

# College freshman encourages girls to embrace independence

**DEAR ABBY:** I read your column often and find it deeply troubling when girls write you lamenting that they are “still single.” I’m 18, in my freshman year of college and I have never dated. I’m perfectly OK with this.

I’m not writing to bash girls who are in high school relationships, but rather to show there’s an alternative. Abby, please remind them that it’s fully acceptable for us to spend our teenage years single if we prefer. No one should feel pressured into a relationship because “everyone else is dating.”

Girlfriends, if you’re not ready for dating, then focus on discovering your beliefs, your purpose and what your talents, passions and values are. If you choose to do it accompanied by a partner, that’s fine. But if you prefer to journey alone or with your friends, that’s JUST as valid. — **INDEPENDENT IN RACINE, WIS.**

**DEAR INDEPENDENT:** I agree! You are a self-confident, mature young woman, and you’re delivering an important message to your contemporaries. I hope they’ll give your message the consideration it deserves.

**DEAR ABBY:** I recently read an idea that I think



DEAR ABBY

should be shared with every parent in the world. You and your child/grandchild should establish a family password to be used if the child is ever approached by a stranger who says, “Your mother is sick and she asked me to come and get you.” By asking for the password, the child throws the would-be kidnapper off guard, and the child has an opportunity to flee. — **VIGILANT IN VIRGINIA**

**DEAR VIGILANT:** That suggestion is one that appears on many child safety websites, and it’s certainly worth mentioning here. I’m sure many parents and grandparents will thank you for submitting it.

**DEAR ABBY:** I’m a 13-year-old girl in eighth grade, wrestling with a problem I never thought I’d have -- a crush. I have liked “Garrison” for two years

now. He’s funny, sweet and cute, and he has stood up for me against bullies. We aren’t in any classes this year, so I only see him in the halls.

I have no clue what to do, since I have never had a crush before and I’m not going to date yet. It hurts my heart. I know crushes are fleeting, but can you help me figure out what to do in the meantime? — **CRUSHED BY CRUSHING IN TENNESSEE**

**DEAR CRUSHED:** Your crush seems to be a young man with character, courage and self-confidence – because that’s what it takes to stand up to bullies. Because he stood up for you, he already knows who you are. So when you see him in the hall, smile and say “Hi.” That’s not being pushy; it’s being friendly. And if you’re sitting around with an aching heart, I have a solution: Get up and get moving. Join a club, a sport, dance class or do some volunteering.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact 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			6			5	
3				7		8	
7			3			6	
1			8		3		
		2				9	
			5		9		6
		6			7		3
		3		8			4
	4			1			8

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.

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

## HOROSCOPES

### ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you have a natural sense of what people want. You may find yourself playing the role of peacemaker this week, and it’s a role you will excel in.

### TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Your goals are commendable, Taurus. By Friday you may find there are some things you need to take charge of. Don’t worry when things get hectic, as you will get the job done.

### GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

This is a good week to reshape and renew a personal philosophy on spirituality, Gemini. You’ll experience breakthroughs in compassion and communication.

### CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you are pondering a trip out of town. A secluded cabin or campsite may be the way to go. You will find plenty of great options if you ask around for recommendation.

### LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

There’s more to you than meets the eye, Leo. But people often seem content with what they gleam from the surface. This week you will show them a different side.

### VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

You’re not content to be just part of the party this week, Virgo. You want to be the center of attention. You just may get your chance later in the week when a social occasion pops up.

### LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, don’t grow discouraged when your first try at something doesn’t work out as you had expected. You will have plenty of opportunities to try again.

### SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Patience has not always been your strong suit, Scorpio. When you set your eyes on a prize this week, you will do anything within your power to get it.

**SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, you know that complaining about a situation is not likely to make it change anytime soon. Instead, put your words into action and attempt to change things for the better.

**CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Restlessness has you looking for a brief vacation to somewhere within driving distance, Capricorn. It is a great time of year for a road trip to take in the foliage.

### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, it may take a while to wrap your head around a particularly trying problem. If you cannot come to a resolution on your own, ask a friend to share his or her perspective.

### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Simplify your life any way you can this week, Pisces. You will benefit from few responsibilities and no worries.

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

**OCTOBER 12**  
Hugh Jackman, Actor (46)

**OCTOBER 13**  
Paul Simon, Singer (73)

**OCTOBER 14**  
Stacy Keibler, Wrestler (35)

**OCTOBER 15**  
Emeril Lagasse, Chef (55)

**OCTOBER 16**  
Tim Robbins, Actor (56)

**OCTOBER 17**  
Ernie Els, Golfer (45)

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

1 Moral flaw  
5 Hotel workers

10 Put a cap on  
12 Quartet doubled

13 Bridge bid, briefly  
14 Green sauce

15 Tooth-paste type  
16 — Palmas

18 Hankering  
19 Furtive ones

21 Rocket part  
22 Result of a bad at-bat

24 Singer Della  
25 Result of a good at-bat

29 Paris’ home  
30 Checked out

32 Nonsense  
33 Hauler’s unit

34 Mer makeup  
35 Not out of it

37 Origami creation  
39 Spoof

40 Canvas holder  
41 Used up

### DOWN

1 Online journals  
2 Sheets and such

3 Frittata  
4 Malleable metal

5 Swabbing tools  
6 Whiz

7 Dress shop comment  
8 Hate

9 Cherry center  
11 Gandalf’s creator

26 Turn  
27 Requested one’s presence at

21 Seasonal songs  
23 Gist

25 “Don’t be a baby!”  
28 Fan sound

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

Previous Puzzle

17 Requested one’s presence at	27 Relaxed
28 Less civil	29 Golf bunkers
31 Formal fights	33 Circus setting
36 Darling of baseball	38 Fan sound

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 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	

10-4

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

1 “The Grapes of Wrath” family name  
5 Yale students

9 Large-scale dismissal  
10 Like some note cards

12 Tatum of “Paper Moon”  
13 Arabian city

14 Hip locale  
16 Louvre fill

17 Convenience  
18 Eye part

21 Take to court  
22 Most rational

23 Stood stunned  
24 17-syllable poems

26 Restful resort  
29 Throat mass

30 Wild guess  
31 Noah’s boat

32 Blood line  
34 Auto mishap

37 Roof overhangs  
38 Seoul setting

39 Makes smooth  
40 Risky

41 Auto ding  
42 Auto ding

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

Previous Puzzle

20 Warning color	27 Mom or dad
22 Fermented rice drink	28 Deep chasm
23 USO audience	29 Bulletin board item
24 Scary genre	30 Barrel piece
25 Turkey’s capital	33 Clarinet part
26 Director Spielberg	35 Min. part
36 Cow chow	

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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				

10-6

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.

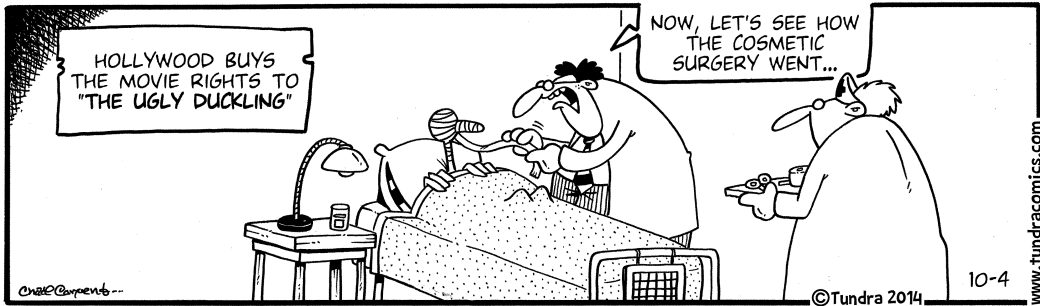
### 10-4 CRYPTOQUOTE

Z S H Y J Y E Z B Y I Z V R H I F E  
P Y N M V H R Q Z N F H X Y E I N Y E S N I  
P M F M Z I E F N I G U U Y S Y R E N  
S Z V Y N Z B N F U F H J Z  
S F H V F H Z N Y F E . — M F P Z H Q  
I S F N N

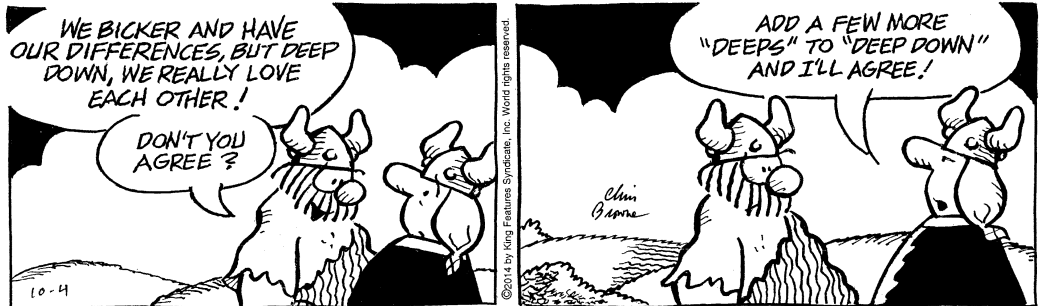
Previous Cryptoquote: I DON’T PAY GOOD WAGES BECAUSE I HAVE A LOT OF MONEY; I HAVE A LOT OF MONEY BECAUSE I PAY GOOD WAGES. – Robert Bosch

## COMICS

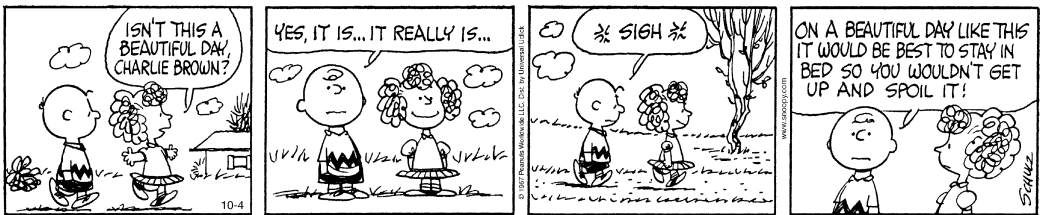
### Tundra



### Hagar the Horrible



### Peanuts



### Baby Blues



### Dilbert

