

Teen’s troubled friend is on path to self-destruction

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old girl, and my friend “Leah” is out of control. She has been going down the wrong path since sixth grade. She is what people call “emo.”

She has attempted to end her life more than once. She has sex with lots of boys older than her and has issues with drugs and cutting. She was abused until she was 5 and then adopted. She doesn’t seem to have any morals.

She says she wants to become a serial killer and a prostitute when she grows up. She also wants to have a baby in the near future. Leah has borderline personality disorder and probably some others. I have tried talking to her about what she’s doing to herself, but she sees nothing wrong with her destructive behavior.

I want Leah to get help before she winds up raped, in prison, or on death row, or becomes a teen mother on the streets. I don’t want her to become another number, another statistic. What should I do? Who do I call – the police, social services, a hotline? — **SCARED FOR LEAH**

DEAR SCARED: Your friend appears to be a very troubled and angry girl. If she thinks that by becoming a prostitute or a killer she will be able to assert control in her life where she has none, she’s sadly mistaken.



DEAR ABBY

You say she has borderline personality disorder. If that’s true, it must have been diagnosed by a licensed psychotherapist. Frankly, I don’t think this is anything you can – or should – handle on your own.

If your mother doesn’t know what’s going on, please tell her so she can alert Leah’s mother and Leah can return to her therapist. However, if that’s not possible, tell a counselor at school what you have told me so Leah can receive more treatment before she hurts herself or someone else.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been together for three years and have planned our first vacation together. We decided to split the expenses 50/50.

Last week, he announced that he has invited his sister and her boyfriend to go along and stay with us in the apartment we rented. Not only was I shocked that he would invite them without checking with

me first, I became upset when he said he wasn’t asking them to pitch in any money. Normally I’m not stingy when it comes to sharing, but I’m angry and I wonder if I’m over-reacting.

His mother died last year, and his sister is the only family he has left, which he tends to remind me of to make me feel guilty. How should I react to this? — **AMBER IN TEXAS**

DEAR AMBER: Tell your boyfriend that out of consideration for you, he should have cleared it with you before inviting anyone to come along. When he tries to make you feel guilty by reminding you that his sister is all the family he has left, patiently explain that you understand that, but this was supposed to be your first trip together – just the two of you – and this has taken the romance out of it.

Then make it clear that you do not intend to foot the bill for Sissy and her boyfriend because that isn’t fair to you. And if he doesn’t agree, cancel the trip because you wouldn’t enjoy it any way.

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.

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

Instructions for play: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

That’s all there is to it. There’s no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. It’s fun. It’s challenging. It’s addictive!

Solving time is typically from 10 to 30 minutes, depending on your skill and experience.

The solution for today’s puzzle will be published in Saturday’s paper. Or you can go to www.sudoku.com to find the solution.

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

You are determined to get things done this week, Aries. You might want to start with that long list of chores that you have been putting off for some time.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, a challenge awaits you this week. Don’t be afraid to seek help from others, as recognizing you need help is a sign that you’re capable of handling this task.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, accepting too much responsibility at work is starting to affect your performance. Delay some of your more trivial tasks to focus on the more important ones.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, it’s easy to get your way this week, but try to remain humble. Others might not be so lucky, so offer your help in any way you can.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, enthusiasm about a new plan reigns supreme. You don’t need to convince others about your excitement. Just jump right in and get started on the project.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, your generosity knows no bounds and that is a trait people love about you. Continue this positive approach to life, and your efforts will be their own reward.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you are a powerhouse of activity this week and it’s hard for others to keep up. Slow down a bit so coworkers don’t fall too far behind.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, try to look at a problem through someone else’s eyes. This new perspective may be just what you need to find a solution that has thus far proven elusive.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, your confidence inspires you to try something new this week. Embrace this newfound boldness, but don’t forget to keep your head on straight along the way.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, let others know what you expect of them this week. Be clear and concise and set a firm deadline. Reward those who fulfill your expectations.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Don’t be afraid to stray from your comfort zone this week, Aquarius. If you never try new things, success will prove elusive. Jump in with both feet.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, be subtle in your approach with friends and family members. This thoughtful approach will benefit you and those you care about.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MARCH 29
Justin Tuck, Athlete (32)

MARCH 30
Celine Dion, Singer (47)

MARCH 31
Ewan McGregor, Actor (44)

APRIL 1
Hillary Scott, Singer (29)

APRIL 2
Clark Gregg, Actor (53)

APRIL 3
Damien Sandow, Wrestler (33)

APRIL 4
Robert Downey, Jr., Actor (50)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Bother

5 Lose

9 Drop in

10 Needle

12 Laugh-

able

13 Namely,

in Latin

14 Yard

event

16 Through

17 Tavern

quaff

18 Book

genre

20 Inferior

22 Mine yield

23 Nonsense

25 High point

28 Cellist

Pablo

32 Prying

tool

34 Last letter

35 Massage

36 Crimson

Tide’s

home

38 Block-

head

40 Series

test

41 Search

deeply

42 Perfect

places

43 Have a

novel

experience?

44 Afternoon

socials

DOWN

1 Closing

number

2 Customs

3 Confes-

sion list

4 Clambake

clam

5 Cloak-

and-

dagger

types

6 Child

7 Cry of

indigna-

tion

8 Craving

9 Crucial

11 Collar

inserts

15 Rhap-

sodic

19 Low digits

21 Hearty

dish

24 Fort

feature

25 Bitter

26 Less

refined

27 Dangling

art

29 Honey-

suckle’s

cousin

30 Bar

stock

31 Plane

count

33 Restrain-

ed

37 Await

39 Some

gametes

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		
9							10				11
12							13				
14						15			16		
17					18				19		
20			21				22				
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25	26	27				28			29	30	31
32					33				34		
35					36				37		
38			39						40		
41									42		
	43								44		

3-28

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Snow-

boarding

spot

6 Like the

desert

10 Watergate

evidence

11 Column

type

13 Happen-

ing

14 African

scavenger

15 Ventilate

16 Fuss

18 Apiece

19 Sources

of income

22 Mouse-

spotting

cry

23 Brussels-

based

org.

24 Fizzy

drinks

27 Grow

toward

night

28 God of

war

29 Buddy

30 Skiers’

purchases

35 Grow

older

36 Chopping

tool

37 Cry of

insight

38 Breath

fresheners

40 Glossy

fabric

42 Detail map

43 Tip over

44 Hot, in a

way

45 Cheerful

DOWN

1 Iron

output

2 “C’est —!”

3 Sung

drama

4 Farm

enclosure

5 Fancy

homes

6 Kind of

committee

7 Singer

Orbison

8 Words of

emphasis

9 Set of

chairs

and a

table

12 “Downton

Abbey”

butler

17 Cartoonist

Browne

20 Minimal

amount

21 Aptitude

24 Deli meat

25 Starts

26 Cabinet

depart-

ment

27 Ties, as

skates

29 Blend

31 Delicious

32 Glutton

33 Use your

brain

34 Annie’s

dog

39 Singer

Ritter

41 Gorilla or

gibbon

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	
10						11				12
13						14				
15				16	17			18		
19			20				21			
			22				23			
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28					29					
30				31				32	33	34
35				36				37		
38			39			40	41			
42						43				
	44					45				