

# Birthday cash buys groceries and gas instead of baubles

**DEAR ABBY:** My birthday was last week and my boyfriend gave me \$100 cash to spend on myself. I ended up spending the money on groceries for the both of us and on gas.

If my boyfriend asks what I used his gift for, should I tell him it was for groceries for us? I have asked my friends and they said different things, such as, tell him the truth, or something like “I’m saving it.” — **SAVANNAH IN GEORGIA**



DEAR ABBY

**DEAR SAVANNAH:** If he asks, tell him the truth. The money was spent on things you needed – groceries for the both of you and gas. And if he finds fault with that – although I can’t imagine that he would -- remind him that once a gift is given, it belongs to the recipient to do with as she (or he) pleases.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am an 11-year-old girl in middle school. There are two boys I like. One of them is someone I’ve known for two years and is a really good friend. The other boy I don’t know anything about. I like him because he’s cute.

What I like about the first guy is that he’s funny, smart, looks good and we like the same things. I don’t know which to pick. Please help! — **INTERESTED IN OREGON**

**DEAR INTERESTED:** At 11, you don’t have to pick

either one. Enjoy both for what they have to offer and, in time, you won’t have to ask anyone else to decide for you. In fact, you may even find a third someone who offers the same qualities you like in both of these boys in one package and who likes you back.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been in a relationship for five years with my boyfriend, “Clay.” We live in separate houses. I have three children, ages 18, 17 and 12. My 18-year-old is away at college.

Clay never comes to my house. Every weekend, and sometimes during the week, I must pack my bags and those of my kids to go to Clay’s. This is hard for us. I have discussed it with him, but his answer is he’s “set in his ways.”

He expects me to drop everything at a moment’s notice to host parties for him or meet him for dinner with his co-workers. I have explained that a single mother cannot do this all the time.

I am tired and frustrated. I have stayed with Clay this long thinking that one day he’ll want more from this relationship. But it’s difficult enough taking care of one home without having to look after a second one.

Am I wasting my time? Should I move on? I feel he does love my kids and me. We have never argued, and he has never mistreated me. I just don’t know what to do anymore. — **MISERABLE IN MISSISSIPPI**

**DEAR MISERABLE:** Why should Clay want more from a relationship that’s working just fine for him? He has all the perks and none of the responsibilities that come with marriage. When he snaps his fingers, you run, regardless of the stress on you and your children.

That when you have mentioned a compromise he tells you he is “set in his ways” should convey a strong message. It’s time to lay your cards on the table and tell Clay what YOU want and what YOU need from this relationship, so if he isn’t prepared to give it to you, you can make other plans.

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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## su | do | ku

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

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](http://www.sudoku.com) to find the solution.

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

## HOROSCOPES

### ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, your hard work will finally come to fruition this week. You will feel like a huge burden has been lifted off of your shoulders, and you deserve to take some time off.

### TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, don’t allow frustration to get the better of you. A problem you can’t seem to solve may have you feeling hopeless, but perseverance will lead you to a solution.

### GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Others may need your help this week, Gemini. You are ready and willing to offer your services and advice when they are sought. A welcome reward is coming to you.

### CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, your career may conflict with the demands of your relationship if you let them. Find a balance between the two so you can have your cake and eat it, too.

### LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, some exciting changes lie ahead. Now is a great time to step out of your comfort zone, even if you are a little nervous to take the first steps.

### VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, this week brings a change in your life, and this change will lead to some great things down the road. Don’t be embarrassed to be excited about this new path.

### LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

You may feel pushed and pulled in a number of directions, Libra. This makes it difficult to pursue your own personal goals as a result. Speak up if you need more time to yourself.

### SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, a relatively rebellious streak surfaces this week. Risk-taking is at the center of this new attitude, and you may find yourself doing a little damage control.

### SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, you may think that the grass is greener somewhere else, but that is not always the case. Seek ways to make your own grass greener.

### CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Experiences at home can affect your sense of security, Capricorn. Take the necessary steps to feel safer. Surround yourself with friends and family during this time.

### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Avoid making any big decisions this week, Aquarius. You are preoccupied with something else and cannot devote enough attention to any one task at the moment.

### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Some extra money unexpectedly comes your way this week, Pisces. Work with a financial planner for some good ideas.

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

**MARCH 22**  
Wolf Blitzer, Journalist (67)

**MARCH 23**  
Jason Kidd, Athlete (42)

**MARCH 24**  
Valentin Chmerkovskiy, Dancer (29)

**MARCH 25**  
Brenda Strong, Actress (55)

**MARCH 26**  
Steven Tyler, Singer (67)

**MARCH 27**  
Pauley Perrette, Actress (46)

**MARCH 28**  
Lady Gaga, Singer (29)

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 41 Looks for  
1 Lancaster  
5 Barrel  
10 Outdo  
12 Make  
13 Gluttonous spree  
14 Set off  
15 Hagen of  
16 Flock  
18 “Aw,  
19 Mind a  
21 Stadium  
22 Yellow  
24 Hawkeye  
25 Yellow  
29 Telescope  
30 Color-changing stuff  
32 Drama  
33 Imitating  
34 Old hand  
35 Principled  
37 Subarctic  
39 Tickle  
40 Throat

### DOWN

1 Rise  
2 In agree-  
3 Singer  
4 Gentle  
5 Did laps,  
6 Service  
7 Slow  
8 Ben of  
9 Door sign  
11 Green  
17 Dined in  
20 Irritated  
21 Color  
23 Rodeo  
25 Turn into  
26 Fabri-  
27 Strike  
28 Political  
29 Eastern  
31 Bath  
33 Pub pints  
36 Invite  
38 It’s  
pressed  
for cash

J	A	P	P		L	E	W	D
A	M	I	G	A		D	O	N
C	O	R	A	L		A	C	R
O	R	A		B	A	N	K	I
B	A	C	K	I	N	G		C
L	Y	I	N	G		P	O	D
				L	O	O	S	E
	A	C	T		L	U	R	K
A	L	A		B	A	R	K	I
B	A	S	K	I	N	G		M
A	S	H	E	N		E	V	O
S	K	I	N	S		D	A	N
H	A	N	S		N	O	S	E

Previous Puzzle

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					23			
24								
25	26						27	28
29				30				31
32								
33								
34								
35			36			37	38	
39						40		
41						42		

3-21

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 40 Wildly  
1 Prepare  
5 Diplomatic  
9 Words to  
10 Oscar or  
12 Victorious  
13 Ohio city  
14 Hot dish  
16 Purr  
17 Golf  
18 Wane  
21 Neptune's  
22 Adversar-  
23 Make  
24 Hard  
26 Bar bill  
29 2013  
30 Facts and  
31 Motor  
32 Camera  
34 Steer  
37 Cake  
38 Delroy  
39 Yard sur-

### DOWN

1 Fifth  
2 Hun  
3 Burner  
4 Aspiration  
5 Price  
6 Wonder  
7 Annul  
8 Musical  
9 Fluttery  
11 Postmark  
15 Prop for  
19 At any  
20 Soup  
22 Annoy  
23 Expert, in  
24 Quiz  
25 Tea type  
26 Studio  
27 Immedi-  
28 Police  
29 Young  
30 Cut into  
33 Abundant  
35 Wedding  
36 Beagle or

B	A	R	B		P	R	O	F	S
A	R	E	A		S	L	I	P	
L	I	E	S		P	A	S	T	R
M	A	K	E		N	I	C	E	
					M	A	K	E	S
S	C	R	A	P	E		S	O	D
L	O	O	N	S		R	E	E	V
A	R	C		H	O	L	D	E	N
M	A	K	E		T	I	M	E	
					M	A	K	E	G
P	I	M	P	L	E		A	B	L
E	L	A	T	E	S		N	O	E
P	L	O	Y	S		T	E	S	T

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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					
24	25							26	27	28
29								30		
31					32	33				
34			35	36		37				
38						39				
	40					41				

3-23

Daily Cryptoquote – Here’s how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R  
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L’s, X for the two O’s, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

### CRYPTOQUOTE

D A W Z B R U Z B E O J U G Z N A

R Z Z N D J N N D Z Q Z B R G B O D N

P Z R W B N Z J G G A I N D Z

P J Q L E Z R R . — P Z R Y A E P N K N K

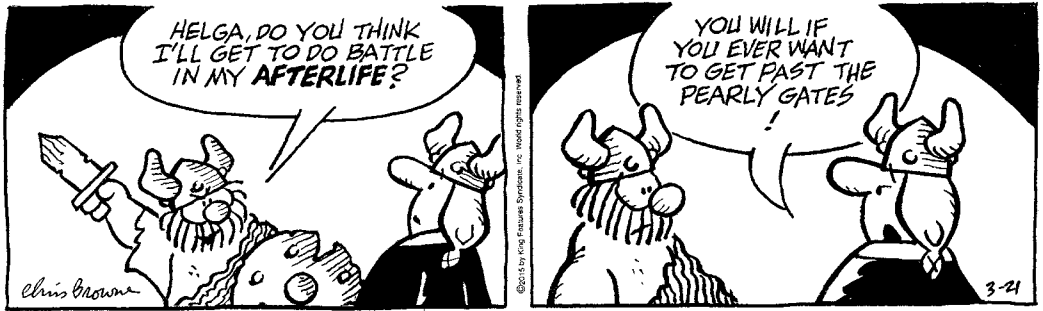
Previous Cryptoquote: I MUST TRUST THAT THE LITTLE BIT OF LOVE THAT I SOW NOW WILL BEAR MANY FRUITS, HERE IN THIS WORLD AND THE LIFE TO COME. – Henri Nouwen

## COMICS

### Tundra



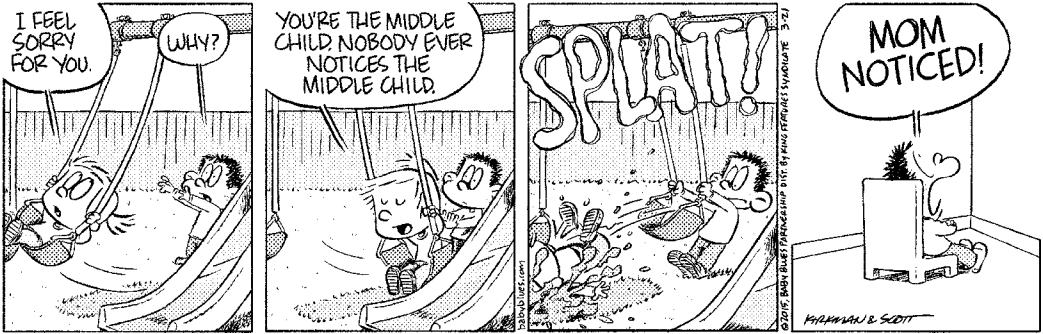
### Hagar the Horrible



### Peanuts



### Baby Blues



### Dilbert

