

**FAMILY CIRCUS** | BIL KEANE



This wraps up little Billy's week of filling in for Daddy ... thankfully.

**BIZARRO** | DAN PIRARO



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**ZITS** | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



**PICKLES** | BRIAN CRANE



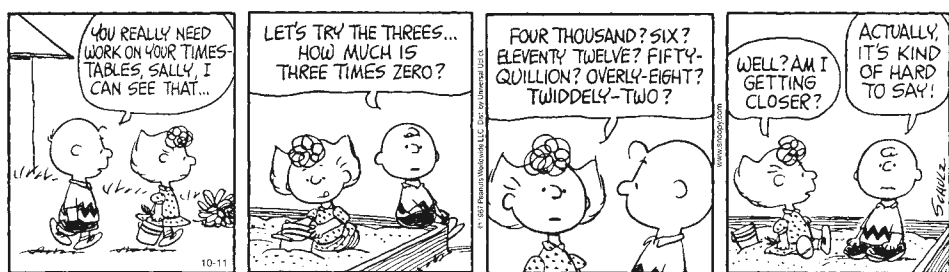
**FRANK AND ERNEST** | BOB THAVES



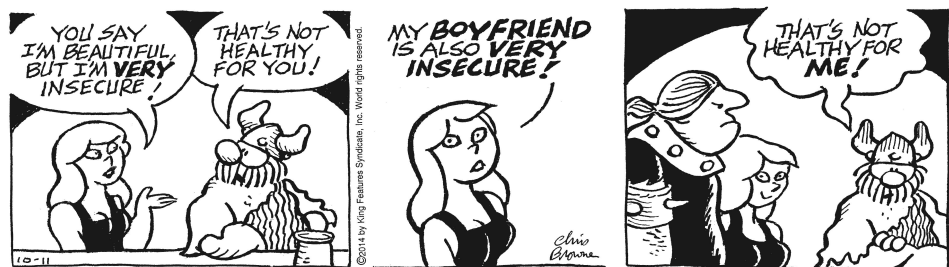
**THE BORN LOSER** | ART SANSON



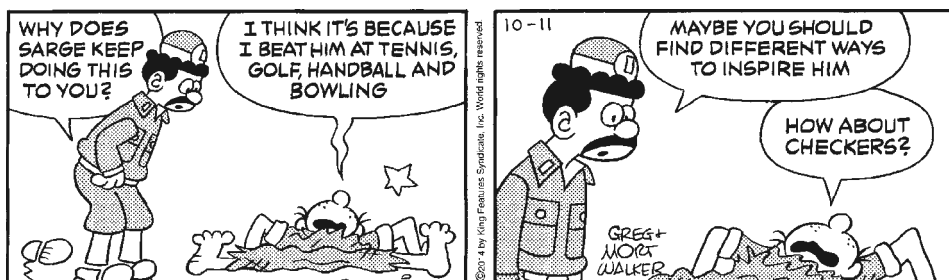
**PEANUTS** | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



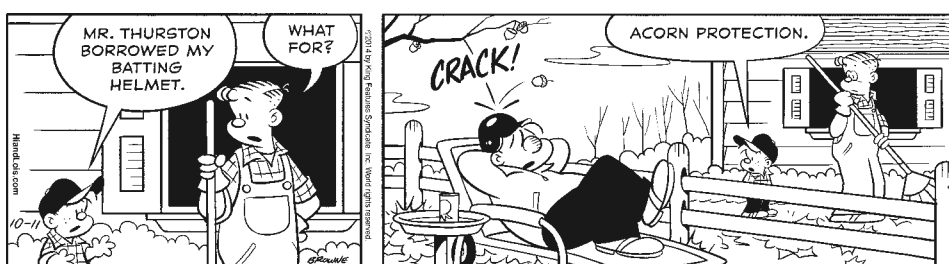
**HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE** | CHRIS BROWNE



**BEETLE BAILEY** | MORT WALKER



**HI AND LOIS** | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



**FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE** | LYNN JOHNSTON



**GARFIELD** | JIM DAVIS



# Overlooked Middle Child's Cries For Help Go Unheeded

DEAR ABBY: I'm a teenage girl who is frustrated with my family. I am the middle child, and it seems like my parents prefer my brother and sister over me. I am constantly in trouble for things they have done, and my parents are aware that they did.

When I try to express my feelings, nobody will listen. Several times I have almost committed suicide or run away. I am lost and I don't know what to do. Please help me. — NOWHERE IN INDIANA

DEAR NOWHERE: When a person cries out in pain and feels she (or he) isn't heard, it can be doubly painful. But suicide or running away is not the answer. What you need to do is explain to an adult — an aunt, uncle, school counselor or close family friend — how you are feeling, so that person can intercede on your behalf with your parents, who may not realize what they're doing and the effect it's having on you.

DEAR ABBY: How long is too long to wait when it comes to hearing the highly anticipated phrase, "I love you"? My boyfriend and I have been dating for eight months. We have been through a lot together during this time, and his actions suggest that he loves me. When I finally asked him why he hasn't said it to me, he said, "Why haven't YOU said it?" "I want it to happen naturally," and, "Just be patient with me."

We get along amazingly well. We have a wonderful time every time we see each other (which is almost every day), and he has told me he can see a future with me. Am I wrong for thinking I deserve to hear the "L" word at this point, or am I rushing things? I don't understand why he is so reluctant to say it, and his reluctance makes me think maybe he just doesn't love me. — STILL WAITING IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR STILL WAITING: Not all men are

comfortable expressing their emotions verbally. Actions speak louder than words. Many men have told women they "love" them, only to have their behavior prove otherwise.

That your boyfriend has given you three different answers to your question indicates to me that you may have been pushing him to say it. I would caution you against that because it could push him away. Hearing the words "I love you" isn't something a person "deserves." It's important that the words be genuine.



DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: When I approach someone to hug, is there a correct side to go for? Does a relative or friend have a bearing on your choice, or does it matter if it's a man or woman or how well you know them? Is the left side as good as the right side? — WHICH SIDE? IN OHIO

DEAR WHICH SIDE: Hugging anyone you don't know well is a mistake because some people have an aversion to intimate contact with strangers. That said, I don't think it matters a lot which side you "go for" — although I have heard some people bear to the left because that way their hearts are closer together. Personally, I tend to feint to the left because I'm left-handed — but that's just me.

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.

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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 Libra and a Moon in Taurus if born before 11:51 a.m. (PDT). Afterward, the Moon will be in Gemini.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, OCT. 11, 2014:

This year you move in new ways and head in different directions. To many people, your behavior appears to be quirky or unpredictable. You are responding to a need for freedom, plus Lady Luck seems to be an active force in your life. If you are single, you will meet someone unexpectedly. Let time build stability here. If you are attached, the two of you will go off on surprising adventures together. You also will relish being around your mutual friends a lot. GEMINI seems to bring mischief into your life.

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)

★★★★ You initially might be hesitant to express your opinions, but by the afternoon, you will open up. Be careful about what you say; otherwise, it could hurt another individual, depending on his or her life story. Tonight: Avoid confusion by confirming a meeting time and place.

### TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ You might run out of steam and need a nap or a change of venue. If you respond in a knee-jerk way, you are likely to go out shopping. Hold on to your receipts, because you might want to return everything tomorrow! Friends surround you. Tonight: Mind your budget.

### GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ You will feel better as the day goes on. You might wonder when to say "enough is enough," as others make unusual demands. Know that you can shrug off a strange request more easily than a practical one. A child might express his or her neediness. Tonight: Happy at home.

### CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Use the morning for key matters. Feel free to change plans or head in a new direction in the afternoon. You might not be in the mood to tolerate a lot of activity in the evening, so know when to say "enough." Tonight: Choose to be with someone who revitalizes you.

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

★★★ Handle an important matter in the morning that could involve a parent or boss. You might

hear unexpected news that has the potential to benefit you in some way. Make it OK for a partner to have different needs than you. Tonight: Go where you will have the most fun.

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

★★★★ Plans to take off for a day trip or to visit a flea market will need to be made early on; otherwise, distractions could cause a change in plans. A friend might act unexpectedly or do something strange that you need to focus on. Tonight: Reach out to a charming loved one.

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

★★★★ Honor a change in what a partner wants. This person might have craved closeness in the morning, but by the afternoon, he or she will be fine with you taking off on your own. Confusion seems to surround your plans. Be sure that everyone is on the same page. Tonight: Party on!

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

★★★★ Someone will want your attention. The uproar that could result from you saying "no" won't be worth it. Still, you'll need to express your feelings in an appropriate manner. A child might mean well, but he or she could cause a problem. Tonight: Make nice.

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

★★★★ Clear out any errands in the morning. You might believe that you will have a calm day, but by late afternoon, you will discover otherwise. A friend could surprise you with an invitation. Join in on the fun, and act like a kid again; it will be healing. Tonight: Date night!

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

★★★★ You might want to date on a loved one in the morning. By the afternoon, others will want to join you, whether it is pitching in around the house or going to a movie. Make sure that you all are on the same page as far as plans go. Tonight: Call it early.

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

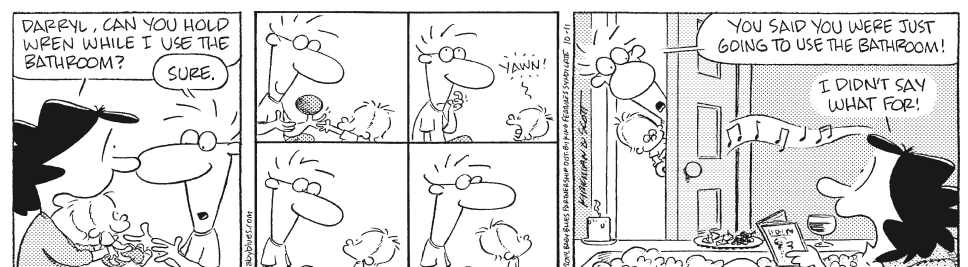
★★★ You'll be happy that you don't have to go to work, as you are likely to decide that a lazy day is in order. However, a loved one might attempt to pull you out of the doldrums. With enough sleep, you are capable of being very mischievous. Tonight: Be a wild thing.

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

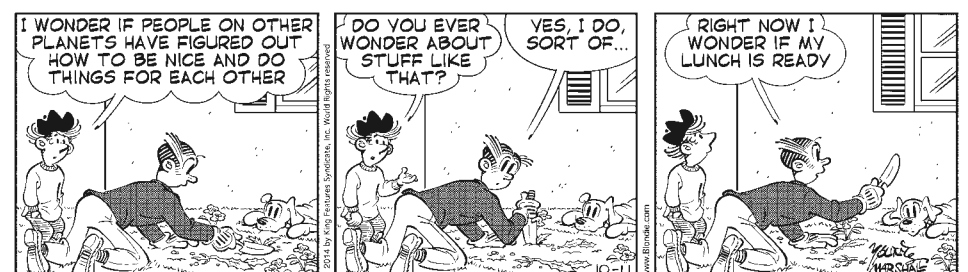
★★★★ Make calls and run errands in the morning. You might want some personal time by the afternoon. A loved one could try to get you to go along with his or her plans. Remember that you need to take good care of yourself. Make it OK to say "no." Tonight: Nap, then decide.

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**BABY BLUES** | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



**BLONDIE** | YOUNG & DRAKE



**MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM** | MIKE PETERS

