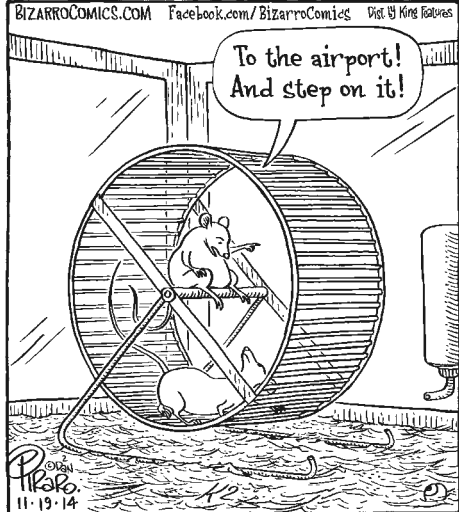


FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



## Mom Wonders How To Deal With Children's Sexual Play

DEAR ABBY: Last weekend some family members were at my mom's house for a meal. My 6-year-old son and my cousin's 4-year-old daughter were playing in the room my mom had set up for the grandkids.

When I went to check on them, I noticed the bathroom door was closed, so I knocked. My son answered, sounding rather panicked. I asked if "Jenny" was in there with him. He said no, then opened the door, but he looked scared, as if he knew he had done something wrong, and glanced nervously at the closed shower curtain.

Sure enough, there was Jenny, standing in the tub with her bathing suit around her ankles trying to get it back on. I told her to put her clothes on and took my son outside to speak with him. "Rory" admitted they were showing each other their private parts and had touched and rubbed them. I asked him why and where he learned how to do that, and he implied it was his idea!

Abby, he has never seen any adult movies, magazines, love scenes, or caught me or anyone else in the act. Why on earth would this be on his mind at such a young age? Do you think he needs counseling? — WORRIED MOM IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WORRIED MOM: No. Playing doctor is a game children have played ever since curiosity was born. I think you need to talk to your child's pediatrician and ask if this behavior is normal at this age.

DEAR ABBY: I have had very few female friends in my life. I have a hard time relating to other women. My fiancé doesn't approve of me having close friendships with other men.

I recently met a lesbian couple whose company I enjoy. My fiancé doesn't like us being friends because "they are trying to turn me gay." Abby, this is ridiculous. I have never been attracted to women, and these ladies have never brought up the possibility that I may be lesbian, as they know I am straight.

How can I make my fiancé come to terms with our friendship? I'm thinking of calling off

the engagement. — STRAIGHT GIRL IN THE SOUTH

DEAR STRAIGHT GIRL: Has it become clear to you yet how insecure and controlling your fiancé appears to be? Straight people are not "turned gay" because they have lesbian or gay friends. You can talk at him until the cows come home, but unless he is willing/able to overcome his bias, he won't believe you.

This is my long-winded way of advising you to find a more open-minded, secure man to marry because it doesn't take a crystal ball to predict that the one you're engaged to will eventually make you feel isolated, trapped and unhappy.



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Regarding the gent from Texas who likes to wear blue nail polish, there exists a famous fresco dating from 1500 B.C. or earlier from the palace of Knossos. The fresco was dubbed "The Prince" by British archaeologists and depicts a long-haired male stripped to the waist wearing blue fingernail polish and blue toenail polish. The original now resides in the Heraklion Archeological Museum in Knossos on the island of Crete. Any good art history book will have a reproduction of this well-known work of art. — RON F. IN RICHMOND, VA.

DEAR RON: Thanks for the heads up, and for confirming that fashion trends are cyclical. Sooner or later, what seems passe today is certain to come around again.

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.

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.

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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 Scorpio and a Moon in Libra if born before 9:31 p.m. (PST). Afterward, the Moon will be in Scorpio.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19, 2014:

This year you will need to confirm agreements — not once, but several times. If you have an important conversation with someone, don't be surprised if you have to repeat it all over again. Your patience will be an important factor in making this year work for you. If you are single, you meet people with ease. Someone you meet while out and about could be important to your life's history. If you are attached, the two of you will need to work on your communication. Once you do, a vast array of feelings are likely to be exposed, which will result in greater closeness and more understanding between you. A fellow SCORPIO might not have the same vision as 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 initial reaction to a situation could be anger or frustration. Reach out to a creative person who loves swapping ideas with you. You might discover that the two of you are capable of solving the world's problems! Tonight: Favorite person, favorite place.

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

★★★★ You might have to justify your reaction to an emotional inquiry. Remain centered in a discussion involving a matter in your daily life. Please note what makes you happy, and base more of what you do on creating greater contentment. Tonight: Have a long-overdue chat.

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

★★★★ You could be trying to avoid a conflict with a loved one; however, this might be impossible, as this person seems to be on the warpath. Once the air is cleared, you will feel much better. Be careful about accepting any more responsibilities. Tonight: Kick back and relax.

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

★★★ You could be more irritated about a personal matter than you realize. In fact, you might have a very strong reaction to a call from someone involved. Choose your words with care, or wait until you feel you can have a reasonable conversation. Tonight: Be a flirt.

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

★★★★ Someone will take you at your word,

and might not realize how upset you are about a situation. Try to root out the cause of this frustration. The good news is that you are likely to get the issue straightened out sooner rather than later. Tonight: Meet friends for some drinks.

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

★★★★ A risk could have greater ramifications than what you'll want to deal with. Understand what is happening with a loved one, as he or she might need more of your attention or caring. Make time for this person. Tonight: Reach out to a friend you rarely have time to chat with.

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

★★★★ You inadvertently could irritate a family member, especially if you are in the process of negotiating a matter related to property. Your determination likely will work in your favor, but you can still expect to hit a snafu. Try not to be so tough on this person. Tonight: Indulge a little.

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

★★★ You could be out of sorts yet determined to have your way. As a result, you could isolate yourself for a good part of the day. It is unclear whether you will gain any ground right now. Schedule a massage instead. Tonight: Nap, and you'll wake up with a smile.

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

★★★★ A long-term goal could cost you more than you might expect. You are unlikely to say anything right away, as you'll detach to see the problem in a different light. You could be drawn in to a highly volatile discussion; choose your words with care. Tonight: Stay close to home.

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

★★★ Lately it seems as if you have been unusually volatile and touchy. A boss could trigger a new level of frustration. Deal with this person on a one-on-one level with the understanding that he or she might have little to do with the matter at hand. Tonight: Join friends!

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

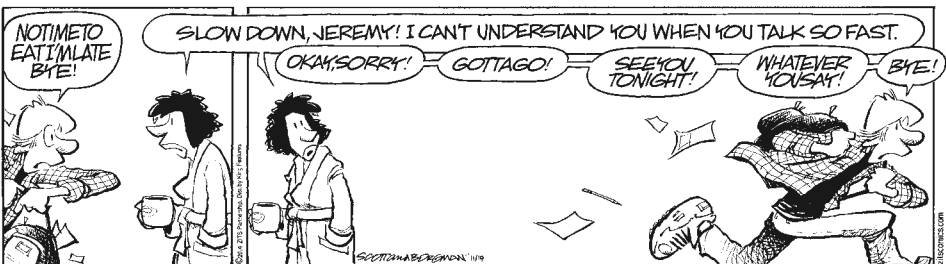
★★★★ You suddenly might decide to cancel a trip. You could be sitting on a lot of unexpressed anger and not be aware of it. You will soon, though. If you can get to the root of the problem, you will facilitate your life and others' lives too. Tonight: Only where there is music.

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

★★★★ You might want to keep a conversation you have had with a loved one to yourself for now and not share it with someone else it involves. In this situation, it is important to realize that some things are better left unsaid. Sympathize, but don't take sides! Tonight: Try a new pastime.

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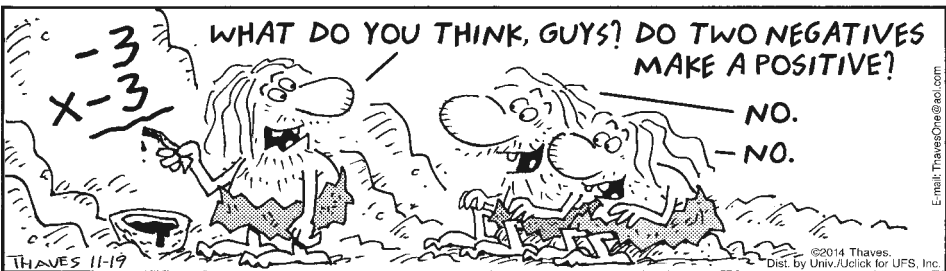
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



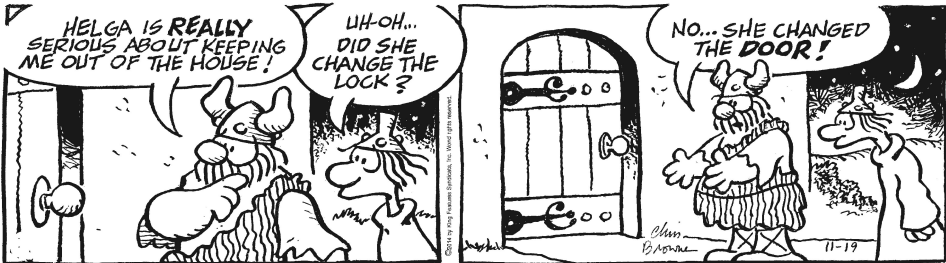
THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSON



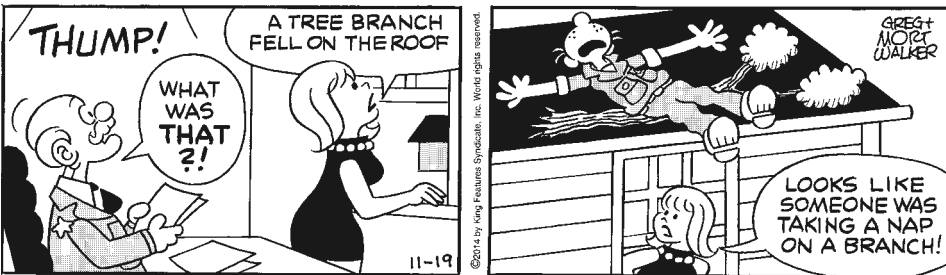
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



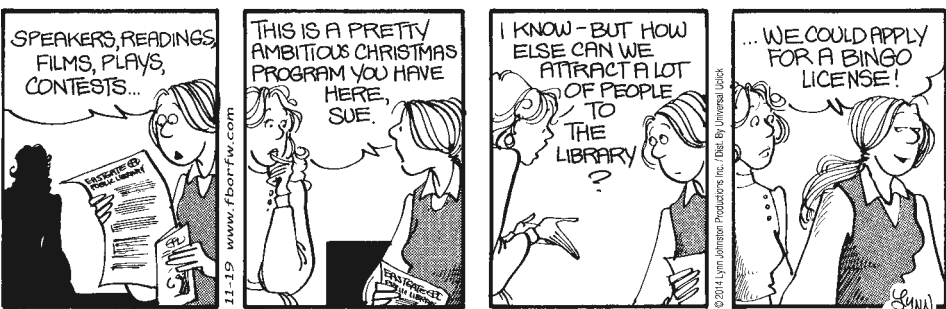
BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



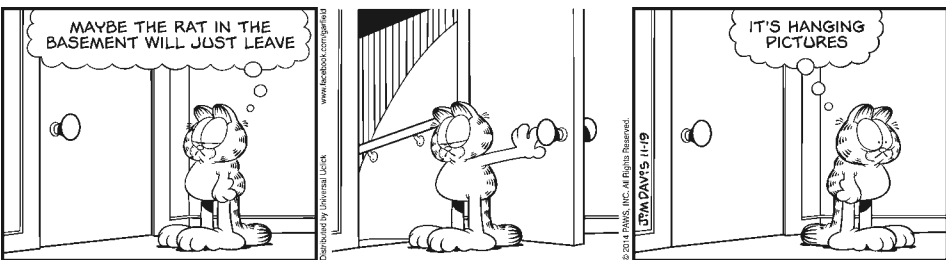
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

