

Husband can't erase wife's journal writing about affair

DEAR ABBY: I have been married almost 20 years. Eight years ago my wife began an emotional affair with a co-worker. It lasted a year, until he left the company. Although they never had sex, they did have some physical contact that most people would consider inappropriate, and my wife considered ending our marriage because of the feelings she had for him. She now says the episode was a huge mistake and she loves me more than ever.

The problem is, she wrote many entries about him in a journal. I know she kept writing about him several years after they lost contact, including saying that she loved him more than a year after he'd left.

I want my wife to remove the portions of the journal pertaining to this guy. She doesn't want to. I'm still hurting from this and am considering counseling, but for now, what do you think? Should she get rid of the journal? — **CONSIDERING COUNSELING**

DEAR CONSIDERING COUNSELING: Because you are still hurting seven years after the fact, stop "considering" counseling and get it NOW.

If your wife is a serious journal writer – and many people are – that she would want her writings to remain intact in spite of the fact they reflect her emotional affair is not unusual.



DEAR ABBY

If that's the case, instead of insisting she edit or destroy her journal, my advice is to stop reading it.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 47-year-old man who was single until seven years ago. Then I met "Maggie," the most wonderful woman I had ever known. She wasn't the hotsy-totsy one-nighter type I was used to. She was a real woman who fulfilled everything I had ever dreamed of (including bringing a wonderful 4-year-old little girl into my life). The biological father is out of the picture.

Maggie had wrestled with some health issues – nothing serious until last April, when she had surgery. Complications set in, and I lost the only person who ever mattered, aside from our little girl.

My question is, since we were never married, how do I refer to Maggie when relating what happened? I am in the process of adopting her daughter and explanations to strangers are tough.

("Wow, you're taking on a child when you don't HAVE to?") How do I respond to these remarks? I know this is a multi-part question, but I have so many unanswered questions lately, I figured I'd ask you for an opinion. — **GRIEVING IN MISSOURI**

DEAR GRIEVING: Although you and Maggie weren't legally married, you were a couple for some time. I'm very sorry for your loss. It would be accurate to refer to her as your late significant other, your partner or longtime girlfriend.

I would like to compliment you for stepping up to care for the girl when her biological father did not. And I do have suggestions for how to respond to anyone insensitive enough to ask why you would "take on" a child you didn't "have to."

The first would be to ignore the question. The second would be to avoid such a person in the future, and the third would be to reply, "I love her like a daughter, want to make sure she's secure and provided for, and THAT'S why I'm doing 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 or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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

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

HELOISE'S KITCHENEERING BY HELOISE

It's Not Just for Toast

Dear Heloise: With so many different jams and jellies to choose from, I don't just use it on toast anymore. Here are a few of the ways I use JAMS, JELLIES AND PRESERVES:

■ If you have no fresh fruit, use a tablespoon of jam or jelly on oatmeal in the morning.

■ Take the top rind off your favorite brie cheese, cover with jam or jelly and bake until warm.

■ Mix your favorite flavor with cream cheese and serve with crackers at your next party.

■ Add to yogurt.

I hope other readers will try some of these tasty hints. — Kelly T. in New York

Boiled Dry

Dear Heloise: The directions for my coffee maker state to dispose of the glass coffee carafe if it has been boiled dry. I am wondering, why? — Andree M. in South Dakota

Very good question, and an important safety one also! If a coffee carafe has boiled dry, the concern is from what is referred to as "dry-heating." After this has occurred, the glass may have been compromised, causing it to crack the next time you go to use it. Rather than have that happen, it is recommended that you replace the glass carafe immediately. — Heloise

Cleaner Pans

Dear Heloise: When I boil dry beans (pinto, black beans, lima, etc.), I thoroughly wash my stainless-steel cooking pan, using hot water, soap and a nylon scrubbie. However, the pan always dries with an ugly, whitish film covering the inside bottom surface. I just cover the bottom with a little white vinegar, let it stand for a few minutes and re-rinse. The pan dries bright and sparkling! — A Reader in Oregon

Isn't vinegar amazing? There are so many ways to use it around the house (and it's inexpensive and eco-friendly). I have even more vinegar hints and recipes available in a six-page pamphlet, Heloise's Fantabulous Vinegar Hints and More! You can order one by sending \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (70 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Vinegar, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. Next time you boil potatoes, add a small amount of vinegar to the water. This keeps the potatoes white while keeping the pan from turning dark! — Heloise

Drying Sponges

Dear Heloise: We purchased a metal wire napkin holder, which we keep near the kitchen sink. Wet sponges stored in the napkin holder dry thoroughly.

Of course, we live on the front range of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. Relative humidity of single digits is not uncommon. Having the sponges off the counter with airflow on all sides should help in any climate. — Marcus R., Colorado Springs, Colo.

Bugproof

Dear Heloise: Most instant rice and potatoes come in boxes with a pull-out spout. After opening, I cover the entire end of the box with a sheet of clear plastic wrap and secure it with a tight rubber band around the box. No spills, and it keeps bugs from getting in. — Mike in Kansas

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 South Seas
- 7 Uncertain
- 11 Became depleted
- 12 Foot part
- 13 Tours setting
- 14 Brutish sort
- 15 One always working out
- 17 Mealtime protectors
- 20 Ready for sleep
- 23 Fuss
- 24 Notorious box opener
- 26 Hot brew
- 27 Bible boat
- 28 Radius setting
- 29 Mythical monsters
- 31 Dem.'s foe
- 32 Church leader
- 33 Casino figure
- 34 Paleontologist's prize
- 37 Organ part
- 39 Stage comments
- 43 Betting group
- 44 Stringent

DOWN

- 1 Sandy's sound
- 2 Paver's goo
- 3 "Not — dare!"
- 4 Has yearnings
- 5 Sister of Linus
- 6 Goblet part
- 7 Vacation spot
- 8 Bed's bottom end
- 9 Winter bug
- 10 To date
- 16 Skating spots
- 17 Soak in the tub
- 18 Perfect
- 19 Lumber measure
- 21 Misplayed
- 22 Muffles
- 24 Skating category
- 25 Verb for you

DEAL		CRISP	
RUNES		OUNCE	
ARISE		PEARL	
MOM	EKE	RAT	
APACHE		CUPS	
ALLEY	CATS		
	ORGAN		
UNDER	DOGS		
BRAS	IGNITE		
USS	APE	OAR	
RUSTS	RETRO		
PLAIT	SATED		
SAUNA	RODE		

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
43							44		
45							46		

3-26

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Wild guess
- 5 Faze
- 10 Vietnam city
- 12 Island south of Sicily
- 13 In the lead
- 14 Visitor from afar
- 15 Gift tag word
- 16 Bit of flood protection
- 18 Brewing item
- 20 "I — Rock"
- 21 Facial pair
- 23 Chestnut husk
- 24 Holster fillers
- 26 Spring
- 28 Purr producer
- 29 Upper, in Essen
- 31 Flamenco cry
- 32 Crash aid
- 36 Talkative fellow
- 39 Ram's mate
- 40 Cow of commercials
- 41 Navajo hut
- 43 Rider's straps
- 44 Trap
- 45 Shoe parts
- 46 Goals

DOWN

- 1 Golf club part
- 2 Western resort lake
- 3 "The end of —"
- 4 Big snake
- 5 "Walk Like —"
- 6 Lacking locks
- 7 Cave raider of story
- 8 Fill with mist
- 9 Plane place
- 11 "That sounds about right"
- 17 Historic time

PIMA		NETS	
MANOR		BLOCK	
ORATE		ALPHA	
TOPHAT		GUT	
ELIS		OBTUSE	
LEE	SPOONS		
	YUKON		
STAINS	FED		
TOOKTO	SAVE		
HIP	TOPTEN		
ARMOR	PAINT		
REALM	ACMES		
ENDS	LEAD		

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
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			
45							46		

3-27

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.

3-26 CRYPTOQUOTE

L E P J S X D L P D M D J P G T L E P
O S N L N M G L S U L E P T S X K ,
M D H L E P P B P T C M N W G L T
G D L P D L G S D T . — C M N J X T
L X K K G X T J G J P N S

Previous Cryptoquote: THE MORE I WANT TO GET SOMETHING DONE, THE LESS I CALL IT WORK. – Richard Bach

COMICS

Tundra



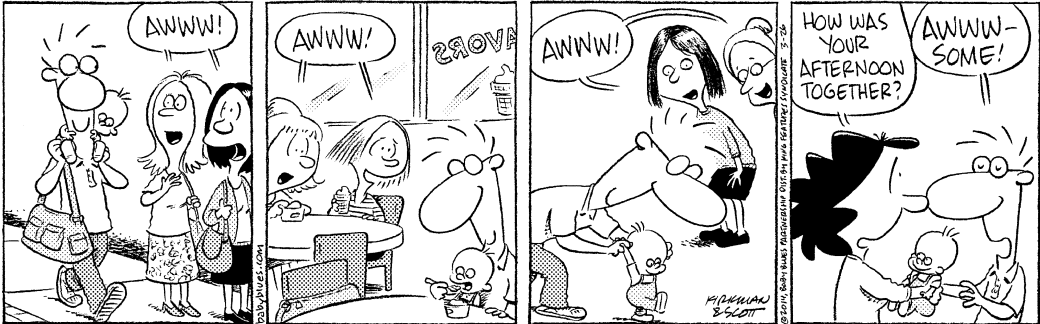
Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

