

# Husband on gender journey wants his wife to go along

**DEAR ABBY:** A couple of years ago, my husband informed me that he likes to dress in women's clothing. Since then he has read books, is seeing a counselor, and the reality is, he is transgender. He now wears his hair long and has long fingernails.

I have tried to be understanding and have gone places with him when he is dressed as a woman. He has met other transgender people who have either made the full transition or are content without it. I allow my husband time with these new friends without me. I did feel weird that he was clothes shopping and going to movies with his new friends.

I have reconciled with these activities and I'm OK with them so far. But I have told him that if he decides to change his gender to female, I will not be able to be married to him. He's on hormones at the moment and has told me he plans to start testosterone blockers.

I love him, Abby, but NOT the woman side of him. Am I unreasonable to put a boundary on my marriage? He thinks if he slowly eases me into the idea that it will be OK. He says I am his "world" and I should love him no matter what gender he is. Am I being selfish? — **SOMEWHERE IN THE NORTHWEST**

**DEAR SOMEWHERE:** You appear to be a loving and accepting wife. You may be your husband's world, but his world is changing – and along with it, so is yours. It is not self-



DEAR ABBY

ish to take care of yourself. You did not enter your marriage to be partnered with another woman, and you should not be made to feel guilty remaining with one if it's not what you want. Some spouses stay together; others just can't.

If you haven't heard of the Straight Spouse Network, it is a confidential support network of current or former heterosexual spouses or partners of gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender mates. It was founded in 1991, and its mission is to help straight spouses or partners cope with coming-out issues, and help mixed-orientation couples and their children build bridges of understanding. To learn more about it and find a support group near you, visit [www.straightspouse.org](http://www.straightspouse.org).

**DEAR ABBY:** I have always had an extremely close relationship with my little sister. Last year, I graduated from high school and left for university. It was hard for both of us. My college is an hour away from where my family lives, so even though I live on campus, I try to come home whenever I can to visit on

weekends. Lately it seems like my little sister has emotionally distanced herself from me. She doesn't confide in me anymore, shows little interest in my life, and it has gotten to the point where she barely acknowledges me in public. I have tried talking to her about it and telling her how much it hurts me, but she tells me I'm over-reacting and to stop being stupid.

My mom says she does this with everyone and that this is typical for a 14-year-old teenager, but it breaks my heart to be so excluded from her life. Is this just a phase I have to learn to deal with and accept? What should I do? — **SAD BIG SISTER IN SWITZERLAND**

**DEAR BIG SISTER:** Your sister is growing up, and part of that process means becoming an individual. Right now she is trying to figure out who she is, apart from the family she loves -- including you. I'm sure she isn't intentionally trying to hurt your feelings. Because you were so close, she may have felt abandoned when you left for college. Your mother is right about this. Let your sister evolve. She'll be back. Accept it for now.

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

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	7		4		6		9	
6				8				5
		4	2		1	7		
2		7				8		9
8		5				1		3
		1	8		9	6		
3				4				1
	5		6		7		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](http://www.sudoku.com) to find the solution.

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

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

Previous Puzzle										
21 Forest grazer	34 Munich mister									
22 High point	36 Gather									
23 Schnitzel base	37 Needing aspirin									
25 Soothing plant	38 Not working									
29 Fond fellow	39 Totality									
30 According to	40 Letter after sigma									
33 Weak-willed	41 Presidential nickname									

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					
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15				16						
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38	39	40					41			
42								43		
44								45		

12-18

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

1 Pert talk

5 Moulin

Rouge

dance

11 Canyon

sound

12 Mead-

owlark's

cousin

13 Harrow

rival

14 Knock

over

15 God of

wine

17 Kickoff

aid

18 Malia's

sister

22 Novel

ideas

24 Patriot

Allen

25 Seine

water

26 Many a

time

27 Door sign

30 Fry lightly

32 Ranch

rope

33 Hallow-

een mo.

34 Potential

pipes

38 Bagel

choice

41 Franc

replacer

42 Wed in

secret

43 Wild

guess

44 Ornamen-

tal shrubs

45 Swift jets

### DOWN

1 Canary

snack

2 Play start

3 Soccer

game

tie-

breakers

4 Shake-

speare

creation

5 Barracks

beds

6 Kindle

7 Attacks,

puppy-

style

8 Beat

walker

9 Com-

pletely

10 Once

called

16 Agreeable

answer

20 Heir, often

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

Previous Puzzle

19 Public	31 Means of
mentions	approach
20 Knife	35 Some
handle	wines
21 Poker	36 Baby
payment	sitter's
22 Zest	bane
source	37 Shows
23 Turner of	sorrow
film	38 Sailing
28 Houdini	site
feat	39 Wing
29 Tenant	40 Lawn
30 Heir, often	makeup

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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				
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38	39	40					41			
42							43			
44							45			

12-19

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.

12-18 CRYPTOQUOTE  
S W D X D X S W H R D V X S S H X S  
F R L Z H I S Y H Q L I : W D X V H X N H P S  
R F V S W F X H O W F P L I G H F R  
I F N F X X D G Y H A L Y T H S F W D Q .  
— O D Y Y D L Q Y K F I N W H Y N X

Previous Cryptoquote: ANYONE WHO KEEPS THE ABILITY TO SEE BEAUTY IN EVERY AGE OF LIFE REALLY NEVER GROWS OLD. – Franz Kafka

## COMICS

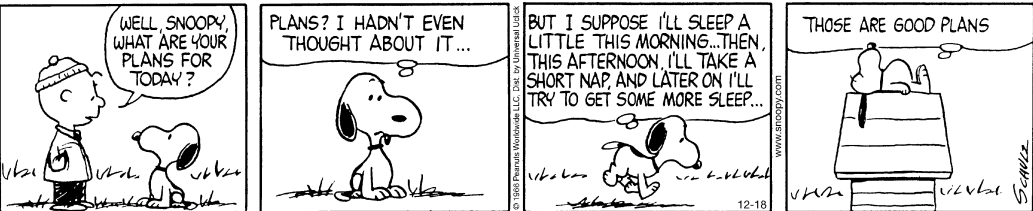
### Tundra



### Hagar the Horrible



### Peanuts



### Baby Blues



### Dilbert

