

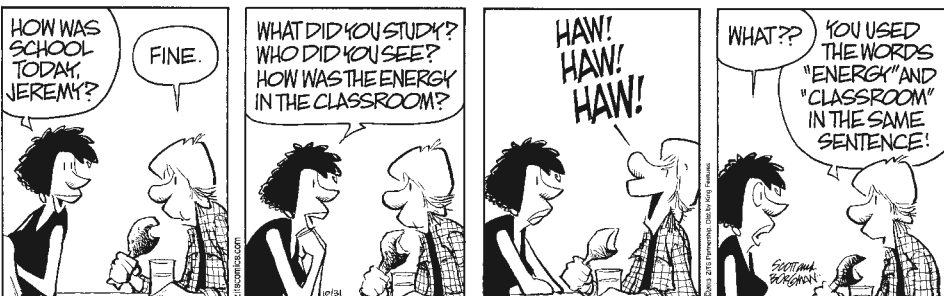
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



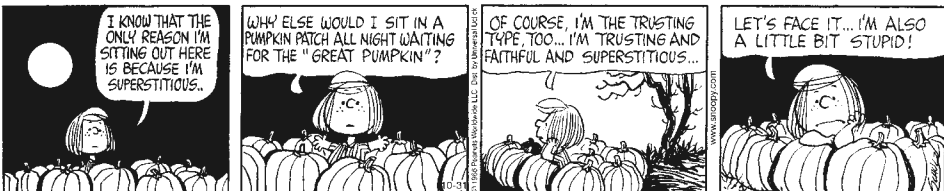
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



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



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS



Happy Home Life Stops Couple From Getting Out And About

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Mark," and I have been together for a year. We met at work, and have dated ever since. Several months ago we were offered a job opportunity in another state. We moved in together and are happy.

My problem is, over the past few months we have been living together, our personal relationship has come to a halt. We still care about each other deeply, but no longer do the things couples do. We don't go out on dates or see the new city we've moved to.

Do you have any advice on how I can get Mark to go out and see the sights without sounding whiny or pushy? — BALTIMORE AND D.C. BECKON

DEAR BALTIMORE: Tell Mark the two of you appear to have become housebound and you don't think it's healthy — particularly because Baltimore and Washington, D.C., have many entertainment and cultural opportunities to offer. Then create a "bucket list" and have him choose from the menu of choices that are available. If that doesn't inspire him, ask HIM to create a list, or start exploring on your own.

If you are successful at getting Mark out of the house, it may live up your relationship. But if it doesn't, you may have more serious problems to deal with, and a heart-to-heart talk with him about your entire relationship is in order.

DEAR ABBY: My son's birthday was yesterday. I invited him to dinner at a very nice restaurant. When he showed up, he had two other men with him. They didn't offer to pay for their food, so I had to pay for all of us.

My son is 32, and I would like to say something about this to him. Or should I just not invite him to nice dinners out? — TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF IN SUGARLAND, TEXAS

DEAR TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF: No. SAY something to him. And when you do, it should be something like this: "Son, springing unex-

pected guests on your host is bad manners. You should have asked permission first. I was appalled that your friends didn't offer to share the expense. Please don't do that again because if you do, I'll stop inviting you."

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced many years ago. Dad started dating and moved in with a woman I'll call Crystal a few months later. They stayed together for several years. I lived with them part-time then, and eventually only occasionally. I don't have a good relationship with my father.

Since then, he and Crystal have broken up and Dad moved away. I never felt particularly close with her, but she calls and emails me incessantly, begging me to spend time together. She even refers to her daughter as my "sister." She never showed much interest in me when we lived together, and I'm confused how to respond. — BE-WILDERED

DEAR BEWILDERED: Crystal may be attempting to maintain a presence in your father's life by continuing a relationship with you. The next time she emails, email her back and point out that your father has moved on with his life, and it is time for her to do the same because you are busy.

A NOTE TO PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN: Tonight is the night when wee witches and goblins collect their loot. Please supervise them so they'll be safe. Happy Halloween, everyone! — ABBY

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.)

© 2013, Universal Press Syndicate

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 Virgo if born before 5:22 p.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Libra.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, OCT. 31, 2013:

This year you seem to be more low-key than you have been in many years. You will become much more of an observer in the next 12 months, and you'll gain more fascinating information about others and yourself as a result. Some of you will become involved in healing work of some kind, while others might enjoy some extra solitude. If you are single, you could meet someone who could be emotionally unavailable. Back out, before you become more attached. If you are attached, the two of you benefit from taking getaways together — just the two of you. You fan the flames of love. LIBRA reads you cold.

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)

★★★★ Defer to others. They will do an even better job because of this expression of confidence. Guide an important matter that surrounds a superior. You know what you are doing, and it is obvious to others. Tonight: A must appearance, though you are likely to enjoy yourself.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ You prefer to be rather docile, unless a situation develops that you feel demands a different response. Your creativity comes forward in dealing with a long-term plan. Detach from a critical issue that could trigger you. Tonight: Go home and put out the candy. You know the rest.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★★ Your imagination adds that extra zest to your work and to whatever you touch. You could be irritated beyond your normal limits. How you express those feelings could create more pain than is necessary. Walk in someone else's shoes. Tonight: Time for Halloween fun.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Whether you're putting out some final Halloween decorations or you're just happy to get extra R and R, it makes no difference; others could be touchy at the last minute. If you decide not to participate in an aspect of Halloween, make it OK. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ You don't need to go overboard in order to be noticed. You will do that naturally — just

be yourself. Pressure or a desire for change might cause a profound dissatisfaction or a need for change. The unexpected could throw your plans into chaos. Tonight: Celebrate in your own way.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Try a different approach to a heartfelt matter. You will be more willing than you have been in the past to let go and see where the chips may fall. You can be controlling at times, and you might be starting to see the uselessness of that behavior. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★ Try to come to an understanding with someone who has been difficult at best. You could feel challenged by a personal or domestic matter, though you might not be in the mood to discuss the issue. Your nerves could be fried. Indulge yourself. Tonight: Everyone looks to you.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ You might not be in sync with those around you. Even if you wish you were more playful, you can't seem to get past your tension and stress. A loved one or a child might surprise you, though your first reaction could be shock. Tonight: If you want to avoid everyone, do.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ Look to your friends, and make a decision about what would be the best solution for a project. Just because your friends feel OK with something, it does not mean you have to feel comfortable with it. Say "no" if you can't go along. Tonight: Get into tricking or treating.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone at a distance. It doesn't matter what your reasoning might be regarding an issue, you are ready to move forward with a major change. It might be health-related, or it might be taking a different approach to your life. Tonight: Look at the big picture.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★★ You will have your mind on other matters -- not on ghosts and goblins. Still, you will go through all the motions, and to many people, you will seem present in the moment. An exciting matter could shake up the status quo. Tonight: Get into the spirit of the holiday.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★★ Defer to others, and you might learn a lot about someone else's thoughts. You will get much more input, and you'll gain each other's respect. It would not be surprising to see both of you get into a brainstorming session in the near future. Tonight: Try to make time for a talk.

© 2013, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

