

Girl keeps parents in the dark about new roommate’s identity

DEAR ABBY: I am moving out of my parents’ place soon to be with one of my best guy friends, but I haven’t told my parents who I’m moving in with. In the past, they have caught on to my lies when I was going through my “phase,” but I have been trying hard to be honest with them, so I don’t want to lie.

When I briefly alluded to it with Mom as a “what if” situation, she didn’t handle it well. She freaked out. They don’t understand that I can have a guy best friend without having a sexual relationship with him.

Now I am torn. Should I be honest so they don’t call me a liar down the road? Please help! — **MISS INDEPENDENT IN COLORADO**

DEAR MISS INDEPENDENT: Do not lie to your parents. If you do, you are only forestalling the inevitable. If you are mature enough to be moving in with someone, you should be able to tell them where they can find you and who your roommate will be.

You AND this young man should explain that while you are good friends, you are not a romantic couple. Having a platonic male roommate can have its advantages – as long as the parameters of the arrangement are clearly understood before either of you signs a lease, and your financial responsibilities (and his) are clearly stated,



DEAR ABBY

preferably in writing.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 15-year-old girl, and I have been feeling very sad and down in the dumps lately. I recently lost my younger sister to sickle-cell. I also didn’t make my school’s soccer team. I have been crying often – sometimes for no reason, and other times because I’m mad at myself for crying all the time.

I have tried talking to my parents, friends and my family’s therapist (we got her because of my sister), but nothing seems to change my mood. It’s as if they just don’t get how I’m feeling. It also doesn’t help that it seems like everyone else’s life is so much better compared to mine. If you could offer any advice to help me with my feelings, I would really appreciate it. —**DOWN IN THE DUMPS IN CONNECTICUT**

DEAR DOWN IN THE DUMPS: Losing a younger sibling is difficult at any age, but when you are a young teenager, it can be

even harder. Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your sister.

I’m glad your family sought guidance from a therapist to help you all through this difficult time. The feelings you are experiencing are normal under the circumstances. But because they are not lessening, it’s important you let the therapist know they are causing you additional stress so that, if necessary, you can be evaluated by a psychiatrist. Feelings like the ones you describe can be worked through if they are dealt with in a timely manner and not allowed to fester.

DEAR ABBY: What is the correct etiquette for eating shrimp? My husband says it’s OK to eat it with your fingers – even shrimp scampi. — **PAT IN TEXAS**

DEAR PAT: According to Emily Post, shrimp can be eaten with the fingers “when served in a bowl or platter with a dip, or tail-on in shrimp cocktail.” A fork should be used when it is served “tail-less in a shrimp cocktail or as a main course.”

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

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.

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Take a leadership role on a work assignment, Aries. If your interest in work has been waning of late, a more active role may help you change your perspective.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, there is nothing you cannot accomplish this week. The sky is the limit in terms of your potential. All you need to do is focus your energy on a particular task.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Let something that’s been bugging you cool off for the time being, Gemini. There’s plenty of time to revisit the situation later, and you will be glad you took some time away.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jun 22

You’re willing to give a loved one the benefit of the doubt when that person makes a proposal that seems to come out of nowhere. Your patience will be appreciated.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Expect to be surprised by good news, Leo. Share your good fortune with others this week, and you will realize the good news will prove even more enjoyable.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

You may benefit from a change of scenery, Virgo. If you have the time, book a getaway to an exotic locale and make the most of this time to rest, relax and recharge.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, rest assured that a broken heart or bruised ego will not last too long. There are big changes ahead in your personal or professional life, so keep your eyes open.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Taking charge comes naturally to you, Scorpio. In fact, you thrive in this role. But this week you may have to play second fiddle for the good of the team.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

You seem to be operating on auto-pilot this week, Sagittarius. Your routine has become so ingrained that things are automatic. Make a few minor changes to liven things up.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Spend the week in as much quiet contemplation as you can manage, Capricorn. You have a few big questions to work out and can only think when you have private time.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, dissatisfaction at work has you wondering if things would be different elsewhere. Sometimes a change of attitude can give you an entirely new perspective.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, a loved one comes to you seeking guidance this week, but don’t be bummed if they ultimately do not heed your advice.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY 18
Brett Lawrie, Athlete (25)

JANUARY 19
Jodie Sweetin, Actress (33)

JANUARY 20
Gary Barlow, Singer (44)

JANUARY 21
Geena Davis, Actress (59)

JANUARY 22
Christopher Masterson, Actor (35)

JANUARY 23
Rutger Hauer, Actor (71)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Butterfly

relative

6 “Cosmos”

creator

11 Bridget’s

portrayer

on film

12 Michelle

Robinson’s

married name

13 Book

section

14 Blood fluid

15 Miss Jane

of mysteries

17 Saloon

supply

18 Riviera

season

19 Freed, in

a way

22 Shop tool

23 Early

online

protocol

24 “Holy

cow!”

25 “The

Bathers”

painter

27 Smart-

phone

download

30 “10” star

31 Aunt, in

Acapulco

32 Cherbourg

chum

33 Rink need

35 Twangy

38 Put in

office

39 Treasure

guardian

40 Frisco

player

41 Walger of

“Lost”

42 Lingerie

buy

DOWN

1 Police

blotter

list

2 Soprano

Scotto

3 Charles’

brother

4 Sob

5 Metropolis

resident

6 Sinking

signal

7 Band-

leader

Lyman

8 Repair

site

9 Charm

10 Identified

16 Foes

20 Metropolis

resident

21 Writer

Beattie

24 Wallet

bill

25 Italian

cheese

26 Light

pioneer

27 Go to

28 Like quilts

29 Napoleon,

for one

30 Forehead

cover

34 “I cannot

tell —”

36 One of

Jo’s

sisters

37 Grazing

spot

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			
30									
32						33		34	
35					36	37		38	
39								40	
41								42	

1-17

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Hint of

color

6 Reef

material

11 Oak’s

fruit

12 Martini

garnish

13 Floppy

cap

14 Peripheral

15 Sinuous

fish

17 Terminate

18 Aquatic

rodents

22 Over

again

23 Iroquois

tribe

27 Girder

material

29 Whoop it

up

30 Cooking

class,

for short

32 Staff

member

33 Finger

joints

35 Place

38 Termi-

nate

39 Genius

Newton

41 Depart

45 — firma

46 Hold up

47 Chaplin

persona

48 Use the

rink

DOWN

1 File folder

feature

2 Glacier

makeup

3 Negative

link

4 College

frat cel-

ebration

5 Come in

6 Table

protector

7 Antique

8 Take the

bus

9 Stratford’s

river

10 Give for a

time

16 — Vegas

18 TV series

set in

Korea

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