

FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



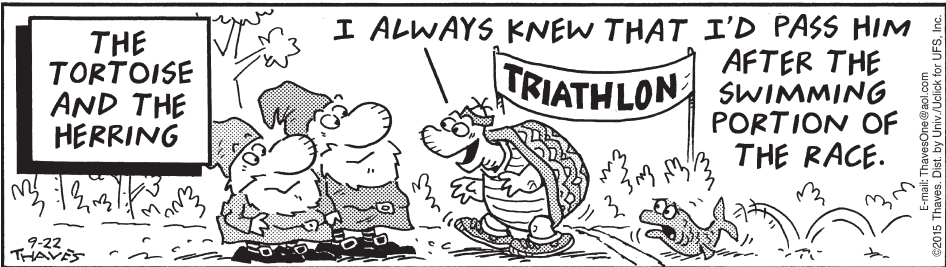
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



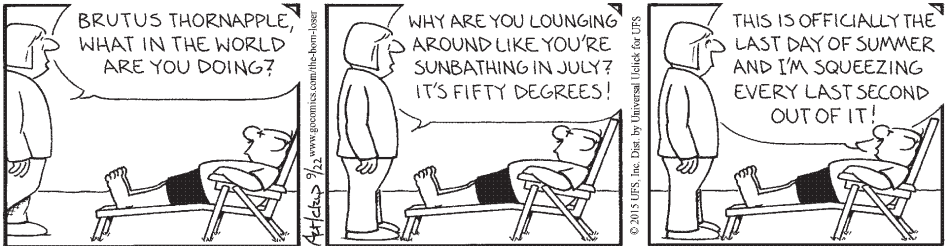
PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



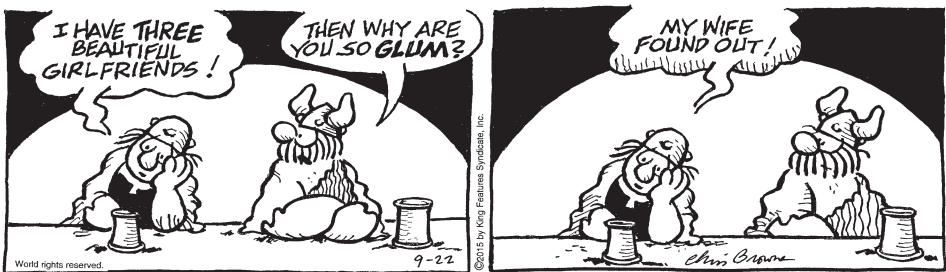
BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEEBLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Woman In Toxic Relationship Will Need Cousin's Support

DEAR ABBY: I have a very close cousin (and friend) who is in a toxic relationship with a man who breaks up with her repeatedly, manipulates and abuses her emotionally, and probably cheats. It has made me sad to see her go through the same pattern with him for so many years.

They were supposed to be married soon, but are having the same problems again. She's unsure what steps to take, even though family and friends are advising her against marrying him. I don't support the idea either, but I don't want to create a rift with my cousin.

If the wedding takes place, can I decline to be part of the wedding party? Is there anything I can do to make her "see the light"? It's hard to watch a good person go through this. I know it's her choice, but it's wearing on our relationship as well. — CONCERNED COUSIN IN WYOMING

DEAR COUSIN: Have you been asked to be in the wedding party? If it hasn't happened yet, you may be putting the cart before the horse.

Because you haven't been able to get your cousin to see the light before this, I doubt anything you can say will accomplish it now because love is blind and often deaf. This doesn't mean you shouldn't tell her you think she deserves better than what she's getting, and that it pains you to see her hurt the way she has been. However, at the same time, let her know that whatever she decides, you love and support her and will be there for her, because if he actually marries her — which he may not — she's going to need it.

DEAR ABBY: I recently started a new job, and the past three months have been wonderful! One co-worker in particular has contributed to that. He's a tall, handsome man with a great personality. We get along wonderfully, socialize outside of work, and we flirt ... a lot. We have briefly talked about being friends with benefits, but I'm not sure how I feel about

it. I have never been FWB with anyone before, and I am very nervous about the possible downside.

I am very attracted to this co-worker, but I also consider him a great friend who could potentially someday be even more than a friend. I am scared that being FWBs would ruin our friendship and any possible future we may have. Should I accept being an FWB and enjoy it while it lasts, or decline and explain to him why? — FRIENDS WITHOUT BENEFITS IN VIRGINIA

DEAR FRIENDS: If I were you, I'd enjoy the flirtation for as long as it lasts and pass on being his FWB.

While "friends with benefits" may seem enticing, what it really stands for is "sex without commitment or responsibility," and in the majority of instances it leads to — nothing. Couple that with the fact that if you do, and someone else attracts his attention, you will not only have to cope with hurt feelings, but also the embarrassment of still having to work with him. So start thinking with your head, and don't do anything you might later regret.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Tonight at sundown, Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar, begins. It's a day of fasting, reflection, prayer and repentance. To all of you, may your fast be an easy one.

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.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding 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 Virgo and a Moon in Capricorn.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, SEPT. 22, 2015:

This year you might want to pursue a major passion. You will gain confidence through hard work. The unexpected often shakes you up. 2016 announces a new life and luck cycle entering your life. If you are single, the person you meet in the later part of the year could be significant to your life. This person will be an intense, loving tie, but different from what you have experienced in the past. If you are attached, the two of you will make a significant decision that will put your relationship on a new track for several years. Make sure you have enough private time together. CAPRICORN knows how to seduce you into agreeing with him or her. 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 you look up to could be unusually touchy, which might result in a misunderstanding. Your actions and choices are likely to shock others. Everyone will regroup and make better decisions by tomorrow. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone at a distance whom you care about tremendously. You might wonder why you put up with as much as you do from a friend you see almost every day. You'll gain an insight that might be profoundly upsetting. Tonight: Listen to great music.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★★ Deal with people on a one-on-one level in order to keep the ties between you tight. You are more likely to hear the truth when you maintain your friendships. A friend or a meeting could take an unanticipated twist. Tonight: Roll with the ups and downs of the moment.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★ Others seek you out, which could displease a boss or associate. This person would like you to pitch in on a project. Confusion surrounds the unexpected. As a result, you'll gain a better understanding of someone you need to work with more often. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★★ Pace yourself. You have only so much

time to do what you want. Sort through mixed messages or conflicting information. Recognize that you might not have the complete story just yet. Detach, and you could be surprised by what comes up. Tonight: Off to the gym.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★ Focusing on work might be close to impossible, as your imagination seems to drift toward your relationship with an important person in your life. You don't often tap into your creativity, but it is a great source of ideas. Tonight: Allow your inner child to escape.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Tension revolves around your domestic and personal lives. Nevertheless, you'll put up a good front. When close friends or loved ones find out what has happened, their reactions will echo your own. Recognize what you can change and what you can't. Tonight: Put up your feet.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★ Make calls, return messages and check your email before you make any plans; otherwise, you might experience an upset during your day. A problem also could develop from unanswered questions. You can't afford to ignore anyone at this time. Tonight: Discussions evolve.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★★ Avoid a clash over funds, especially if you feel as though someone is pushing too hard for you to go along with his or her terms. Solutions will pop up out of the blue, though you might wonder if you even want to be involved at this point. Take your time. Tonight: Let friends in.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★★ Just because you feel invincible doesn't mean someone else won't challenge you. This person could push very hard to get what he or she wants. Let this individual's drive roll right off you. A family member or a situation at home might arise. Tonight: Enjoy the unexpected.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

★★★ You'll have a lot on your mind that you might choose not to share with others. As a result, you could keep it to yourself. As you ponder different situations, you'll see a potential misunderstanding. Know that the unexpected could occur at any time. Tonight: Out late.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

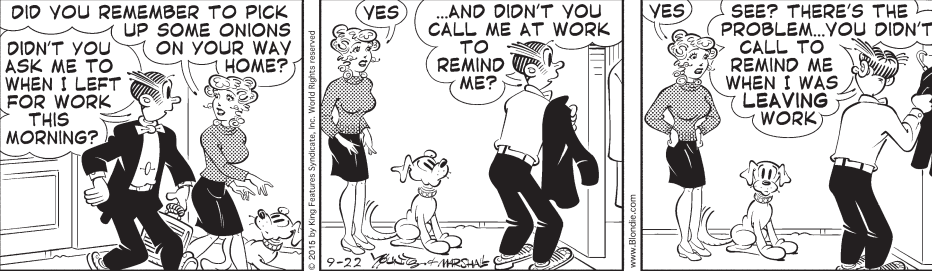
★★★ Where your friends are is where you'll want to be. When in a meeting, even if it is regarding a business matter, you could turn the event into a party. Don't sit on a misunderstanding too long. A disagreement might become even worse if you don't handle it soon. Tonight: Your treat.

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BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

