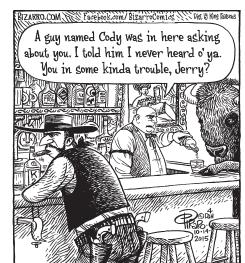


"In case anybody's wonderin', I'm still not asleep.'

BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN







PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE









FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON







PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ









HAGAR 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







Mom Of Occasional Smoker Thinks She's Gone To Pot

DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a 30-year-old single mom of two young girls. After my divorce, I returned to my hometown where my family is. I'm enrolled in school full time and set to graduate in two semesters. I have a 3.7 GPA, my girls are well-adjusted and well-behaved, and I have my own place. My mom primarily watches my girls when I'm in school,

and I feel lucky to have her support.

The other day, Mom came into my room and opened my bedside drawer. Like most people, this is where I keep my most private things. She discovered that I had a pack of cigarettes and some marijuana. Abby, I don't smoke often, but sometimes when the kids are down and things are taken care of, I like to smoke a joint, watch some shows and fall asleep. I take care of my responsibilities, and I don't feel like an occasional joint impacts me negatively.

Mom now says she will no longer watch her grandchildren and doesn't want to see me again! I feel completely hurt, violated and disrespected. We said some nasty things to each other, and I can't help but feel like she is completely wrong for reacting the way she did. Any advice would be much appreciated. – RESPÓNSIBLE (OCCASIONAL) SMOKER IN

DEAR RESPONSIBLE: Your mother overreacted, but she should not have been going into your drawer(s). Apologize for whatever you said to her in the heat of anger. (She should also apologize to you for snooping.) Make whatever arrangements you need for child care apart from your mother, and either quit smoking or do it away from your home.

Children are a lot sharper than they are often given credit for, and their sense of smell is particularly acute. In a few short years, they will recognize that Mommy "smokes," so quit setting a bad example. That way, when you tell them that smoking is bad for their health, you won't be a hypocrite.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for a year. Before we met, my husband posted pictures of his ex on his Facebook page photo

album. I have asked him to remove them because I feel insulted and hurt. I don't think it's right his keeping them on the page now that we are married. I feel it's disrespectful to our marriage and inconsiderate.

We have been fighting over this, and it's ruining our relationship. Can you enlighten me about this? – NO. 1 LADY IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR LADY: I don't blame you for being upset. By now your husband should have outgrown the need to publicize his previous conquests. While your husband

may be thinking that keeping the pictures up makes him look worldly, what it shows is his insensitivity to the woman he married, and I think that's sad for both of you.

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.)

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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 Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14, 2015:

This year you seem to be more concerned with your finances than you have in the recent past. You sometimes swallow your feelings without realizing it. You will choose activities that help you forget about the here and now. Be aware of the confusion that sometimes surrounds your days. If you are single, you could meet someone simply by walking to work or going to the bank. Take your time getting to know each other before committing. If you are attached, you and your significant other will opt to make a major purchase this year. Curb a tendency to be overly possessive. SCORPIO drives a hard bargain.

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)

* * * * * Deal with a partner or family member directly. You have some day-to-day matters to handle, but that won't be problem. You might want to add a gym or hot tub to your home, or some other item to improve the quality of your life. Tonight: Enjoy the one you are with.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

* * * * * Defer to others right now. You have the ability to handle whatever you must, but you need to take some time away from your normal role. Let others appreciate how much you do. Laughter surrounds a child or loved one. Tonight: Act as if you don't have a care in the world.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

* * * * You might want to work from home or just stay close to it. You have a lot to do, and you could experience some disruption in your own space. Can you handle this type of interruption? A partner, roommate or dear friend will be ready to pitch in. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

* * * * * Your creativity will emerge. Defer to others, and let them make suggestions as well. You'll find that brainstorming is very stimulating and productive. A friend might be changing right in front of your eyes. Tonight: Be naughty when coming up with a Halloween costume.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

* ★ ★ While others might want to work from

home or close to the pad, you will flourish if you do. Why not make your day easier? Use care with your spending. You easily could go overboard before you even realize it. Tonight: Make it easy and order in.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

* * * * You will express a lot of caring toward a close friend, sibling or associate as well as nearly everyone you come in contact with today. You know and understand the power of positive thinking. A child or loved one might change his or her tune once more. Tonight: Full of fun.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

* * * * Handle your finances carefully. Don't allow someone else decide what you can do. Your instincts will guide you, but be careful not to overspend or act in an inappropriate way. Deal with anger and any other feelings head-on. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ A meeting could become provocative, and you might keep replaying certain conversations in your mind. You'll be able to read between the lines. Decide to approach the situation totally differently, and have a discussion with different words. Tonight: Put your best foot forward.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

* ★ ★ Go out of your way to clear up a problem, but first process what is happening in. Know that others might not have the same reaction or be upset by the same situation. You have reasons for your reaction, but you can choose to let go of the issue. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

* * * * * Say "yes" to a discussion or an impromptu meeting. You like playing to an audience. Know when you have had enough. You quickly and gracefully will move on to a different project or situation. Tonight: The more people around you, the happier you will be.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

* * * * Stay on top of whatever you are doing. Touch base with an older friend or family member who can be very difficult and hostile. One-on-one relating adds to the understanding and dimension of various bonds. Add that personal touch. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

* ★ ★ ★ A new perspective comes through news you hear. Check the facts before you decide that you want to head in a certain direction. You'll show an enormous amount of caring when speaking to a loved one. Tonight: Discuss a get-together with someone at a distance.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT







BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE





MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

