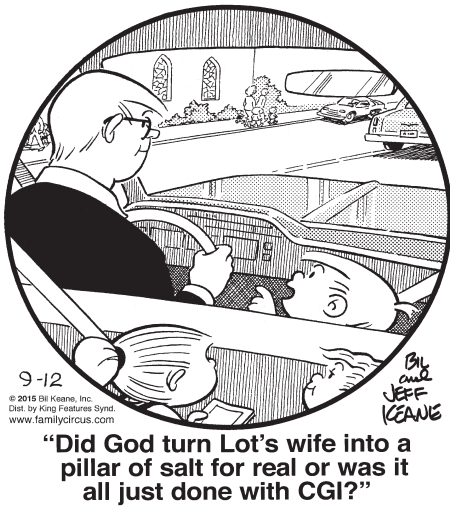


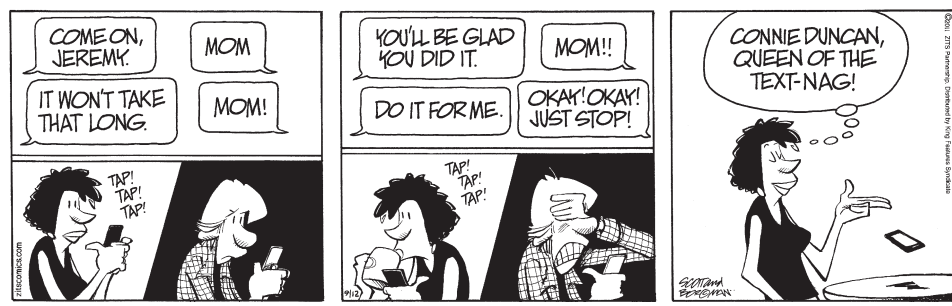
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



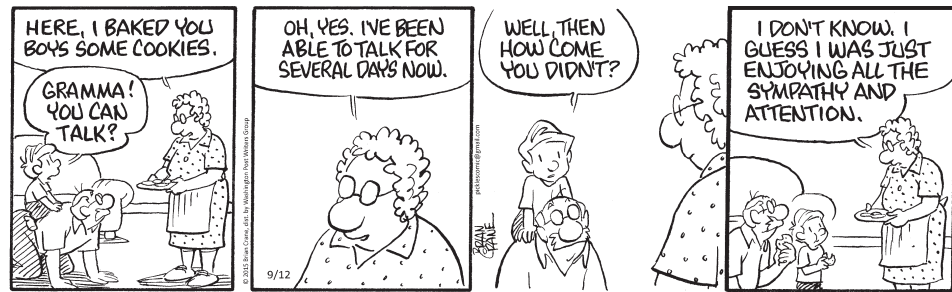
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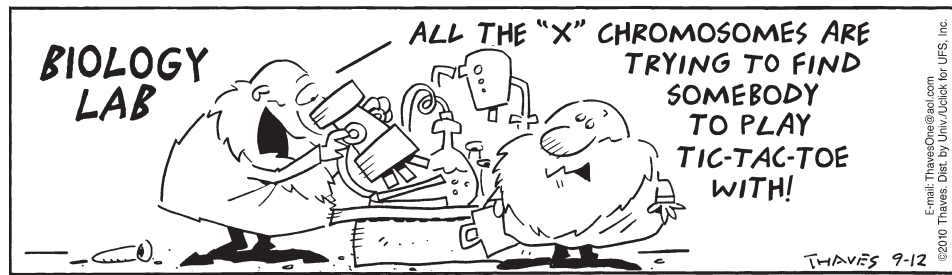
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



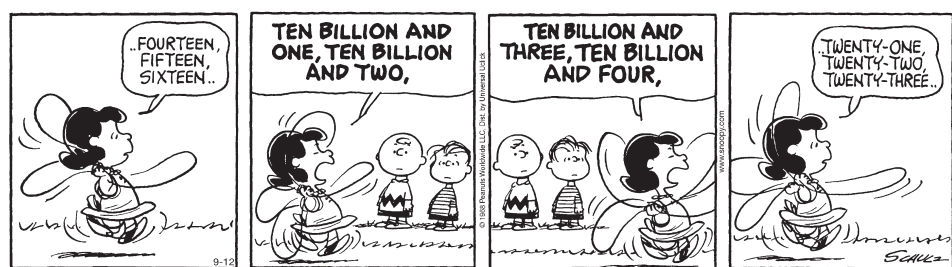
FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



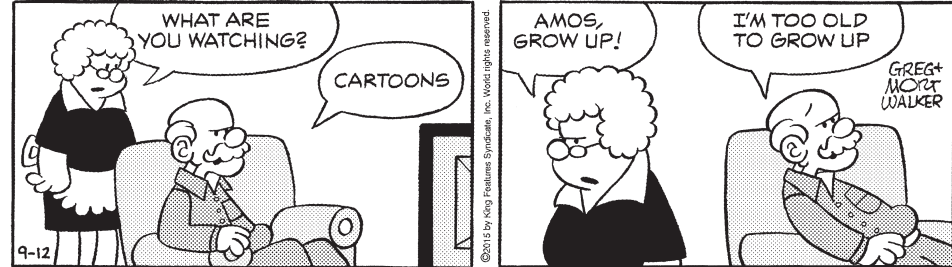
PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



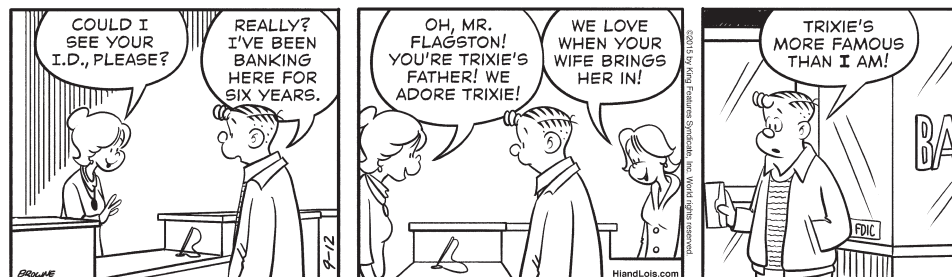
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



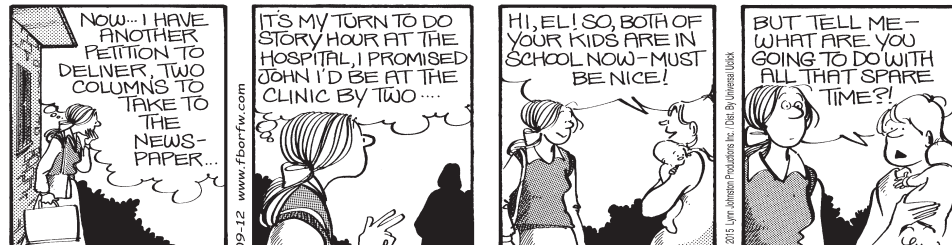
BETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Lasting Attraction To Abuser Continues To Trouble Victim

DEAR ABBY: I am 19 and going into my second year of college. I was sexually and emotionally abused during my first two years of high school by a boy a year older than me. I attended therapy for a while and eventually found myself in a loving relationship with my boyfriend. We've been living together for a year.

Everything was going fine until I came home for summer break. I have never gotten over the feelings I had for my abuser, but I love my boyfriend and would never want to hurt him or endanger myself again. Why should I have feelings for someone who treated me so terribly? And what should I do about them? — ABUSED AND CONFUSED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABUSED AND CONFUSED: I commend you for recognizing that the status quo isn't in your best interest. Old habits die hard, and you may still be physically attracted to your abuser. Now that the school year is beginning again, head straight to the student health center and talk to a counselor about this. Do not put it off, because understanding this is important for your emotional well-being now and in the future.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

else's party, so stop worrying about sounding cold or insulting because this couple appear to have hides of steel.

DEAR ABBY: I have asked my son to let me watch (via video chatting) my grandson open any gifts or cards I send. They live far away and I want to feel included. He promises to do it, but he never follows through.

My grandson is not being taught to have any regard for my feelings. What should I do? Should I drop the request and any expectation of contact? Should I stop sending gifts? It just upsets me too much. — LONELY GRANDMA IN MICHIGAN

DEAR GRANDMA: I don't blame you for feeling upset, but the person you should be upset with is your son. If you stop sending gifts to your grandson, you'll be punishing the wrong person. His parents should be teaching him the importance of acknowledging gifts because it is part of basic good manners that will benefit him in the future.

Because you want to stay in contact, after sending the boy a gift, call to ask him if he received it and how he liked it. If you do, it may help you to establish a closer relationship.

DEAR ABBY: We are having a housewarming party and would like to invite a married couple we know. However, the wife is notorious for having one of her female friends tag along for everything they do — movies, vacations, concerts. Everything! I don't care for the third wheel, and I don't want her at our party. What's the proper way to word the "guests only" without it sounding cold or insulting? — NO TRESPASSING IN VIRGINIA

DEAR NO TRESPASSING: After you issue the invitation, call the wife and tell her your party is for "guests only" and that you would prefer she not bring any extras. If she asks why, tell her the truth. It is a breach of etiquette to bring uninvited guests to someone

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.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen 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.

identify with this person's issues. You are much more self-confident and see life differently from how he or she sees it. Do your best to be kind and open. Tonight: Make it your treat.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ You feel energized with today's New Moon in your sign. Use it well, as any resolutions made now are likely to be more easily carried out. Others clearly want to know you better. In fact, someone special could be seeking you out. Tonight: Your charisma draws in others.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ You might not feel up to snuff. With that realization, you'll want to plan a perfect weekend escape, perhaps by yourself or with one other person. Though you might be feeling emotional about a situation in your life, let it go for now. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ You might have pushed too hard in order to accomplish what you want. You could be dealing with a slight amount of disappointment as a result. Don't make a big deal out of this; your expectations were unusually high in this case. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ You continue to feel pressured, but perhaps you don't realize that the pressure is coming from you and what you think you need to do. Make it OK to take a break, even if just for today. The result will be far more beneficial than you had imagined. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★ Read between the lines, and you will see a personal matter differently. You will enjoy yourself much more if you try to understand what the other party is really saying. This person might be too subtle for your taste; make the effort anyway. Tonight: Where there is great music.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★★ You have the rare opportunity to move forward and handle a personal matter directly. The other party appears to be a captivated audience, at least for the moment. Be careful, remain loving and choose your words with care. Tonight: A reason to celebrate.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

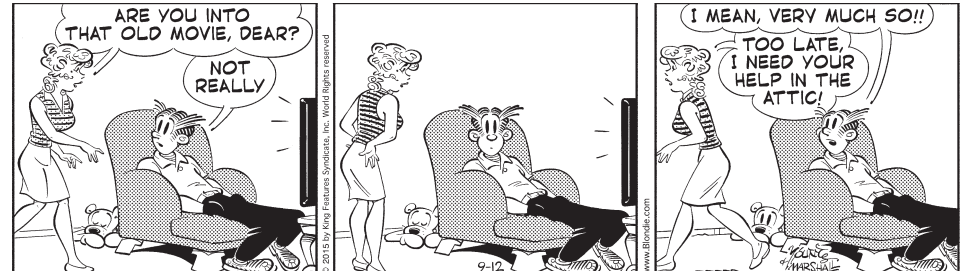
★★★ Your imagination always takes the lead. Frequently, because of your expectations, you might feel disappointed more often than you would like to. Avoid getting into an emotional scene with a partner, because it will be his or her way today. Tonight: Go along for the ride.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

