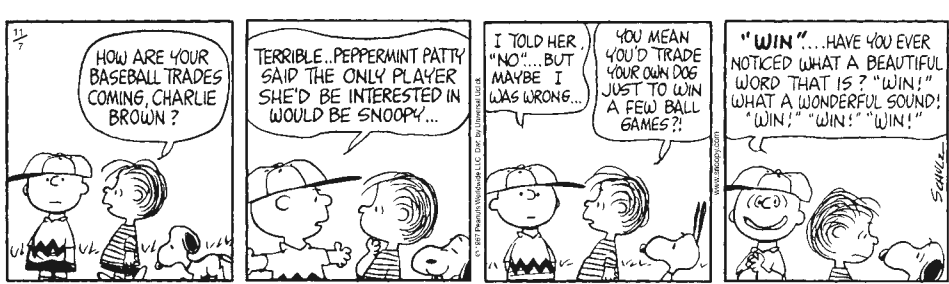
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



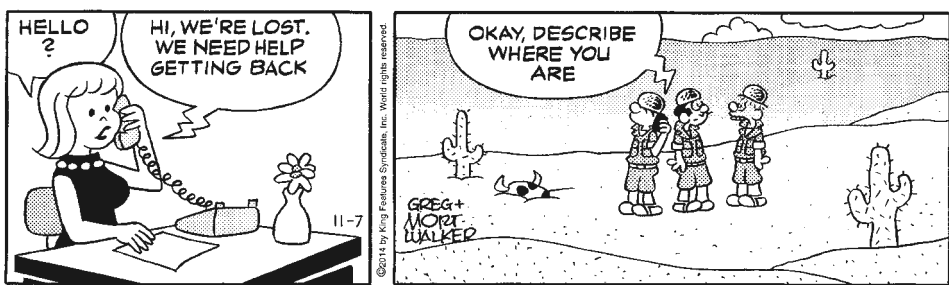
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



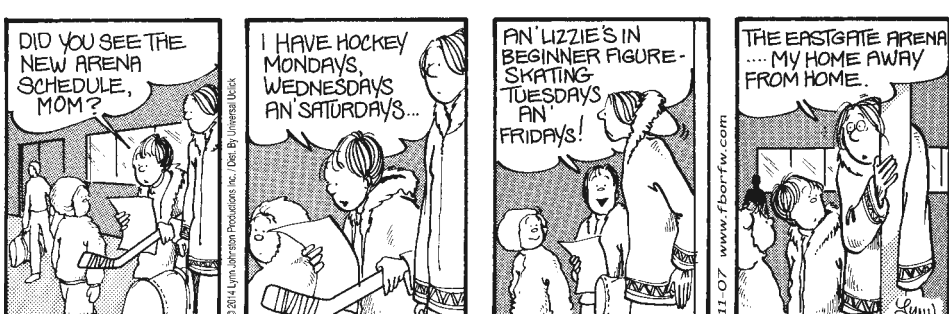
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



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 Scorpio and a Moon in Taurus if born before 8:45 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, NOV. 7, 2014:

This year you have the opportunity to grow and evolve in a new way. Your public image becomes more important because of a community commitment or your profession. You could be pressured by a need to present a stronger image, and as a result, you will do well in social situations. If you are single, you will meet someone quite dynamic outside of your immediate circle. By summer, you might witness a more serious involvement. If you are attached, you often restrain yourself around your partner. Try to be more present. GEMINI often annoys 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)

★★★★ Your creativity will soar, perhaps because the weekend lies ahead or because you are more willing to share your thoughts. You could be tired of having the same old conversation with a partner. Know that this, too, will pass. Tonight: Treat a loved one to munchies.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★★ You seem to glow with enthusiasm and energy. You could feel intimidated by a very serious person in your life, but try not to let him or her get to you. Curb a tendency to use sarcasm as a defense mechanism. Be more open. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You could be dragging during the day, but by the time evening rolls in, you'll feel energized. You even might be able to let go of a hassle by then. You won't be able to resist having a good time with others. An invitation will help you perk up. Tonight: Nap first, then head out.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ You'll want to get past someone's resistance, but despite all your efforts, you might not be able to. You could be more worried about this person than you realize. Continue to put your best foot forward. Tonight: Out until you are too tired to go on.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Take charge of a situation that could affect your public image. Remain serious, and focus on your intentions. Confusion seems to surround you in nearly every way, so be sure to confirm that you understand someone's message. Tonight: Expect to be out and about.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ A trip might tempt you to try a different approach. The risk you'll have to take could be worth it. Tap into your creativity, and you will know what to do. Follow your heart. You are likely to gain through some personal, private time. Tonight: Detach from the here and now.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ You could be taken back by a partner or dear loved one. This person will be more than ready to handle a problem that you might have thought was yours. Let go of a tendency to worry too much. Tonight: Go along with someone else's suggestion.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You'll have reason to want to go along with someone's plan. You might have a lot to share, but it could take more time than you have. Postpone this meeting until later in the afternoon, when you have no time restraints. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Pace yourself, and you will get a lot more done. You might be in a position where you are overemphasizing one characteristic of a situation and not considering the others. Listen to feedback from those involved. Tonight: Be available.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ You will be amazed by how you'll have to back off a bit in order to get the positive reaction you desire. You could be confused as to why you will need to be more passive. Honor a change, but only if it is for the better. Tonight: Go for the moment.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

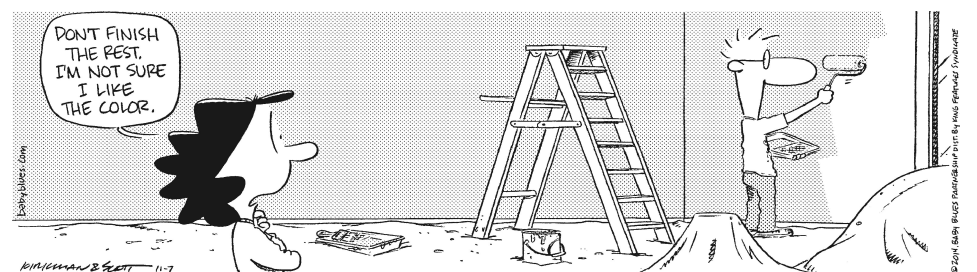
★★★★★ Others will push hard for what they want, especially those involved in your personal life. You might want to walk away and get involved with a different project. Allow your mood to change among friends. A misunderstanding might be only temporary. Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ You could be reaching out to someone at a distance who seems to be extremely touchy. Be aware that a partner might be extremely jealous or irritated. Proceed with care, as you won't want to deal with the fallout. Tonight: Head home early.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

