

# FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



"Besides your lunch, don't you think you might need your books, too?"

### **ZITS** | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



**PICKLES** | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



## THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



# **PEANUTS** | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



# BIZARRO | DAN PIRARO

Okay, you're all hooked up to BedTimeStory.com. If you need anything, I've got DrinkOfWater.com and IHadABadDream.com Lookmarked.

# Using Mother Tongue Makes Family Conversation Difficult

DEAR ABBY

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My son married an educated professional woman from another country. When their twins were born, my daughter-inlaw immersed them in her native language so it would become their mother tongue. Although I understand and respect the benefits of being bilingual, this caused a lot of communication gaps and frustration between us and the grandkids during their early years.

They attend a bilingual elementary school now, and their English is superb and communication between us is great. The problem is, when we are together, my daughter-in-law speaks to her children exclusively in her native language. My son understands the conversation, but my husband and I do not know what is being said. We think this is rude and inconsiderate.

Are we being overly sensitive, or is this common practice in families with multiple languages? Our relationship with our daughter-in-law is polite and cordial, but not close or intimate. Any advice? — LEFT OUT IN FLORIDA

DEAR LEFT OUT: This is not unusual in multilingual families, and I agree that it is inconsiderate. Have you spoken to your son and daughter-in-law about how this makes you feel? If you haven't, you should, because she may not be deliberately trying to make you feel excluded.

When you raise the subject, choose your words and tone carefully. Because if you don't, your relationship with your daughterin-law could become a lot less cordial than it

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 55-year-old gay male who has been with my now-spouse, "Owen," in a loving, committed relationship since 2005. While earlier we could not legally marry, in 2006 we had a commitment ceremony bringing together close friends and

# 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 Virgo and a Moon in Sagittarius.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, SEPT. 2, 2014:

This year you often find that you are tense about a domestic or personal matter. You also tend to experience a lot of confusion when dealing with others. Clarify often. Learning how to relax will be beneficial to your well-being and attitude. If you are single, a partnership of significance is more likely to develop close to your next birthday. If you are attached, there could be a lot of tension surrounding your love life. Take more walks with your sweetie, or schedule a couples massage, but don't hold back your feelings any longer. SAGITTAR-IUS can be a burden for 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)

★★★★ Someone whom you might have least expected to expound on his or her perspectives will do just that. Though you see situations from a totally different point of view, you'll appreciate hearing this person's thoughts. Tonight: Imagine what it would be like to be someone else.

family to acknowledge and celebrate our relationship. In 2013, Owen and I were finally able to legally marry in California.

My dilemma comes from people who don't know what to call us. People often refer to my spouse as my "friend" or "partner." At times I say nothing, but more often than not, I find myself saying, "Oh, you mean my HUS-BAND." Some of them thank me for the clarification; others just look at me with a blank stare.

Owen never corrects them because he feels it isn't his place. I feel it's my responsibility to do so, first so as to not play down the significance of our relationship, but also to educate these people. Do you think this is inappropriate? — MARRIED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR MARRIED: Not at all. The people who refer to you and Owen as "partners" and "friends" are using terminology that is evolving because marriage among same-sex couples is still relatively new. As it becomes more commonplace, that will change. In the meantime, it's completely appropriate for you and Owen to speak up.

P.S. For any reader who may not already know, gay men refer to their spouse as their husband and lesbians refer to theirs as their wife.

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Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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your suggestions as a result; his or her imagination and intellect will emerge with your respect. The two of you could become quite a dynamic duo. Tonight: On the prowl.

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

★★★ Tension could mount and create an unclear and unrealistic perspective, especially within the realm of interpersonal relations. Learn to keep your opinions to yourself more often. Listen to your instincts surrounding a family member. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

# LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

 $\star \star \star$  You might want to understand why someone is choosing to express an idea that seems out of character for him or her. You might discover a better way to handle a personal issue. Zero in on what feels necessary, and you will succeed. Tonight: Where the gang is.

# SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★ You might want to think through an idea in a new way and handle it differently. Your ability to move past the need to have control will start disappearing once you realize that you can't control anything except your own life. Tonight: Make it your treat.

# SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

 $\star \star \star \star$  You have a style that is unique, and it

# HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



# BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



#### HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



1 TOLD

HER

EVERYTHING

EVERYTHING

Eynn).

# FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



## **GARFIELD** | JIM DAVIS



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

 $\star\star\star\star$  You seem to be in opposition to a partner's idea. You see life differently from this person, and it could be the source of a disagreement. You both need to respect each other's views. As a result, you could experience a meeting of the minds. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

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

★★★★ You don't need to give in to others' requests, but it might be easier. How important is it for you to be right? What is your goal in the present situation? Answer these questions, and you'll know what is best for you. Tonight: Enjoy going along with someone else's plans.

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

★★★★★ Your creativity will allow greater giveand-take between you and others. In fact, you could be essential in finding a solution to a problem. Buying a new item or gift might be high on your to-do list, but remember to stay within your budget. Tonight: Run an errand or two.

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

 $\star \star \star \star$  Deal with someone directly in order to get the results you want. This person will be more open to

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

makes others feel comfortable with you. Confusion seems to surround communication. Understand that not everyone thinks like you. News might come in from afar that is well worth celebrating. Tonight: In the limelight.

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

 $\star\star\star$  Assume a low-profile, if possible. You will understand what needs to happen if you observe and sit on your ideas for now. A laid-back approach will prove to be far more effective. Respond to an unpredictable situation by maintaining a sense of humor. Tonight: Not to be found.

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

★★★★ Listen to news with a more open attitude, and you might hear an unexpected statement. You will be able to make a quick turn or change as a result. Friends will play a strong role in what goes on in your immediate surroundings. Tonight: Do only what you want.

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

★★★ You are likely to gain a new perspective that surprises you. How you deal with a key friend and what you do within the relationship could change radically. Unexpected news encourages you to lie low and reconsider your recent choices. Tonight: Confusion is not an excuse.

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**BLONDIE** | YOUNG & DRAKE





**MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM** | MIKE PETERS

