

Dad in jail loses contact with newborn baby’s mom

DEAR ABBY: I am 20 years old and in jail. My ex-girlfriend recently had a baby. I left her during her pregnancy. We had been together for two years, but things just weren't working. I told her I still wanted to be in my daughter's life after she had the baby, but she left and went to North Carolina. After I was incarcerated, I lost contact with her. She said I can be a part of my daughter's life only if we have a family and get back together. I'm willing to do that, but I won't be out of jail for five more months, and I have no way to contact her. How do I go about it, Abby? — **LOVES MY BABY GIRL**

DEAR LOVES: When your ex said what she did, she was using the baby to manipulate you into doing what she wanted. Because your relationship “wasn't working,” I would caution you against having any more children with her. When you are released, she may come after you for child support, or if she applies for benefits in North Carolina, the state may do that. That would be one way of pinpointing where she is. You could also search for her online. However, if you can't locate her any other way, you may have to hire a private detective when you can afford one.

DEAR ABBY: My kind-hearted, loving mother-in-law would do anything for me. She has lived in an in-law apartment attached to



DEAR ABBY

our home for 20 years. She and my father-in-law -- God rest his soul -- were a huge help when our children were growing up. The kids are gone now, and my husband and I would like to sell our home and move to something smaller. Would it be awful of us to make her move? She is 88. She has a loud and adamant-sounding voice, so it would not be in our best interest to have her move with us. — **DAUGHTER-IN-LAW IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR DAUGHTER-IN-LAW: Yes, it would be awful. It almost appears you took advantage of her for baby-sitting purposes, but now that the children are grown, she is no longer useful. Her voice didn't bother you before, so why does it now?

While it may not be “in your interest” to have her move with you, it may be extremely difficult for her to adjust to a new living situation at her age. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. When your children see that you think this is an acceptable

way to treat someone, the same thing could happen to you.

DEAR ABBY: I recently told my mother that I am transgender, male to female. She is supportive and urged me to come out to my father. Abby, he doesn't believe me! I knew I was a girl at the age of 4, but kept it to myself until I was 16. How can I get my father to believe me? And how do I get my friends to understand when I come out to them? — **NEEDS HELP IN MISSOURI**

DEAR NEEDS HELP: It may take time for your father to accept that you are transgender, or even to learn what that really means. Please remember that you do not have to “sell” this idea to your friends. As time passes, they will understand as you start living as a female and begin taking hormones.

An organization called PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is a source of reliable information and support for you, your friends and family members who are interested in learning about these issues. You can find it online at pflag.org.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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

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.

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, it's important to know that someone close to you supports you no matter what. Don't let self-doubt overwhelm you. Others support you for a reason.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Set your long-term goals and work hard to make them a reality, Taurus. Goals can help you stay on track and provide much-needed motivation when you hit rough patches.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, even though you may not be getting all of the recognition you hoped at work, others are paying attention to your accomplishments. Just be a little patient.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Romance could be heading in your direction, Cancer. If you are in a relationship, then that relationship might grow even stronger. Plan a romantic getaway soon.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, you may want to keep some thoughts to yourself this week. Others may not be fond of you rocking the boat at this time, so let things settle down.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Surround yourself with people who can make you feel good and provide lots of support, Virgo. This week you may need all of the encouragement you can get.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Expect a self-esteem boost when you begin to feel better about all of your options, Libra. Although you may not be in love with all of the possibilities, many are very appealing.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you have an uncanny sense of imagination and your creativity will be running strong this week. Share some of your ideas with a trusted friend or family member.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

There are many cosmic energies working in your corner, Sagittarius. You just need to be in tune with the changes that are happening all around you.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, anticipate some confusion regarding your social life this week. This can grow into a stressful situation if you let it. Instead, keep a level head and trust that things will work out.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, career concerns dominate your thoughts these next few days, but you have other things on your mind as well. Devote ample time to all of your concerns.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, exotic thoughts creep into your head, but you have some mundane chores that need tending to as well.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER 20
Tom Petty, Singer (63)

OCTOBER 21
Carrie Fisher, Actress (57)

OCTOBER 22
Jeff Goldblum, Actor (61)

OCTOBER 23
Ang Lee, Director (60)

OCTOBER 24
B.D. Wong, Actor (53)

OCTOBER 25
Adam Pascal, Singer/Actor (43)

OCTOBER 26
Antonio Pierce, Athlete (35)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 One of Santa's team

1 Gulp with gusto

7 Surgery souvenir

11 Square

12 Jerry Herman musical

13 Take over

14 Important times

15 Rotates

16 Fire

17 Some-what

18 Temperature unit

19 Runner Zatopek

21 Tiny laborer

22 Harry Potter's creator

25 Team backer

26 Even

27 Kicks out

29 Clergy garments

33 Paris subway

34 Concise

35 Sax sort

36 Blues-based music

37 Some stories

38 Galahad's mother

39 Goals

DOWN

1 Fixed proportion

2 Free of censorship

3 Ghana port

4 Charter member

5 Dandies

6 Shrewd

7 Bouquet

8 Travel group

9 Remarkable

10 Bristle at

16 Southern lass

18 New Zealand natives

20 Catchphrase

22 Sporting spear

23 Made bootees

24 Moscow native

25 Cow or sow

28 Irascible

30 Type a password, perhaps

31 Salty mixture

32 Ranch animal

34 Go it alone

36 Nap sack

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

Previous Puzzle

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										

10-19

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 35 Infuriate

1 Tortoise's rival

5 Soda fountain orders

10 Country singer Jackson

11 Kind of musical wonder

13 Crooner Crosby

14 Cash, in slang

15 Some piano keys

17 European peak

18 Defensible

19 Summit

20 Horse healer

21 Bride's wear

22 Bed cover

25 Captain Nemo's creator

26 Bad actors

27 Knight's title

28 Chest bone

29 Windfall

33 George Gershwin's brother

34 Some piano keys

37 Owed amount

38 Frat party

39 Land unit

40 Horn sounds

41 Listen to

DOWN

1 Custom

2 Full of energy

3 Talked at length

4 Carves into metal

5 Early Ford

6 Ouzo porch

7 Writer Deighton

8 Usher's place

9 Steak choice

12 Knock over

16 Skeptic's comment

21 Roofed porch

22 Cry of terror

23 Snood

24 Shipping ban

25 In — veritas

27 Gets serious

29 Produce

30 Brother's daughter

31 Horse's cousin

32 Showy flower

36 In the past

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

Previous Puzzle

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										

10-21

Daily Cryptoquote – Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A X R
IS A 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.

10-19 CRYPTOQUOTE