

Girl who loves troubled boy can't save him all by herself

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old daughter, “Lizzie,” continues to talk to a 14-year-old boy who is very controlling and abusive to her. I made her stop talking to him, took away her cellphone privileges, and tried to show her how wrong he was for her and that she was going to wind up very hurt.

After recently giving her the cellphone back, I learned last night that Lizzie has been talking to him and lying to me about it. He sent her a text that if she didn't answer his call within seven minutes, he was either going to shoot himself or cut himself. He included a picture of his arm with a knife held against it. She thinks that her compliance is all that's standing in the way of this boy killing himself.

I'm scared for her safety, but she won't listen to me because she “loves” him. When I called the boy's mother about it, she became defensive and accused me of implying she was a bad mother. Please tell me how to handle this. — **WORRIED MOM IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR WORRIED MOM: It's time to have a nonconfrontational conversation with your daughter about the dynamics of emotional blackmail, because that's exactly what she's experiencing. Your daughter needs to realize that the boy appears to have serious



DEAR ABBY

emotional problems and as much as she may love him, she's not equipped to help him or to prevent him from hurting himself if he really wants to.

As long as Lizzie sees herself as a hero who is saving his life by sacrificing hers, he won't get the help he needs. So if she REALLY cares about him – and I have no doubt she does – she will end the relationship because it isn't a healthy one for either of them.

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine, “Cameron,” has a problem. It's his second year in college and he's still a virgin. He gave his heart to a girl in the past, and it left him bitter, emotionally unavailable and, unfortunately, unlaidd. He is outspoken, but deep down he lacks confidence.

How can my friends and I help him, and how can he help himself? — **HIS BFF IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR BFF: You are well-meaning, but the person asking this question

should be your friend Cameron. While the fact that he may be “unlaid” and “unavailable” bothers you and your friends, it's possible that it doesn't bother HIM.

If and when Cameron does tell you he is troubled by it, advise him to visit the student health center and discuss it with a counselor because there may be complicated reasons for it. He doesn't need help losing his virginity. But he may need help addressing his trust issues or he may always remain emotionally unavailable.

DEAR ABBY: How do you feel about young adults using the F-word in public? My sweetie, a mom of two, insists the word is becoming accepted. I am of the “old school,” and I maintain that the word is tasteless and shouldn't be used in public. What do you think? — **KEEPING IT CLEAN IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR KEEPING IT CLEAN: I think that, regardless of age, the F-word should not be used in public -- and if it's used in private, it should be reserved only for “special occasions.”

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.

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

	3					8	
			3		2		
		7	9		4	5	
	6	9		3		8	1
3	8						6
	7	2		5		9	4
		1	6		8	3	
			7		5		
4						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 to find the solution.

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

HELOISE'S KITCHENEERING BY HELOISE

Is Watermelon on Ice Still Nice?

Dear Heloise: Can you freeze CUT-UP WATERMELON and have it still taste yummy when you take it out? — Mercy W. in Texas

Yes, you can freeze watermelon! The texture and taste may be a little different than fresh. It won't be quite as sweet-tasting, unless you eat the frozen watermelon while it is still slightly frozen, and the texture may not be as firm, but the taste is still there.

You can freeze the watermelon cubed or in balls, or puree it and add some sugar for a sweeter flavor, if needed. Remove seeds and rind. Freeze the pieces in a tray, and when frozen, transfer to a freezer bag or container, removing as much air as possible. If you don't have a vacuum sealer, place the watermelon in a freezer bag and use a straw to remove the air. — Heloise

Sponge Saver

Dear Heloise: I have a love-hate relationship with sponges. They are convenient, but hold so many germs. I came up with this hint: When I am finished, I squeeze out all the excess water and prop it up using a binder clip. I clip it on the shortest side of the sponge, and the sponge sits up and doesn't touch the sink or counters directly. It gives me peace of mind. — C.K. in Illinois

Love it, love it, love it! Germs AWAY! — Heloise

Cooked Chicken

Dear Heloise: To save time for a quick dinner, I often keep a cooked rotisserie chicken from the store in the refrigerator. I can't tell you how many times a recipe called for cooked chicken or turkey, and I was able to make it because I had the chicken already in the refrigerator. It's also great for making chicken-salad sandwiches. — Stephanie L. in New Mexico

This is a great hint for busy families! You also can add the meat to any soup or casserole dish. Cooking can be a lot of fun if you experiment and substitute items you like for items you are not so fond of. For more hints on food substitutions, I wrote my pamphlet Heloise's Seasonings, Sauces and Substitutes. To order one, send \$3 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (70 cents) envelope to: Heloise/SSS, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Instead of celery, try adding chopped coleslaw or water chestnuts to your ham, tuna or chicken salad for that added crunch! — Heloise

Spread With A Spoon

Dear Heloise: Want to stop shredding your bread when making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches? Use the back of a spoon instead of a knife. Works great with other condiments and spreads as well. — Mike W., via email

Have you been peeking into my kitchen? I do the same, and it's sooooo easy! — Heloise

Nonstick Spray

Dear Heloise: For easy cleanup, before I start grating cheese, I spray my grater with nonstick cooking spray. Nothing sticks, and washing the grater is a no longer a chore, but an easy task. — Melanie R. in Oregon

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Hazardous gas

6 Fence part

10 Sung story

11 Seething

12 Divided

13 Man with a moral

14 Sine study, for short

15 Strike caller

16 Convoy truck

17 Runner on snow

18 Notice

19 Pale quality

22 Sicilian peak

23 Mystique

26 Sore quality

29 Letter before psi

32 Make fun of

33 Kilmer of "The Doors"

34 Upright

36 Courageous one

37 Prologue

38 Locker art

39 Atkinson of "Mr. Bean"

40 Polygon corner

41 Debate group

42 Spirited horse

DOWN

1 Raised platforms

2 Inform

3 Tickle pink

4 Not a dup.

5 D.C. baseballer, for short

6 Make ready

7 Caravan stop

8 Mall business

9 Plains home

25 Generally

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

Previous Puzzle

11	Neil	27	Sold-out show
4	Diamond	28	Not on the level
15	Luau instrument	29	Nest sound
17	Enjoys, as chips	30	Accolade
20	— nutshell	31	Bisected
21	Nearest star	35	Historic times
24	Retribution	36	Pointer
38	— de		

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, 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		

3-5

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Stares in shock

6 Personnel

11 Wide awake

12 Mischievous sprite

13 Play place

14 Improve, in a way

15 Strong-arm

17 Spot

19 Slapstick weapon

20 Lobster trap

23 "Batman" butler

25 Poland's Walesa

26 Tolstoy book

28 School near Windsor

29 Revealing, as a dress

30 M.B.A. or Ph.D.

31 Salon stuff

32 Memorable time

33 Female followings

35 Yellow gem

38 City on the Nile

41 In the know

42 Wrath

43 Flexes

44 Opera singer

DOWN

1 Empty talk

2 Elev.

3 Song by The Doors

4 Therefore

5 Increase, as an incline

6 Word separator

7 Clock reading

8 Log chopper

9 Shark symbol

10 Nourished

16 Batman villain

17 Cut, in a way

18 Fill with joy

V	A	S	E	S		C	O	S	T
I	M	A	G	E		L	I	M	A
C	O	N	G	A		A	L	I	K
A	R	T		S	O	N		L	E
R	E	A	D	I	N	G	D	E	S
				O	D	E		R	A
H	I	T	M	E		M	O	T	O
A	C	R	E		G	A	L		
R	E	A	D	I	N	G	L	I	S
A	D	D		S	U	E		S	H
S	T	E	E	L		N	O	L	A
S	E	I	N	E		T	H	E	M
A	N	D		A	S	S	E	T	

Previous Puzzle

20	Sixties decal, often	31	Loving looks
21	Take place	33	Knotty
22	Letter before iota	34	Lion feature
24	Conducted	35	Folder feature
25	Detective Archer	36	Need to pay
27	Odorous animal	37	Mythical piper
		39	Old roadster
		40	Bruins legend

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, 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				
43						44				

3-6

Daily Cryptoquote – Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

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.

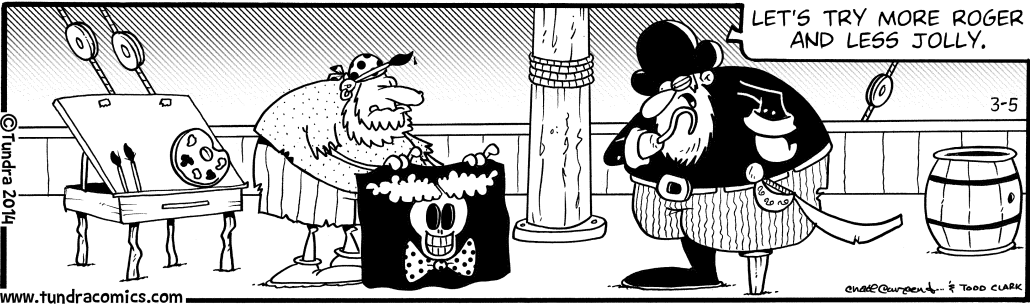
3-5 CRYPTOQUOTE

B V O R V B L M B V C D C M F L I
V Y Q B O S C L M O R X V Z V
K Z V K O Z O S C L M I L Z N O S V Z
N C I V , O M Y X O U V C S S G V I Q N N
X V O M C M F L I S G V K Z V R V M S
N C I V . — T L G M Y V P V A

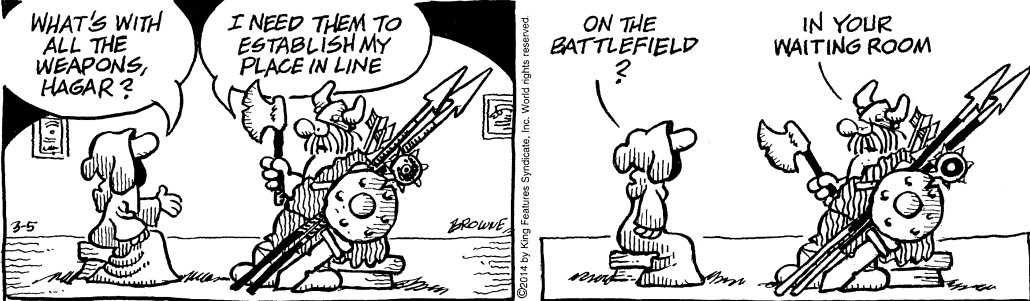
Previous Cryptoquote: NO MOVEMENT CAN AFFORD TO BE CAUGHT IN A TIME WARP AND EXIST IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION. – Theodore Bikel

COMICS

Tundra



Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

