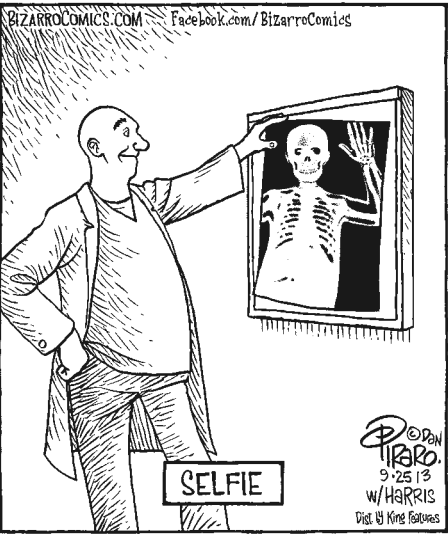


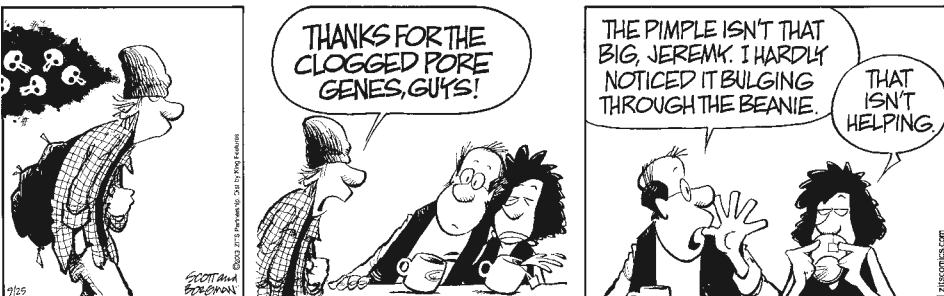
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



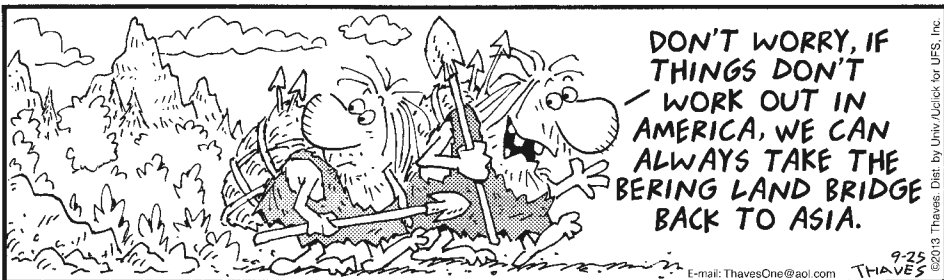
BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO



ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



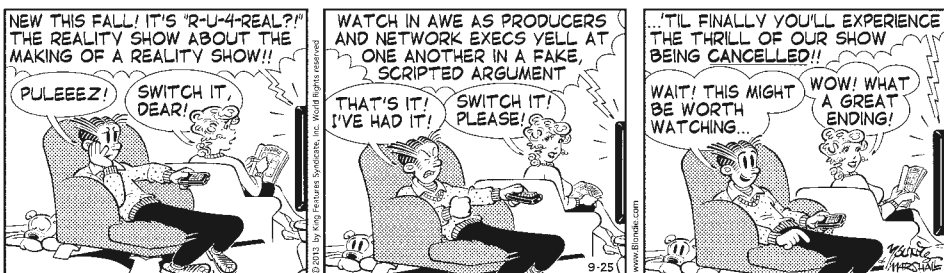
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



DICK TRACY | JOE STATON AND MIKE CURTIS



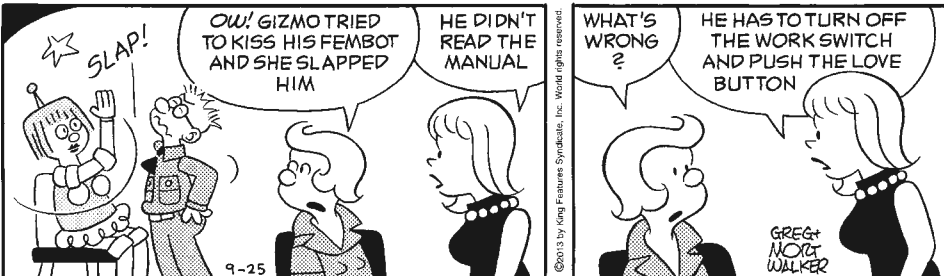
BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



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



Sister Who's Out Of Control Needs Her Reins Pulled Tight

DEAR ABBY: I'm 21, and my 16-year-old sister is out of control. She told me she smokes marijuana, drinks alcohol, abuses painkillers and recently mentioned she does coke.

Abby, she is beautiful, and I don't want to see her do this to herself. She's living with me about an hour away from my parents because Dad is an alcoholic and he abuses our mother. I brought my sister here to get her away from all that because I know what it was like growing up there.

I'm having trouble giving her advice to stay away from those things because I did them, and I feel like a hypocrite. My parents can't get through to her, either. Please help. — TRYING TO BE A BIG SIS

DEAR TRYING: You're lucky you were able to straighten out without becoming addicted to any of the substances you experimented with, but your sister may not be so lucky. Because she's out of control, you MUST step in and put a stop to it for her sake.

Your sister needs counseling, and if she is going to remain your responsibility, it is imperative that you assert control. Talk to your school counselor about getting her the help she needs. You may have to drug-test your sister on a random basis as a condition of her continuing to live with you. Kits are available at your pharmacy.

Stop feeling guilty, stay strong, and you may be able to steer your sister back on the right path.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 23-year-old soldier in the Army, currently deployed overseas. I'm less than a month away from returning home to my husband. However, I have not been faithful to him during my tour. I have had sex with several people over here, and if that's not complicated enough, I appear to be pregnant. I don't know what to tell my husband. I actually still kind of love him. Advice? — DEPLOYED AND PREGNANT

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 Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25, 2013:

This year you remain open to the creative process. How you deal with new possibilities could change dramatically. Your ability to trust your knee-jerk reactions will lessen as you recognize that you are breaking patterns. Your choices will add to your quality of life. Your career will be demanding, but you have what it takes to succeed. If you are single, you could meet someone through your work or just by being out and about. If you are attached, the two of you need to pursue a common interest; the time to begin is now. GEMINI teases your imagination.

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 naturally are drawn to the most unexpected situations. The question is: Which way do you go? The answer will emerge quickly, as you are not one for waiting. Understand that many people see you manifest your desires like lightning. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★ Take a look at what is going on within your immediate circle. Understand what is taking place behind the scenes with a money matter. You might sense some deception. If that is the case, go for a holding position rather than cause yourself a bigger problem. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★★ You'll beam in more of what you want in order to make a situation work. Fatigue might be the only obstacle preventing you from bringing others together to gain the support that you think you need. You might choose to continue, regardless. Tonight: Ease the pace a bit.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★ Everyone has days when they don't feel quite up to snuff. Why would you be any different? Allow yourself to call out of work for the day. If you already aren't working, play it low-key. Take this time to revitalize and do what you want for a change. Tonight: Not to be found.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to see a situation evolve to a new level. It is your focused energy that will take it there. Be sure to take your time, and sift

DEAR DEPLOYED: You need to make certain you are pregnant and that this is not a false alarm. Whether you are or not, you have some difficult decisions to make.

While it won't be pleasant, you and your husband are due for an honest conversation upon your return. If you both "still kind of" love each other, forgiveness is possible, and couples have been known to get beyond this and have successful marriages.

DEAR ABBY: The "rule" that white pants can be worn only from Memorial Day to Labor Day needs to be amended. I love my white pants. They go with nearly everything, and I almost cry when they must be stored away for another nine months. Ridiculous! My proposal would be to extend the grace period so it begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until Halloween. How does that sound? — MARILYN IN SAN MARCOS, CALIF.

DEAR MARILYN: You will be delighted to know that according to "Emily Post's Etiquette, 18th Edition," that old rule about wearing white no longer applies. What's important isn't the color, but the weight of the fabric.

Here in Southern California, summer can start late and continue through October. Lightweight fabrics such as cotton and linen are acceptable during hot weather, and when the temperature drops, "winter whites" in wool, corduroy, silk and satin are common, although usually in off-white shades rather than a stark one.

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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through each possibility to the same end. Trust yourself to find the most appropriate method to get there. Tonight: Share your ideas.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★ Visualize and create a better platform from which to work, whether you are a boss or an employee. You will find that your effectiveness will be enhanced, and others will respond in a more authentic manner. Tonight: Discuss a grievance with a wise family member or friend.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★★★ Your ability to gather the facts and see what is missing will help you as well as others. You'll weigh the pros and cons of an issue, but know that the outcome will be positive. You have time to fill in the blanks. Someone's criticism might just be jealousy. Tonight: In the limelight.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Listen to news, and ask for a friend's perspective. You might opt to go along with this person's thinking. You could be surprised by the way events play out as a result. When allowed to wander, your mind will come up with amazing scenarios! Tonight: Togetherness works.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by a situation that is developing. Maintain a sense of humor. You will be happier as a result, and you also will gain a new perspective with ease. Understand what is going on behind the scenes. Tonight: Listen to others' "war stories" of the day.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Your caring yet methodical manner creates change quickly. Realize what is happening within your circle of friends. Someone might be angry, and this person is likely to toss a boulder in your way. Do not take his or her reaction personally. Tonight: Ask, and you shall receive.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You will go directly toward a creative option that appears quite suddenly. Finding out what is workable could test your limits. You might be holding back your feelings, whereas someone else isn't. Do not engage this person. Tonight: How about some fun?

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★ Being centered at home might be a higher priority than it normally would be, as much pressure seems to emanate from others' demands. You will make an effort to be responsive, but you are only human. Stay somewhat unavailable, and screen your calls. Tonight: Stay anchored.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON

