

Girlfriend kept in shadows begins to see the light

DEAR ABBY: I am 21 and confused. My boyfriend, “Ethan,” and I broke up five months ago, but we recently got back together. The problem is, he hides the fact that we’re together. I’m not allowed to put anything on Facebook or even comment or “like” anything on his page. He hardly even talks to me or comes to see me, and when we do talk or see each other, we end up in a fight. We used to be great together, but things are no longer the way they were.

Ethan insists he’s not cheating on me, but it’s hard to believe him, because when we got back together he had been talking to a girl who lives a few miles away from him. I don’t want to end our relationship. Ethan says he loves me and doesn’t want to leave me, but I don’t know what to think anymore. Any advice? — **DRIFTING IN OHIO**

DEAR DRIFTING: Yes. Wake up, honey. The relationship you cherished with Ethan is over. A man who is in love with a woman sees and talks with her often, and doesn’t hide her from the world or get into a fight with her every time he sees her. That he would forbid you to mention that you are back together on Facebook and refuse to permit you to comment on his posts is a huge red flag.

You asked my advice,



DEAR ABBY

and here it is: Take a giant step backward and see Ethan for who he is – a person who doesn’t tell the truth and is very likely a cheater. If he was sincere, he’d be telling the world the happy news about your reunion.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 16-year-old girl and a junior in high school. I love my best friend and we are very close with each other. How do we maintain a strong friendship when we go to college? We are planning on going to different colleges, possibly in different states. We don’t want to lose what we have right now. — **GOOD FRIEND ON THE WEST COAST**

DEAR GOOD FRIEND: Do it the way everyone else does -- through instant messaging and social media. But understand that both of you will have new responsibilities that will occupy your time, and you will be meeting new people

and forming additional relationships. It doesn’t have to have a negative impact on your close friendship if you both approach it with the right attitude. College is a time for growth and expansion. When you see each other during vacations from school, you can share that with each other.

DEAR ABBY: While driving with my son when he was in fifth or sixth grade, I spotted a bumper sticker on the car ahead of us at a stoplight. It had the “My child is an honor student” message with his school’s name on it. I said to him, in a not-too-subtle hint about his grades, “I’d like to have a bumper sticker like that to put on my car, too.”

I realized he was developing a wicked sense of humor when he replied, “I’ll see if I can steal you one.” It’s one of my favorite memories. — **OH, THE MEMORIES IN LA GRANGE, N.C.**

DEAR MEMORIES: Funny! And what has he become? A lawyer, a politician or a comedian?

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

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.

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

Previous Puzzle

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may feel that a goal is beyond reach, but you can get there if you are willing to make some sacrifices. Make a decision quickly this week.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Many different people, including loved ones and colleagues, hold you in high regard, Taurus. That’s because you are a forward thinker willing to take chances.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, take a careful approach to any obstacles that come your way this week. A problem that arises will require some thoughtful analysis and a slow and steady approach.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, be honest about what you desire, even if it seems like getting it is impossible. You never know what you can achieve if you push yourself and have a little patience.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, you have many good ideas and are ready for many of them to come to fruition. Muster up some energy and clear your schedule so you can conquer the tasks at hand.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you have more in common with a colleague at work than you originally imagined. Pool your resources and work as a team to get the job done.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you may have to be a little more assertive than usual to get your way this week. If you have good ideas, stick behind them and make your voice heard.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Set goals that are difficult to reach, Scorpio. This is a great way to push yourself to be the best you can be. Expect some special news to arrive very soon.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Something that may have been important to you a few days ago has lost its luster this week, Sagittarius. Don’t pursue it any longer because it’s not worth your time.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, make the most of a business opportunity that presents itself in the coming weeks. This opportunity could be the chance you have long been waiting for.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Don’t push yourself beyond your limits this week, Aquarius. There’s no rush to get things done and no need to subject yourself to fatigue or burnout.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, do not let your daydreams get you into trouble. Harness your imagination in the next few days so you can focus on the here and now.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY 1
Harry Styles, Singer (21)

FEBRUARY 2
Shakira, Singer (38)

FEBRUARY 3
Rebel Wilson, Actress (29)

FEBRUARY 4
Oscar De La Hoya, Boxer (42)

FEBRUARY 5
Darren Criss, Actor (28)

FEBRUARY 6
Axl Rose, Singer (53)

FEBRUARY 7
James Spader, Actor (55)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Trolley’s kin
- 5 Foot-wiping spots
- 9 Long for
- 10 Exem- play
- 12 Add zest to
- 13 Nick of “Grace-point”
- 14 Drink cooler
- 16 Tall tale
- 17 Alley item
- 18 Out of control
- 20 Strut
- 22 CEO’s kin
- 23 Kitchen come-on
- 25 Very dry
- 28 Sadat’s predecessor
- 32 Plunder
- 34 Yale student
- 35 Lend a hand
- 36 Fumes
- 38 Pig part
- 40 Colander’s kin
- 41 Reason
- 42 Claire of “Hometown”
- 43 Cherished
- 44 Troubling sign

DOWN

- 1 One of the Nixons
- 2 Baltimore team
- 3 Opposite of “sans”
- 4 Computer screen sight
- 5 One with a pick
- 6 Commo- tion
- 7 Bank worker
- 8 Swift work
- 9 Film excerpts
- 11 Onions’ kin
- 15 “Crazy in Love” singer
- 19 Places for the pampered
- 21 Toppers
- 24 Copes
- 25 Pentagon bigwigs

- 26 Came down
- 27 Destroyed
- 29 Peaceful
- 30 Late hour
- 31 Midway sights
- 33 Fall flower
- 37 Thailand, once
- 39 Olympics chant

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				
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32			33				34		
35			36				37		
38		39			40				
41					42				
	43				44				

1-31

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Hefty wrestlers
- 6 Autos with meters
- 10 Make amends
- 11 Quartz variety
- 13 Metal fastener
- 14 Tough puzzle
- 15 High card
- 16 Foot part
- 18 Memo- rable time
- 19 “Ground- hog Day” director
- 22 Neckline shape
- 23 Hay bundle
- 24 Sobbed
- 27 Copier need
- 28 Frau’s spouse
- 29 Traffic tie-up
- 30 Song that starts every day in “Ground- hog Day”
- 35 Football’s Marino
- 36 Road- house
- 37 Chaney of films
- 38 Gladden
- 40 Pollute

- 42 “Love Story” writer
- 43 Glowing coal
- 44 Dispatch
- 45 Milk source

DOWN

- 1 Singer
- 2 New York city
- 3 Van operator
- 4 Small bill
- 5 Made a home
- 6 Heist
- 7 In the past
- 8 Player at first, e.g.
- 9 Like the OR
- 12 Pencil end
- 17 Keats poem
- 20 Noticeable
- 21 Enola
- 24 Berates
- 25 Wines and dines
- 26 Early tool- making
- 27 Jeered at
- 29 Singer
- 31 Give over
- 32 Suspect’s story
- 33 Big mistake
- 34 Ledger item
- 39 Light brown
- 41 “I — Rock”

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10					11			12	
13					14				
15			16	17			18		
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		22			23				
24	25	26			27				
28				29					
30			31				32	33	34
35			36				37		
38		39			40	41			
42					43				
	44				45				

2-2

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.

1-31 CRYPTOQUOTE

I V R V C I T G D R M W I N C S D K V F

T P I D W R D J A . D J D R Y W B D E X

C E F Y I A D E X L D J G C Y P I Y W R V .

— K W I C E V C S V G P I R J W E

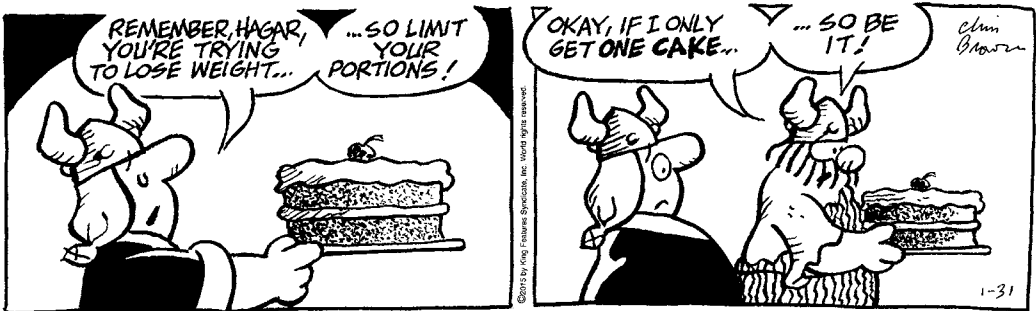
Previous Cryptoquote: HOWEVER DIFFICULT LIFE MAY SEEM, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO AND SUCCEED AT. – Stephen Hawking

COMICS

Tundra



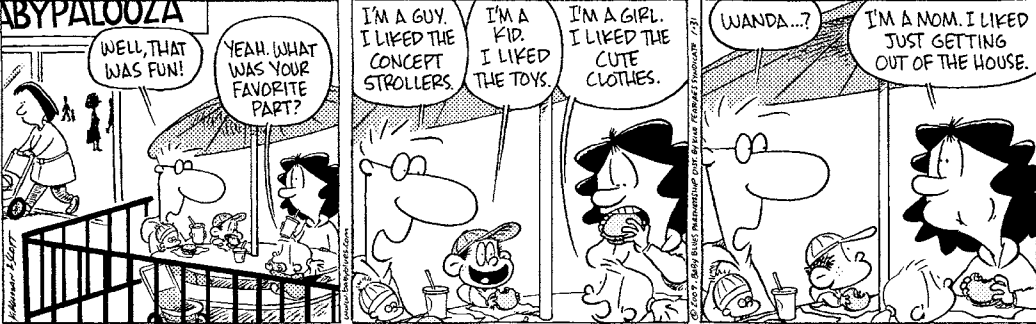
Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

