

# Boyfriend's 'other woman' is permanently attached

**DEAR ABBY:** My boyfriend and I have been dating for two years. We live together, and his child from another woman lives with us. I love my boyfriend and his child, but one thing prevents me from imagining us being married: He has his child's mother's name tattooed on his body.



DEAR ABBY

The tattoo bothers me for many reasons, and I'd like him to have it covered up if we ever do marry. He says he doesn't want to get rid of it. When the topic comes up, we argue. Am I unreasonable for wanting him to get rid of the tattoo? If that woman really is in his past, why does he need a constant reminder of her on his body? — **IN A STINK OVER INK**

**DEAR IN A STINK:** You're asking the wrong person. Only your boyfriend can answer that. He may not want to go to the expense, or to experience the pain of having more artwork done. Or he may not like the idea that you are telling him what to do. However, if he has been living with you for two years, I doubt it's because he's still carrying a torch for someone else. If you

love him and the two of you want to get married, my advice is to accept him warts, artwork and all, because regardless of any romance in his past, YOU have habeas corpus. (That's Latin for "you have the body.")

**DEAR ABBY:** I consider myself a social person and enjoy talking to friends on the phone. My problem is, when I talk to one of them, she will never let me get off the phone. Sometimes we'll talk for several hours, but eventually I have other obligations and have to go. When I tell her that, she often ignores me and keeps right on talking. I don't want to be rude, but sometimes I have to say goodbye four and five times before she finally acknowledges that I must end the call. It irritates

me. I like talking to her, but I can't go on and on forever. How can I make her let me off the phone without hanging up on her or upsetting her? — **MR. NICE GUY**

**DEAR MR. NICE GUY:** The person you're describing obviously has less going on in her life than you do. She may also be a compulsive talker.

The next time you talk to her, make the conversation face-to-face and tell her that as much as you like her, you don't have the amount of time to spend on the phone that she does. Explain that when you tell her you must end the conversation, if she doesn't stop talking within five minutes, you will have to hang up. And then do it. Will she like it? No. But the alternative is that she will continue to take advantage of you -- which she has been doing because you have allowed it.

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

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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.

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

## HELOISE'S KITCHENEERING BY HELOISE

### Glass Bakeware Has Changed

Dear Readers: Many times, a piece of GLASS BAKEWARE may shatter, and it's not very fun or safe to clean up. As we were talking in Heloise Central about the issue, it came up how many of us have NEVER read the directions. Or we just use and clean them the way our mothers did. Today's glass bakeware is not the same as that of long ago. So, here are a few hints for you to think about:

■ Don't use bakeware if it is damaged in any way (chipped, scratched or cracked).

■ Don't clean it with anything abrasive or use a metal brush to clean it with.

■ The oven should be at the temperature you are going to bake with.

■ Rapid changes in temperature (i.e., going from the oven and then placing the bakeware on a cold surface, countertop or metal trivet) are a no-no.

■ Don't use it in a toaster oven. I've done this! Who knew?

Don't buy glass bakeware at a thrift store or garage sale. You have no idea how it's been handled, and it may be unsafe. — Heloise

**Send A Great Hint To:**  
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San Antonio, TX 78279-5000  
Fax: 210-HELOISE  
Email: [Heloise\(at\)Heloise.com](mailto:Heloise(at)Heloise.com)

### Freezing Cheese

Dear Heloise: Can I freeze packages of cheese slices (like the cheese slices that are individually wrapped in plastic)? How about the little blocks of cheese that are wrapped in plastic? I am referring to unopened packages. — Paul A., via email

Yes, you can freeze most cheese, including the slices and the blocks wrapped in plastic. Do put the cheese in a freezer-safe plastic bag or container first, though. The cheese may be more crumbly after it's been frozen, but it is fine to eat. — Heloise

### Clean Microwave

Dear Heloise: I learned this hint years ago. Use a microwave-safe 2-cup measuring cup, fill it with about 3/4 cup water, then add a teaspoon of your favorite flavor to it (for example, vanilla, lemon extract, etc.). Microwave on high for a few minutes (until it boils), then shut off the microwave and let it sit for about 15 minutes.

The moisture from the steam will have softened all the cooked-on splatters, and the inside will wipe clean. Plus, the flavoring will put a nice aroma in your kitchen. — Kathy C., via email

### Drawer Dividers

Dear Heloise: On a cleaning spree, I decided that my drawers needed some serious reorganizing. I used cleaned cookie and cracker dividers from the packages to hold little things (like buttons and pins in my desk) and cut down cereal boxes to organize my socks in my dresser, and I am so happy. Nothing gets misplaced anymore! — Helene, via email

### Perfect Powder

Dear Readers: If you're looking for a delicate accent to fruits and desserts, try filling a tea steeper with powdered sugar and shaking to sprinkle the perfect amount onto the goodies. It's as simple as that! — Heloise

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 42 Greek sorceress

### DOWN

1 Egyptian emblem  
2 Enters en masse  
3 Way back  
4 Diplomatic skill  
5 Fourth-yr. students  
6 Humorist Barry  
7 Saudi natives  
8 Writer Cathar  
9 Like a snoop  
11 Canadian-born comic  
15 Letter after sigma  
17 Commemorative statue  
20 Center  
21 Sense of self  
24 Uncon-firmed  
25 Foolish  
27 Salon stuff

STAR	CASA
LEONE	ADULT
AXING	SOBER
MLEAGE	DRY
EST	TRYOUTS
STRATA	WEST
NAVAL	
SOFT	INSIDE
PULSATE	NRA
ATE	SYMPTOM
SLEET	OLIVE
MACRO	NAMES
YEAR	EYES

Previous Puzzle

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		

4-30

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 1 Film prize  
6 After a while  
11 Texas city  
12 Fight site  
13 Wrongful acts  
14 One of the Bradys  
15 Insulted, in slang  
17 Soft food  
19 "— been real!"  
20 Motor part  
23 Broadway's Stritch  
25 Lose color  
26 Bright color  
28 Numerical prefix  
29 Baby rocker  
30 Blue hue  
31 Funny fellow  
32 Arthur of "Maude"  
33 Cotton cloth  
35 Desk item  
38 Incline  
41 "Superman" star  
42 2013 animated snail film  
43 Spirited horse  
44 Car type

**DOWN** 1 Make a choice  
2 Traffic caution  
3 Bridge event  
4 Opposed to  
5 "The Barber of Seville" composer  
6 Oxford features  
7 Parched  
8 Wallet bill  
9 Conclude  
10 Devilish  
16 Lettering aid  
17 Texas river  
18 Sighed cry  
20 Carton material  
21 "Skyfall" singer  
22 Enchant-ress who aided Jason  
24 Swearing-in vow  
25 Ga. neighbor  
27 Studio workers  
31 Grew more intense  
33 Inlet  
34 Detec-tive's find  
35 Tax agcy.  
36 Volleyball need  
37 Garden visitor  
39 Hornets' org.  
40 Cargo unit

LABEL	AMIS
AGILE	LATHS
PANIC	POSIT
UTE	ASH
PETERPARKER	OVA
TRY	AARE
LATHE	ABYSS
AREA	APB
DIANA	PRINCE
LES	GEO
ETHER	PALER
STOLE	OFTEN
APSE	STEPS

Previous Puzzle

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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						42			
43						44			

5-1

Daily Cryptoquote – Here's how to work it:

A XYDLBAAXR  
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.

### CRYPTOQUOTE

SNM WZRS OWFZASCIS PMRRI  
OI SNM BAOSOIV SACJM OR  
SNCS CIQ WCIXREAOFS OR  
OWFAZHMJ OK QZX EXS CBCQ  
SNM KCS. — AZLMAS NMOIPMOI

Previous Cryptoquote: THE FINEST LANGUAGE IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF SIMPLE UNIMPOSING WORDS. — George Eliot

## COMICS

### Tundra



### Hagar the Horrible



### Peanuts



### Baby Blues



### Dilbert

