

Husband’s nonstop nature wears on wife’s patience

DEAR ABBY: I am fortunate to be a stay-at-home mom. My days are spent doing chores and taking care of the kids. I also volunteer extensively at their schools, but I do find time for other pursuits, such as reading and writing.

My problem is my husband. “Bob” is the kind of guy who can’t sit still. When he’s home on weekends or taking a day off, he constantly needs to be doing something. This involves projects around the house. Other than spending time online, his hobbies are active ones. Because he’s always on the go, he insists I should be equally “productive.” He constantly wants to know what I’m doing, and if it’s not something he thinks is useful, he becomes passive-aggressive.

Bob initiates big projects and then complains that he gets no help and has no time for himself. He says my volunteerism takes away from time I should be doing things around the house. In addition, Bob is incredibly neat and often insists that our immaculate house needs to be cleaned.

I dread the days he’s home because I have to constantly justify my activities or feel guilty if I’m not busy the entire time. Don’t misunderstand -- Bob is a great guy, a good dad and my best friend. But I’m afraid I will soon resent him to the point of dislike if I must



DEAR ABBY

live my life according to his unrealistic expectations. Any advice other than to seek counseling? — **NOT A LOAFER IN CHICAGO**

DEAR NOT A LOAFER: Nope. It appears that your great guy, good dad and best friend is so controlling he makes you miserable when he’s home. I agree that if this continues, it will have a negative effect on your marriage. The person who should explain it to him is a licensed mental health professional who can provide the counseling and/or medication he may need, because I suspect he may have OCD.

DEAR ABBY: I reconnected with my dad two years ago. I hadn’t spoken with him for almost 10 years, following my parents’ divorce. I’m thankful he’s back in my life again.

The problem is his wife, “Kathy.” Ever since we reunited, I have felt she resented me. It’s like she doesn’t like sharing Dad with me. She had him all to herself for 10 years, so I

guess I kind of understand.

Kathy recently found a job across the country, so she and Dad sold their house and moved away a few weeks ago. Her family lives here and she had job offers closer to home, but she chose the one farthest away. I can’t help but feel she did it to put distance between Dad and me, and it hurts me deeply. How do I talk to my dad about it without damaging the relationship? — **LOVING DAUGHTER IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR LOVING DAUGHTER: What do you think talking about it to your father will accomplish? You don’t know for certain that she accepted the job to separate you and your dad. Remember, he AGREED to the move.

The problem with family estrangements is that you can never get back the time you lost. Keep in touch with your father via cards and letters, texts and emails, video chats or other social media -- whatever you and your father are most comfortable with. But I do NOT advise saying anything negative about Kathy.

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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	4			7	8	6		
			3	5			7	2
	9				1		8	4
2		7	9	5				1
4								7
9				6	2	4		3
1	2		3				9	
6	8				7	3		
		5	1	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 to find the solution.

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, someone whose opinion matters to you may disagree with you on an important point. Use your powers of persuasion, and both of you will be better for it.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Take your upbeat attitude to new heights this week, Taurus. New challenges will emerge in the coming weeks, so find new inspiration and things will go smoothly.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, keep your head on straight over the next week, which figures to be hectic. Cool heads always prevail, and your calm approach will be noticed by others.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, your ingenuity is treasured among the people closest to you, but those who do not know you may be unfamiliar with the tricks you have up your sleeve. Take time to show them.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, someone wants to take your relationship to another level, so let this person know you are on the same page. Otherwise, you both may be floundering around for some time.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, good news awaits on the job this week, even if it is totally unexpected. Nonetheless, it can be exciting to know that someone is watching out for you.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you may be excited about an upcoming event or getaway, but don’t let your anticipation get the best of you. Remember, you do need to plan and pack.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, embrace a challenge that presents itself this week. No matter the scale of the challenge, you will soon find you’re up to it, and so will those around you.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, be open to new experiences, as you do not know when surprises are going to come around the bend. This week may prove to be a real eye-opener.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

It’s time to ditch any bad habits that have been holding you back, Capricorn. Set a new course, with new goals, and those old habits will soon be an afterthought.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

A heightened sense of urgency may have you jumping into a situation, Aquarius. But give this situation the careful consideration it deserves. Keep your eyes on the future.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, now is the time to redirect some of your professional ambitions to your personal life. It’s an effort worth making.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 22
Bruce Springsteen, Singer (64)

SEPTEMBER 23
Robert Irvine, Chef (49)

SEPTEMBER 24
Mark Hamill, Actor (62)

SEPTEMBER 25
Shawn Stockman, Singer (41)

SEPTEMBER 26
Meat Loaf, Singer (66)

SEPTEMBER 27
Gwyneth Paltrow, Actress (41)

SEPTEMBER 28
Hilary Duff, Actress (26)

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Title takers
7 Long story
11 Hiking boot, e.g.
12 Bunches
13 Main road
14 Soaking spot
15 Put away
16 In itself
17 Job extra
18 Pulpit delivery
19 Diva’s piece
21 Pitcher’s stat
22 Presidential procession
25 Game piece
26 Freshman, usually
27 Barcelona’s region
29 Maid’s target
33 More dreadful
34 Scout master
35 “You know you want to!”
36 Seuss pachyderm
37 Skilled

38 Get in

- 39 Cronies
40 Vegas worker

DOWN

- 1 Brooch
2 “Luck of Roaring Camp” writer
3 Ham, perhaps
4 Mongoose cousin
5 Undiluted
6 Mole, for one
7 Cavalry weapon
8 Anxious
9 Lost one’s temper
10 Wise goddess
16 Treaty goal
18 Temptress
20 Chopper part
22 Instrument for a merengue
23 Doing well from

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
33						34			
35						36			
37						38			
39						40			

9-21

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Autumn dropper
5 Stallions’ mates
10 “Born Free” lion
11 Tickled
13 O’Grady of “NYPD Blue”
14 Baby’s toy
15 Speechless
17 Shade tree
18 Linear measurements
19 Rock’s — Fighters
20 Hagen of the theater
21 Satyr’s kin
22 Chilly dessert, for short
25 Inclines
26 Sprints
27 Vote seeker, for short
28 “I — Rock”
29 Soda can opener
33 New England catch
34 Georgia neighbor

- 35 Friend of Athos and Porthos
37 Swiss peaks
38 Peaceful
39 Future stallion
40 Car’s scars
41 Leg bend

DOWN

- 1 Permitted
2 Gladden
3 Chinese or Thai
4 Patsies
5 Mason of movies
6 Accumulate
7 Deep groove
8 Singer Gloria
9 Hit show
12 Exorcism targets
16 “Beetle Bailey”
21 Plan B
22 Brawl
23 Unconfirmed
24 When challenged
25 Soda choice
27 Throbs
29 Palette stuff
30 Hawk’s grasper
31 Plentiful
32 Treat the turkey
36 Fellows

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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		

9-23

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.

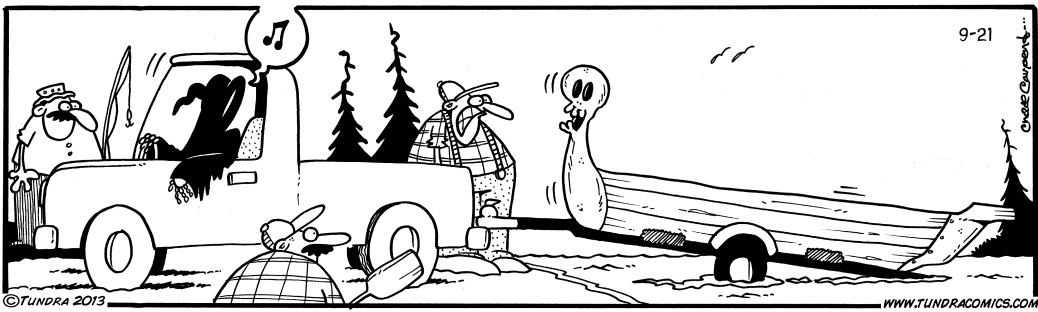
9-21 CRYPTOQUOTE

O P D A T E I O C K D Y O X U V A K O D A
U X S W O T A I Y Y , R O P D A S
I G I C J K E D A S D A D K Y G D M D A D K J
X C I Y E I A D A K U Y R D W I Y .
— F O Y E D A S K U A D C G D A S

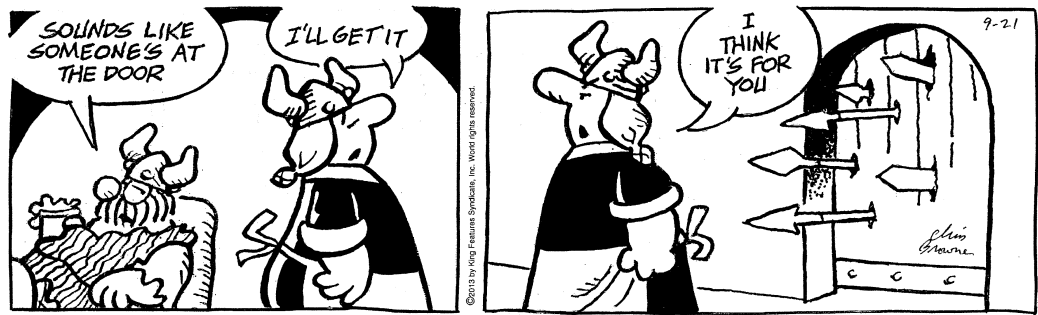
Previous Cryptoquote: THERE IS ALWAYS ONE MOMENT IN CHILDHOOD WHEN THE DOOR OPENS AND LETS THE FUTURE IN. – Graham Greene

COMICS

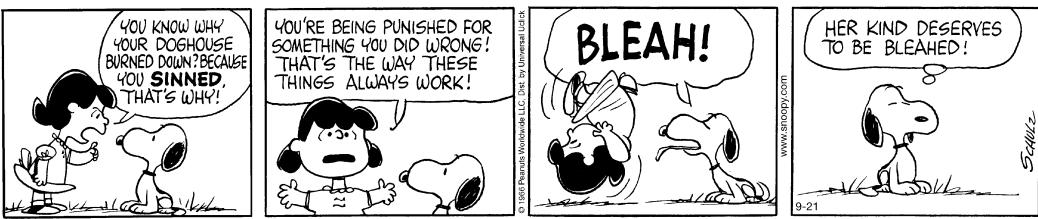
Tundra



Hagar the Horrible



Peanuts



Baby Blues



Dilbert

