

BEETLE BAILEY

BY GREG WALKER, BRIAN WALKER AND NEAL WALKER

I'M MAKING A CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR GUYS WHO HAVE NOWHERE TO GO

HMM...BEETLE INVITED ME TO JOIN HIM WITH HIS FAMILY

TURKEY, STUFFING, PUMPKIN, APPLE AND PECAN PIES...

AND NO BEETLE!

12/22

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BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL

YOU DIDN'T GET ANY MAIL TODAY, BUT I'LL LET YOU BORROW MY CHRISTMAS CATALOG

WHY WOULD I WANT TO BORROW YOUR CHRISTMAS CATALOG?!

I FIGURED YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE WHAT I CIRCLED FOR GIFT IDEAS!

12-22

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www.blondie.com

DUMPLINGS

BY VICTOR VAN ACKER

SEE? I TOLD YOU THE STOCKINGS WERE TOO HIGH FOR YOU TO REACH.

HA! THAT JUST MEANS I GOTTA PULL OUT THE OLD "SQUIRREL MANEUVER."

THE OLD WHAT?

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ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS, DAD?

HMM...

WELL, I'VE HAD MY EYE ON A THUNDER CRICKET.

SWAMP DONKEY, KINKY BEAVER, PINK-SKIRTED SPINNER, OR A WIGGLY PICKLE.

FIRST, I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT I'M ABOUT TO ASK FOR...

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ROYAL STARS

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE FROM GEORGIA NICOLS

The day ahead: ★★★★★ = Dynamic; ★★★★★ = Positive; ★★★ = Average; ★★ = So-so; ★ = Difficult

**Moon Alert:** Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) or big decisions from 9 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. EST today (6 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from **CAPRICORN** into **AQUARIUS**.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ When talking to friends or members of groups, tread lightly, because people are emotional today. And because of this, someone might say something they will later regret. (This person could be you.) A platonic relationship could turn intensely romantic today. Tonight: Be friendly.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Pull in your reins a little today, because you might have strong feelings in a discussion with bosses, parents, the police or anyone in a position of authority. The thing to know is that you are high-viz. Others will notice you. Do be aware of this. Tonight: You're noticed.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Be smart and avoid heated discussions about controversial topics like religion and politics, because this is the classic day for people to butt heads. Emotions are running high! Some people will be entrenched in their views, and logic has left the room. Run away! Run! Tonight: Learn and explore!

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★ You're an excellent saver and rarely casual about money. This could be why today you have strong feelings about financial matters, especially debt, shared property, inheritances or insurance issues. Early today a partner or close friend might surprise you. Tonight: Check your finances.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Use your **LEO** charm and wisdom when dealing with partners and close friends today, because feelings are intense and powerful. You might have a reaction to something that someone says. Conversely, you might attract someone to who is in your face. Take it easy. Count to three before you respond. Tonight: Cooperate.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ Today you're determined to introduce improvements to your job or the way you do something. Or perhaps this desire for improvement will extend to your health or the way you deal with a pet. Whatever the case, you might be fanatical about your new ideas. (Be aware of this.) Tonight: Get organized.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Romance is complicated today. A relationship might be unbelievably passionate, or some kind of obsessive quality might take over if there's feelings of jealousy, fear, insecurity or possessiveness. Take a step back and let some fresh air into the situation. Tonight: Socialize!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**For Monday, Dec. 22, 2025:**

You are determined, patient and a long-term planner. You're a self-starter who likes to prepare meticulously. This is a year of learning and teaching for you. Explore meditation, spiritualism or philosophies that give you a better understanding of your life.

**BORN TODAY**

Actor Ralph Fiennes (1962), singer-songwriter Meghan Trainor (1993), broadcast journalist Diane Sawyer (1945)

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Today your ruler Pluto and the Moon are lined up, creating an intense focus that can be self-analytical, whether you're looking more deeply into yourself or looking at someone else. To counter this, lighten up if you can. It's Monday, the first day of the week. Tonight: Cocoon at home.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Steer clear of arguments with siblings, relatives, neighbors and any daily contacts that you encounter, because you might end up with egg on your face. (Ketchup helps.) You want to convince someone to agree with your ideas today. (That's putting it mildly.) Tonight: Energetic conversations.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Your thoughts about money, cash flow and your personal possessions are not casual today. Oh no. You have specific, strong ideas. For starters, others should respect your assets, because if they don't, they'll hear about it. Oh yeah. Tonight: Check your belongings.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign lined up with Pluto, which will create intense, emotional experiences within you that might cloud your logic or your sense of perspective. Caution against overestimating something. Avoid important decisions today. Tonight: You win!

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ This is a high energy, popular day for you, and your involvement with others will be direct and possibly competitive. In fact, you might take charge of a situation. Be aware that something beneath the surface might be driving you to attain a certain result, whether you're aware of this or not. Tonight: Enjoy solitude in pleasant surroundings.

NEVER BEEN DEADER

BY TOMMY DEVOID

HOORAY FOR A SHORT WEEK.

GEE, WHAT A GIFT.

IT'S LIKE GETTING COAL, JUST LESS.

BUT ALL STILL BURNING.

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE

TIME FOR SEAT BELTS!

BELT BELT BELT BELT BELT

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INSANITY STREAK

BY TONY LOPES

THE ORNAMENT PEOPLE ARE COMING BACK... I JUST KNOW THEY ARE.

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SUDOKU

8	2				5		
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9	5	7		8	2	1	6

Difficulty: ★

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

TODAY'S ANSWER

9	8	1	2	8	4	7	5	6
2	5	4	7	6	1	8	3	9
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1	9	6	5	2	8	3	7	4
8	4	2	9	7	3	5	6	1
3	7	5	1	4	6	9	2	8

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'VE BEEN A GOOD BOY, BUT...IT HASN'T BEEN EASY. JUST SO YOU KNOW."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"...and please make the days go FASTER."

**SHEFFER CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

1 Now, on a memo

5 Comic Notaro

8 Chumps

12 "Be-Bop-A- —" (Gene Vincent oldie)

13 Personal

14 152, in old Rome

15 PC picture

16 Person with a video-sharing channel

18 Possessive pronoun

20 Jungle trek

21 Part of N.B.

23 USMC rank

24 Guests

28 Bath bar

31 "The Joy Luck Club" author Tan

32 Fish hamper

**DOWN**

34 Genetic letters

35 Salt formula

37 Shoulder ornaments

39 Satisfied sigh

41 Hammett pooch

42 "— Fidelis"

45 Messenger god

49 "The Tempest" role

51 Type of dancer

52 Suffix for billion

53 Standard

54 Dutch cheese

55 Golf props

56 "That's all — wrote"

57 Thinker Des-cartes

11 iPhone voice

17 Spigot

19 Campus mil. group

22 Venezuelan corn patty

24 Mover's vehicle

25 "— Believer"

26 Tall maple tree

27 Beach area

29 Busy insect

30 Faux —

33 Mandolin's kin

36 Expires

38 Not as small

40 With it, once

42 Lovers' quarrel

43 Toledo's lake

44 Workout count

46 Style

47 Novelist Jennifer

48 Not all

50 Fan's cry

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

	P	I	E	T	A		A	C	C	U	S	E
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S	W	O	O	S	H		S	A	S	S	Y	

**Saturday's answer 12-22**

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