

Four’s a crowd when daughters visit dad and his new partner

DEAR ABBY: I’m 16 and have a 13-year-old sister. Our parents are divorced, and we live with our mother. We used to see our dad on visitations every other weekend, but he moved away, so now we see him for two weeks in the summer and one week during Christmas. We talk to him a lot and have a good relationship. We’re scheduled to visit him soon.



DEAR ABBY

Dad lives in a one-bedroom apartment and when we’re there, he lets us stay in the bedroom and he sleeps on the couch. He has just told us he is “coming out of the closet” and has a partner who is living with him. They plan on getting married now that it’s legal. When I asked him what the sleeping arrangements will be, he said he hasn’t figured it out yet, but will work it out.

We’re really not surprised to find out that Dad is gay, and we can accept that. But we’re really uncomfortable about spending two weeks in a one-bedroom apartment along with his partner when we don’t even know what the sleeping arrangements will be. We’d like to find a way to get out of the visit, but we don’t want to hurt our dad, and because of the visitation agreement, he has the right to have us for two weeks every summer. What can we do? —**UNCOMFORTABLE IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: Of this I am sure, your father and his partner will welcome you with open arms and do everything in their power to show you a good time. You and your sister should go and try to be gracious guests. I agree, the space may be cramped, but it’s only for two weeks. After they marry, they may move to larger quarters.

If you don’t enjoy the visit, keep in mind that in two years you will be 18 and no longer “obligated” to spend three weeks with your dad. But if you give this a chance, you may be very pleasantly surprised, so think positive.

DEAR ABBY: My father-in-law is considering having my two precious little girls’ names tattooed on his arm. I’m not a fan of tattoos and would prefer my daughters’ names not be displayed in this manner. Do my husband and I have a right to ask him not to do this? Our his-

tory with him hasn’t been the most pleasant because he can be manipulative and hard to deal with. I’m afraid if we tell him we are opposed, it will encourage him all the more to get the tattoo. How should we approach this without causing a ruckus? —**AGAINST IT IN OKLAHOMA**

DEAR AGAINST IT: You can offer your opinion, but there is no way you and your husband can control what he does with his body. Because the subject has already come up for discussion, it would not be rude to raise it again and explain NICELY that if he hasn’t done it yet, you would prefer the girls’ names not be displayed that way.

Of course, the decision is his to make, and while it may not be to your liking, I’m sure your father-in-law considers it to be a loving gesture and a sign (literally) that he’s proud of his granddaughters. If the tattoo has already been applied, then please, for the sake of family harmony, try to view it from that perspective.

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

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

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you have a firm grasp on what you need to accomplish in the week ahead. Stay focused on your tasks and that focus will pay off by the end of the week.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, your financial burden is a little easier this week. Perhaps you have caught up on bills or have received a little extra money you didn’t expect.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, whether you are in a relationship or are looking for a new romantic partner, the next few days are the moments for putting on the charm.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, many things need to get done this week before you can set work aside and take a much-needed vacation. Once you get through the bulk of things, you can relax.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Save some of your good fortune for others, Leo. When you share the wealth, not only will you feel better about yourself, but also you will certainly have more friends around you.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Without you the well-oiled wheels of the work machine just won’t spin correctly, Virgo. That can put a lot of pressure on you in your career, so weigh the options of a day off.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, sometimes you have to be the voice of reason, and this won’t always make you popular with others. Though some may not rally around you this week, they’ll relent.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Something that seemed like a good idea at first glance may not seem like the best thing to do right now, Scorpio. Switch gears while you can still take another path.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, although you may rather spend your time doing something else for the next few days, handle your upcoming obligations without complaint.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Surround yourself with close friends, Capricorn. They will serve as your anchor in difficult situations that may come to pass this week. It’s good to have a support system.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

There is more to you than others see, Aquarius. Sometimes you relish in being mysterious, and this is one of those times. Others’ interest will be piqued.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Don’t take any sniffles or sneezes for granted, Pisces. Make sure this week you pay attention to your health to ensure good days ahead.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 11
Chris Hemsworth, Actor (30)

AUGUST 12
Casey Affleck, Actor (38)

AUGUST 13
Alan Shearer, Athlete (43)

AUGUST 14
Mila Kunis, Actress (30)

AUGUST 15
Jennifer Lawrence, Actress (23)

AUGUST 16
Kathie Lee Gifford, TV Host (60)

AUGUST 17
Sean Penn, Actor (53)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Unforeseen problem
5 Mating game
10 November birthstone
12 Make fresh
13 Baja buddy
14 Mindful
15 “Norma —”
16 Resistance unit
18 Soccer’s Hamm
19 Puget Sound city
21 Yellow-stone resident
22 Fruit cocktail item
24 Entrenched
25 Comedic reactions
29 Heart
30 Emerson works
32 Small bill
33 Co. abbr.
34 Compass dir.
35 Until now
37 Bring together
39 Magic illusion

40 Cornered

- 41 Jazz instruments
42 General assembly?

DOWN

- 1 Kick off
2 Polite denial
3 Individually
4 Comic bit
5 Pack tight
6 Chop up
7 Tooth layer
8 Continuing story
9 Use four-letter words
11 Go from close to long shot
17 Do a board feat
20 Nostalgic song
21 River’s bounds
23 Tailor’s slant
25 Mexican state
26 Word starter
27 Less complex
28 Method amounts
29 Budget
31 Squalid
33 Bothers pro
36 Dogfight
38 Gun.

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

Previous Puzzle

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
				11		12			
10									
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		

8-10

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Green stone
5 Fundamentals
9 Barber’s tool
10 Court sport, in slang
12 Scent
13 Hawaiian hello
14 Coercion
16 — Abner
17 Pub pints
18 Attractively old-fashioned
21 In medias —
22 Oaf
23 Lathered up
24 Sipping aids
26 Waiter’s reward
29 “It’s my belief ...”
30 Do some modeling
31 Black gunk
32 Suppress
34 Like gymnasts
37 Surmise
38 Flat
39 Comes together
40 Look for
41 Looks over

2 Portuguese island group

- 3 Rotunda tops
4 Historic periods
5 Cry of insight
6 Arg. neighbor
7 “Gangsta’s Paradise” rapper
8 Egyptian landmark
9 Air traffic aid
11 Shaker stuff
15 Parrot sounds

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

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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			

8-12

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.

8-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

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

Previous Cryptoquote: IF YOU CAN FIND A PATH WITH NO OBSTACLES, IT PROBABLY DOESN’T LEAD ANYWHERE. – Frank A. Clark

COMICS

Tundra



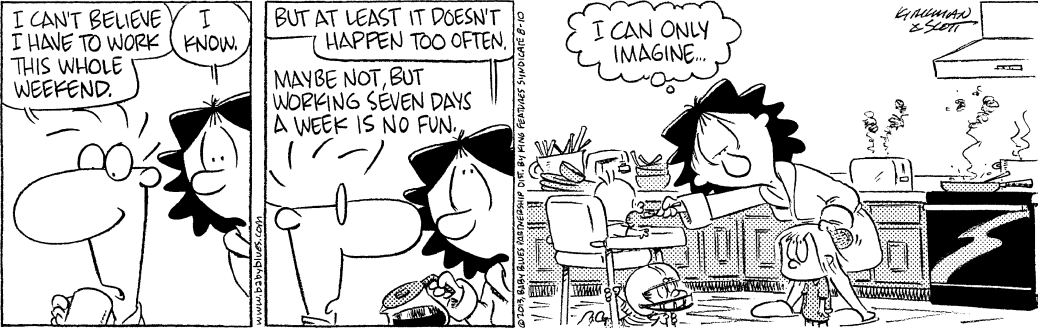
Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

